

**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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Hamilton East
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Complete the following

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I am not a trade competitor for the purposes of the submission but the proposed plan has a direct impact on my ability to farm. If changes sought in the plan are adopted they may impact on others but I am not in direct trade competition with them.

I wish to be heard in support of this submission.



Signature

3/3/17

date

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<p>The specific provisions my submission relates to are:</p> <p>State specifically what Objective, Policy, Rule, map, glossary, or issue you are referring to.</p>	<p>My submission is that:</p> <p>State:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whether you support, or oppose each provision listed in column 1; • brief reasons for your views. 	<p>The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:</p> <p>Give:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • precise details of the outcomes you would like to see for each provision. The more specific you can be the easier it will be for the Council to understand the outcome you seek
<p>Provision NRP (Grandparenting of Nitrogen Leaching) 3.11.5.3, 3.11.5.4,</p>	<p>I support/oppose and for each whether or not you wish to amend</p> <p>The reasons for this are: Farmers with higher discharges have NO incentive to reduce their NRP because it comes from historic results. Farmers with low discharges (who have been environmentally 'friendly') can never increase, so the polluters keep on polluting.</p>	<p>I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below</p> <p>As an alternative I propose The Council needs to allow flexibility here. This should be done on a case by case basis based on the current scientific readings in the water of that particular area.</p>

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<p>Farm Environment Plan</p> <p>3.11.5.3 3.11.5.4 3.11.5.6</p>	<p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p>The plan can reduce flexibility in the farm operators. It does not take count of climatic changes. It's impossible to know how much rain will fall (which impacts the NRP)</p>	<p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p>There only needs to be plans where science indicates there is a problem in that particular sub catchment</p>

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<p>Stock Exclusion</p> <p>3.11.5.1, 3.11.5.2, 3.11.5.3,</p>	<p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p>"Stock are excluded from all waterways" is too broad. On hill country where there is less intense farming - the impact of stock in water is a lot less than if stock there were near a river on a flat paddock. Improvements in quality of water from excluding cattle through fencing on hill country have NOT BEEN PROVEN. There is also huge financial impacts on farmers from doing this.</p>	<p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p>There needs to be more sub-catchment research to get scientific results on water on hill country to justify fencing off water in hill country. Troughs in paddocks will automatically draw the cattle to them and out of waterbodies, without having to fence them off.</p>

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<p>Provision</p> <p>Land Use Change 3.115.7</p>	<p>I support/oppose/and for each whether or not you wish to amend</p> <p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p>If there is no evidence in a particular sub catchment of poor water quality there should not be a restriction on land use change.</p> <p>This could affect a farms value. if both farms on either side of one farm if it is not yet developed but could be intensified, the rule would decrease the value of the land because you can only do one type of land use on it.</p>	<p>I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below</p> <p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p>There needs to be exceptions to this rule.</p> <p>1. Where environmental effects are minimal, there needs to be flexibility for each sub catchment rather than blanket rules.</p>
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<p>long term restoration and protection of our waters.</p>	<p>The reasons for this are: I support the protection of our water but may not be achievable with far out targets.</p>	<p>As an alternative I propose Water quality targets need to be achievable for people to work towards Don't put a ridiculous target in place with no hope of achieving it. Small steps in each catchment will go a long way in having healthy rivers - also may put farmers on side with the council instead of fighting them.</p>

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Yours sincerely

David Ronaldson



3/3/17

Signature

Date