



What you **need** to  
**know** about...

# Grazing the Road Margin

## *maintaining our roads*

There are approximately 5000 km of roads within the Southland District Council network: 2000 km sealed, 3000 km unsealed, including over 960 bridges, with 27 townships & a growing population (28,440 as per 2006 Census) who use these roads.

With an annual Roading Budget of over \$23M it is our aim to keep the roads maintained to an acceptable standard and are always looking at ways to improve the network as an asset for the community while keeping to an ever tightening budget.

Council allows the grazing of live stock on the road margins to assist adjoining landowners to control road margin vegetation. This is an allowable activity in rural areas subject to the requirements of the Roading Policy 2001 section 18. Urban areas however are subject to the District Plan and a Resource Consent may be required.

### Stock

All animals must be securely fenced in or tethered in such a manner that they cannot get closer than one metre from the edge of the metalled edge of the roadway or shoulder.

No cattle or horses may be grazed in the hours of darkness as they represent an extreme safety risk. Bulls **must not** be grazed in the road margin at any time.

### Fence

A maximum length of 200 metres of fencing is permitted for temporary grazing at any one time and this shall be relocated at least every ten (10) days, and must be completely removed afterwards.

Temporary fences are not permitted on both sides of the road at the same time.



### Responsibility

The applicant who erects the fence shall be responsible for the cost of clearing and/or reinstatement of any underground services, inlet, water channels, or the like damaged within the area if a Council representative determines this is required.

**Contact our Customer Services  
on 0800 732732 if you have a concern about the  
state of any of our roads, sealed or unsealed,  
or if you come across a mess.**

### *top tips*

#### Three simple safety rules when Grazing on Road Margin:

1. Do not use Steel Warratahs, only flexible stock proof electric fences are permitted.
2. Keep fence a safe distance from edge of road, at least 1.0 metres from the edge of gravel or 4.0 metres from the road centreline.
3. If in doubt - ask.



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