

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 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



date

28/2/17

We farm in an isolated community on the south side of the Kawhia Harbour. All our district is sheep & beef hill country. We have a very strong & supportive community which I have seen in very few other places in NZ - probably due to our remote location. If this plan goes through in its current state the effect on our community would be financially devastating.

beef+lamb  
THE ASSOCIATION

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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"> <li>• whether you support, or oppose each provision listed in column 1;</li> <li>• brief reasons for your views.</li> </ul>	<p>The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:</p> <p>Give:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> </ul>
<p>Provision</p> <p>Schedule B- Nitrogen Reference Point.</p>	<p>I support <del>oppose</del> and for each whether or not you wish to amend</p> <p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p>I oppose this as it would totally restrict our farm productivity &amp; farming system to what we currently have. We are part way through developing our farm &amp; have not yet reached it's potential. <del>This would</del> it also locks us into very little flexibility to adjust stock classes when the season (eg drought) or markets change. <del>This</del> would severely impact us</p> <p><i>Both of these issues</i></p> <p>financially if the nitrogen reference point was enforced.</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>The nitrogen reference point should be totally excluded for sheep/ beef farms. "One size does not fit all" in this case.</p> <p>It goes against the PC 1 objective NO 2 - "maintaining economic &amp; social wellbeing in the long term" as you are putting the livelihood of the sheep &amp; beef industry under threat.</p>

*"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"*

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Provision	I support/ oppose/ and for each whether or not you wish to amend	I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below
<p>Schedule C - Stock Exclusion</p>	<p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p>In intensive farming operations with slopes of <math>&lt; 15\%</math> I agree stock exclusion is the best option.</p> <p>Above <math>15\%</math> slope this is a marginal option that would put huge cost on our farming operations with no proven benefit to water quality. - This is especially the case on hill country farms where stock units/ hectare are a lot lower.</p> <p>Once again the cost of stock exclusion as it currently stands in PC1 is a financial burden very few hill country farms could sustain with no economic benefit.</p>	<p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p>Remove the requirement to fence waterways over <math>15\%</math> slope.</p> <p>As an alternative - water systems (ie troughs) could be used in paddocks where the slope is <math>&gt; 15\%</math>.</p>

This is against objective 2 #4 in PC1 as it is making our farms less sustainable financially in the long term.

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Provision	I support/ <u>oppose</u> and for each whether or not you wish to amend	I seek that the provision is: <u>Deleted in its entirety</u> / Retained as proposed / amended as set out below
<p>Possible conversion from Farming to Forestry - Long term Policy 7 - Preparing for Allocation in the future. Policy 5 - Staged approach.</p>	<p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p>I oppose the provisions on the left from PC1 that do not give us certainty past the 10 year period.</p> <p>For example. If we had to retire sections of our farm in trees after the 10 year period - why would we want to make the current capital investment of fencing all our waterways?</p> <p><del>We have no certainty</del> we can not make any plans beyond 10 yrs as PC1 currently stands.</p> <p>If large areas of our coastal hill country district is required to be planted in pine many families will leave our district.</p>	<p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p>the 1st stage in my plan implemented should be over a longer period - 30 years for example is a much more workable period where we can plan ahead with long term strategies such as retaining blocks.</p>

We will no longer have the "vibrant community resilience" - that is referred to in objective 4 of PC1.

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Provision	I <u>support</u> /oppose/ and for each whether or not you wish to amend	I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below
<p>3.11.4.3</p> <p>Kam Environment Plan.</p>	<p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p>A compulsory environment plan for all farms over a certain size is a good idea. <del>We</del> As farm owners <sup>I believe</sup> we all want to leave our farms in <del>the</del> <del>state</del> the best state possible for the next generation.</p> <p>Sometimes we get caught up in the day to day running of the farm &amp; don't look at the big picture or the long term vision for what we hope to achieve. The farm environment plan is a necessary tool to make us evaluate what is important &amp; breakdown how we are going to achieve that step by step.</p>	<p>As an alternative I propose</p>

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Yours sincerely

Paula Woods



28/2/17

Signature

Date