



# National Environmental Standards for Storing Tyres Outdoors

## QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

This is a summary of the National Environmental Standards for Storing Tyres Outdoors (NES-STO) and how they apply to tyre businesses and other stakeholders.

### **Further information**

[View the NES-STO regulations](#)

[View all NES-STO information including the detailed Users' Guide](#)

**Table 1: Summary of NES-STO**

Tyre volume and rule	Control
<p><b>Permitted activity rule</b> Tyres stored outdoors in quantities at or above 20 cubic metres total volume per site are a permitted activity provided they comply with conditions a) to d).</p>	<p>Tyres deposited or stored outdoors at or above 20 cubic metres total volume per site is a permitted activity if it complies with the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The height of tyre pile must be no more than 3 metres</li> <li>b) Tyres must not be located within 50 metres from the centreline of transmission lines and other National Grid infrastructure above ground</li> <li>c) Tyres must not be located within: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 metres of any surface waterbody or bore that connects to an aquifer</li> <li>• 50 metres of any surface waterbody or bore that is used to supply drinking water</li> <li>• 50 metres of the coastal marine area</li> </ul> </li> <li>d) Tyres must be located at least 1 metre above the water table of any aquifer</li> </ul> <p>Tyre storage outdoors that does not comply with any of the conditions above requires a resource consent from the consent authority as a restricted discretionary activity.</p>
<p><b>Restricted discretionary activity rule</b> Tyres stored outdoors in quantities at or above 100 cubic metres total volume per site is a restricted discretionary activity.</p>	<p>Tyres stored at or above 100 cubic metres total volume per site is a restricted discretionary activity and requires a resource consent. Restricted discretionary activity status enables the consent authority to consider the matters specified in the NES when making a decision on the application and imposing consent conditions. These matters focus on addressing include adverse effects on land, freshwater, ecosystems and the coastal environment, and the risk of fire.</p> <p>Exemptions to this rule (but not the permitted activity rule and conditions) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tyres that are new or newly retreaded and are stored for the purpose of a business whose activities include the supply or servicing of new or retreaded tyres</li> <li>• Tyres that are awaiting retreading and are stored on a property that is owned or leased by the business that will undertake the retreading</li> <li>• Farm silage tyres stored next to silage pits or other areas where the silage stacks are regularly made, in quantities no more than needed to cover the silage stack in a single layer.</li> </ul>

## Application of the NES

The NES will:

- Be the responsibility of regional councils and come into force three months after the date the NES is gazetted (20 August 2021).
- Allow regional councils to charge for compliance monitoring of permitted activities to recover their costs.
- Allow regional and district councils to introduce more stringent controls than the NES.
- Apply to all loose tyres designed to fit motorised and non-motorised vehicles (including bicycles, scooters and wheelchairs), but will exclude inner tubes.
- Apply to tyres stored in any state – whole, chipped or shredded, and baled, but exclude material from processing tyres where the rubber and other materials have been separated.
- Not apply to tyres stored indoors.
- Define tyre storage as tyres deposited on a property for more than 72 hours.
- Apply to tyres in active reuse (eg, for engineering purposes), with exceptions for certain uses established before the NES takes effect.

*NB: The Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) allows plan rules to address effects not dealt with in an NES. This means amenity, landscape and heritage provisions in district plans will continue to apply to outdoor tyre storage.*

**Table 2: How the NES-STO applies to types of businesses and situations**

Type of business	NES-STO rules
End-of-life tyre collector/transporter	<p>If the volume of tyres stored outdoors on the property is less than 20 cubic metres (approximately 250 stacked standard passenger tyres), then this is a permitted activity and there are no conditions in the NES-STO to comply with.</p> <p>If the volume of tyres stored outdoors on the property is 20 cubic metres or more but less than 100 cubic metres (approximately 1,250 stacked standard car tyres) for longer than 72 hours, then the general conditions in Regulation 12 must be met. If these cannot be met, resource consent is required as a restricted discretionary activity.</p> <p>If the volume of tyres stored outdoors on the property is 100 cubic metres or more for longer than 72 hours, resource consent is required as a restricted discretionary activity.</p>
End-of-life tyre recycling or recovery	

<p>Tyre suppliers, retailers (new and retread tyres) and other vehicle services</p>	<p>If the volume of tyres stored outdoors on the property is less than 20 cubic metres (approximately 250 stacked standard passenger tyres), then this is a permitted activity and there are no conditions in the NES to comply with.</p> <p>If the volume of tyres stored outdoors is 20 cubic metres or more for more than 72 hours and the tyres are new or newly retreaded, then the general conditions in Regulation 12 must be met. If these cannot be met, resource consent is required as a restricted discretionary activity.</p> <p>If used tyres are stored outdoors for more than 72 hours in volumes of 100 cubic metres or more, resource consent is required as a restricted discretionary activity.</p>
<p>Retreading businesses</p>	<p>If the volume of tyres stored outdoors on the property is less than 20 cubic metres (approximately 250 stacked standard passenger tyres), then this is a permitted activity and there are no conditions in the NES to comply with.</p> <p>If the tyres stored outdoors is 20 cubic metres or more for more than 72 hours and the tyres are new, newly retreaded or awaiting retreading ('tyre casings'), then the general conditions in Regulation 12 must be met. If these cannot be met, resource consent is required as a restricted discretionary activity.</p> <p>If other used tyres are stored outdoors for more than 72 hours in volumes of 100 cubic metres or more, resource consent is required as a restricted discretionary activity.</p>
<p>Farmers</p>	<p>If the volume of tyres stored outdoors on the property is less than 20 cubic metres (approximately 250 stacked standard passenger tyres), then this is a permitted activity and there are no conditions in the NES-STO to comply with.</p> <p>If the tyres are in use on top of a silage stack, the Regulation 8 exception for active use applies.</p> <p>If the volume of tyres stored outdoors is 20 cubic metres or more on the property for longer than 72 hours and the purpose of the tyres is for use as weights on silage stacks then:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The general conditions in Regulation 12 must be met; and</li> <li>• The further conditions in Regulation 13 (tyres for silage stack covers) must be met.</li> </ul> <p>If any of the conditions in Regulations 12 and 13 are not met, resource consent is required as a restricted discretionary activity.</p> <p>If the volume of tyres stored outdoors is 20 cubic metres or more on the property for longer than 72 hours and they are not for silage and are not in 'active use', then:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The general conditions in Regulation 12 must be met; and</li> <li>• The total volume of end-of-life tyres on the property must be less than 100 cubic metres; and</li> </ul>

	If either of the above conditions are not met, then resource consent is required as a restricted discretionary activity.
Regulation 8 exception for 'active use' reuse of end-of-life tyres	<p>This is an exception applying to all properties.</p> <p>Tyres being re-used for sporting or recreation purposes, or for engineering, landscaping, drainage, or other construction purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the tyres are part of an existing re-use when the NES comes into force, and are part of a structure, then they don't need to comply with the NES.</li> <li>• Future such uses must comply (including the 100 cubic metres threshold requirement).</li> </ul> <p>Tyres currently in use as silage stack weights are exempted at any volume.</p>
Tyres fitted to vehicles	Do not need to comply with the NES (Regulation 8)
Burying tyres	NES does not apply. Landfill rules in RMA council plans apply, or RMA Section 15(1)(d).
Tyres in waterways or in the coastal marine area	NES does not apply. The RMA restrictions and council plan rules apply (these are likely to be more stringent than the NES), and Treaty Settlement Acts for rivers. The Litter Act 1979 may also apply.



## Disclaimer

The information in this publication is intended to assist with the interpretation and implementation of the regulations. However, users of this publication are advised that:

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