

**WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL PROPOSED WAIKATO REGIONAL PLAN CHANGE 1 -  
WAIKATO AND WAIPA RIVER CATCHMENTS**

**Submission Form**

Submission on a publically notified proposed Regional Plan prepared under the Resource Management Act 1991.

**On:** The Waikato Regional Councils proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 -  
Waikato and Waipa River Catchments

**To:** Waikato Regional Council  
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*Complete the following*

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I am not a trade competitor for the purposes of the submission.

I wish to be heard in support of this submission.

If others make similar submissions, I would consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing.

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8/3/17

Signature

date

Signature

date

## WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL PROPOSED WAIKATO REGIONAL PLAN CHANGE 1 - WAIKATO AND WAIPA RIVER CATCHMENTS

The specific provisions of the proposal that this submission relates to and the decisions it seeks from Council are as detailed in the following table. The outcomes sought and the wording used is as a suggestion only, where a suggestion is proposed it is with the intention of 'or words to that effect'. The outcomes sought may require consequential changes to the plan, including Objectives, Policies, or other rules, or restructuring of the Plan, or parts thereof, to give effect to the relief sought.

The specific provisions my submission relates to are:	My submission is that:		The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:
	SUPPORT / OPPOSE	REASON	RELIEF SOUGHT
<p>Uncertainty to farm in the future –</p> <p>Without limitation page 15, Section 3.11.1, Objectives 1, 3, 4, and Table 3.11-1</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Land Use change is a fair idea, however replanting hill tops in pine forest is not the answer for all the reasons we know from the degradation caused by the forestry industry near water ways – now full of sediment after harvesting activities meaning earth washes in large amounts into the low lying water way where the pine forest was harvested.</p>	<p>Idea: Promote that hill country on sheep and beef station farms are planted up using native trees and plants and start replanting the deforestation that took place during pioneering days that has led to sediment in waterways.</p> <p>Propose farmers plant up permanent forests with advice taken by local whanau/hapu as to what the forest should contain. Then the farmers in time can make good income from these sources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Selective logging of indigenous native nz species which would command a high price due to supply. Replenish planting with a ratio 1:20 – ie 1 Totara is harvested and 20 new Totara are planted.</li> </ol>

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			<p>2. Sell the seeds as eco-sourced seeds to local nurseries for all the riparian planting needed on both Sheep and Beef Stations and all Dairy Farms to help achieve the directive set by DairyNZ – that 50% of dairy farms will have a riparian plan written up by May 1 2017 and the remaining 50% by 2020 – with all dairy farms planted by 2030.</p> <p>3. The use of Rongoa (traditional maori medicine made from native species plants) has caused a large demand in raw product.</p>
<p><b>Nitrogen Reference Point</b></p> <p><i>Objectives 1 and 4 Policies 2 and 7 Rules 3.11.5.2 to 3.11.5.7 Schedule B, use of OVERSEER in regulation, and any</i></p>	Oppose	<p>I am writing with serious concern as I think Regional Councillors are looking at this outside in instead of needing to look inside out? The focus of NRP's presently is the reading from Overseer which as explained recently in newspaper articles is a modelling tool which estimates a nitrate leaching (output focus) amount from every farming operation, BUT it has large standards of error. Therefore why is it a regulatory tool? Would the medical industry use a modelling tool like this to measure our heart rate or liver or</p>	<p>Delete the use of OVERSEER as a regulatory tool, but keep using it as \$12 million has been spent on developing it and it records all fertiliser applications applied. Encourage the use of the Overseer Report (including all input data) and the Nitrate Leaching Estimate, as part of the Farm Environmental Plan as council and</p>

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other related provisions		<p>kidney functionality for this is effectively what is trying to be achieved, only we are measuring earths vital organs-(soil and water) of our mother-Papatuanuku.</p> <p>I asked about the standard of error and regulatory tool issue at a recent meeting, to which the CEO of Overseer replied, 'it was never intended to be a regulatory tool', so if the top executive is saying this, why is it one? I really felt for her when she said this. Are Regional Councillors listening to the Overseer Executive team?</p> <p>If Regional Councillors are at a loss of a complimentary/alternative tool – see over - relief sought.</p> <p>Furthermore 'Grandparenting' is going to get us nowhere, given farmers already using high rates are at an advantage over farmers already able to farm using low rates of artificial N &amp; P.</p> <p>Not only is this unfair, but as per the article in the link below we need to begin to encourage all farmers and growers to work towards a flat rate of N – around 30—50kg/ha/year.</p>	<p>farmers need these for resource consent needs.</p> <p>Encourage a new regulation that will support farmers to reduce application rates of artificial N (30-50kf/ha), &amp; P, aiming towards a flat rate in time, ensuring our survival with healthy soils, waterways and air.</p> <p>Regional Council need to consider working collaboratively with whanau/hapu of Ngati Rangi Te Oro and the use of the holistic environmental accounting/monitoring tool that whanau/hapu and their communities have developed.</p>

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		<p><a href="http://grist.org/article/2010-02-23-new-research-synthetic-nitrogen-destroys-soil-carbon-undermines/">http://grist.org/article/2010-02-23-new-research-synthetic-nitrogen-destroys-soil-carbon-undermines/</a></p> <p>This research by qualified professors of Illinois University USA, have made this effort to help farmers and growers understand the environmental risks and concerns to soil depletion, water degradation and biosphere climate change effect, when using high rates of artificial N &amp; P fertilisers.</p>	
<p><b>Farm Environment Plans</b></p> <p>Policy 2, Rule 3.11.5.3, 3.11.5.4, Schedule 1</p>	Support	<p>It is right that Council have clear information as to the environmental impact that each farm is having – just as is done for 'point source' industry participants.</p> <p>It is also right that as a service-arm of the Crown, that Councils share the state of that natural resource information with local whanau/hapu – so that co-governance in developing future policy becomes a 'living reality' in our country.</p>	Regional Council needs to consider working collaboratively with whanau/hapu of Ngati Rangi Te Oro and the use of the holistic environmental accounting/monitoring tool that whanau/hapu and their communities have developed.

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Yours sincerely

Signature  Date 18/3/19