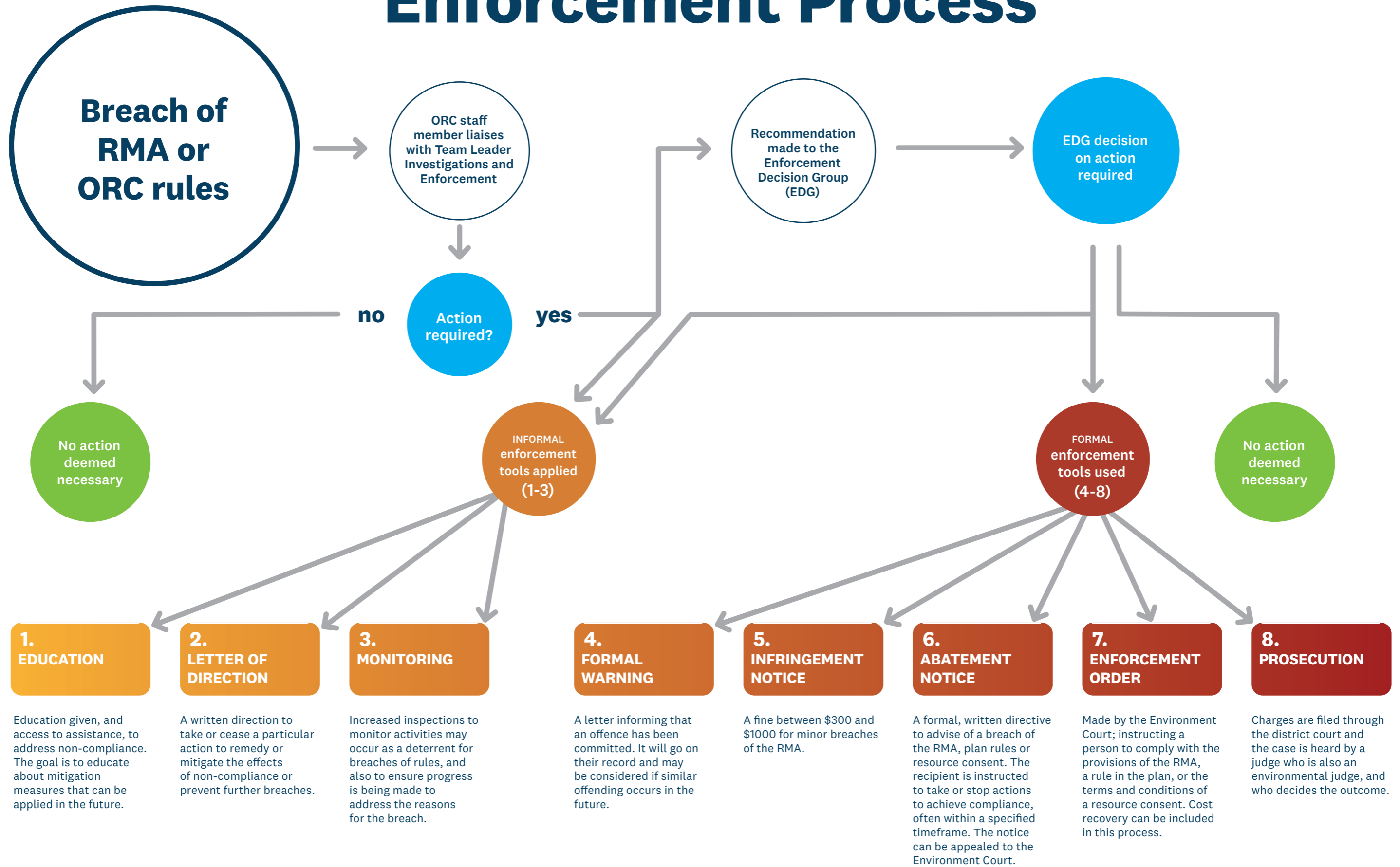


Enforcement Process



1. EDUCATION
Education given, and access to assistance, to address non-compliance. The goal is to educate about mitigation measures that can be applied in the future.

2. LETTER OF DIRECTION
A written direction to take or cease a particular action to remedy or mitigate the effects of non-compliance or prevent further breaches.

3. MONITORING
Increased inspections to monitor activities may occur as a deterrent for breaches of rules, and also to ensure progress is being made to address the reasons for the breach.

4. FORMAL WARNING
A letter informing that an offence has been committed. It will go on their record and may be considered if similar offending occurs in the future.

5. INFRINGEMENT NOTICE
A fine between \$300 and \$1000 for minor breaches of the RMA.

6. ABATEMENT NOTICE
A formal, written directive to advise of a breach of the RMA, plan rules or resource consent. The recipient is instructed to take or stop actions to achieve compliance, often within a specified timeframe. The notice can be appealed to the Environment Court.

7. ENFORCEMENT ORDER
Made by the Environment Court; instructing a person to comply with the provisions of the RMA, a rule in the plan, or the terms and conditions of a resource consent. Cost recovery can be included in this process.

8. PROSECUTION
Charges are filed through the district court and the case is heard by a judge who is also an environmental judge, and who decides the outcome.

It is recognised that each case is weighted on its individual merits. No one case is the same and ORC staff recognise that each case needs to be investigated thoroughly. No decisions about the use of formal enforcement options are made in the field. The Enforcement Decision Group (EDG) includes ORC management, legal council, and the chief executive.