

PC1 Waikato Evidence

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DairyNZ 

Scope of Evidence

- Dairy - large contributor to the Waikato region
- Variability of farm practices, management and performance
- Waikato Economic Joint Venture project
- Dairy farm mitigation modelling
- Key findings and appropriateness

Dairy's Contribution

- One of the largest industries in Waikato
- Significant economic contribution
- Third of land area in WRC
- 10,000 (Pop Te Awamutu) FTE employment (7,000 on-farm, 3,000 at seven processing)
- Mature industry with limited potential for dairy conversion growth.

Economic Impact JV project

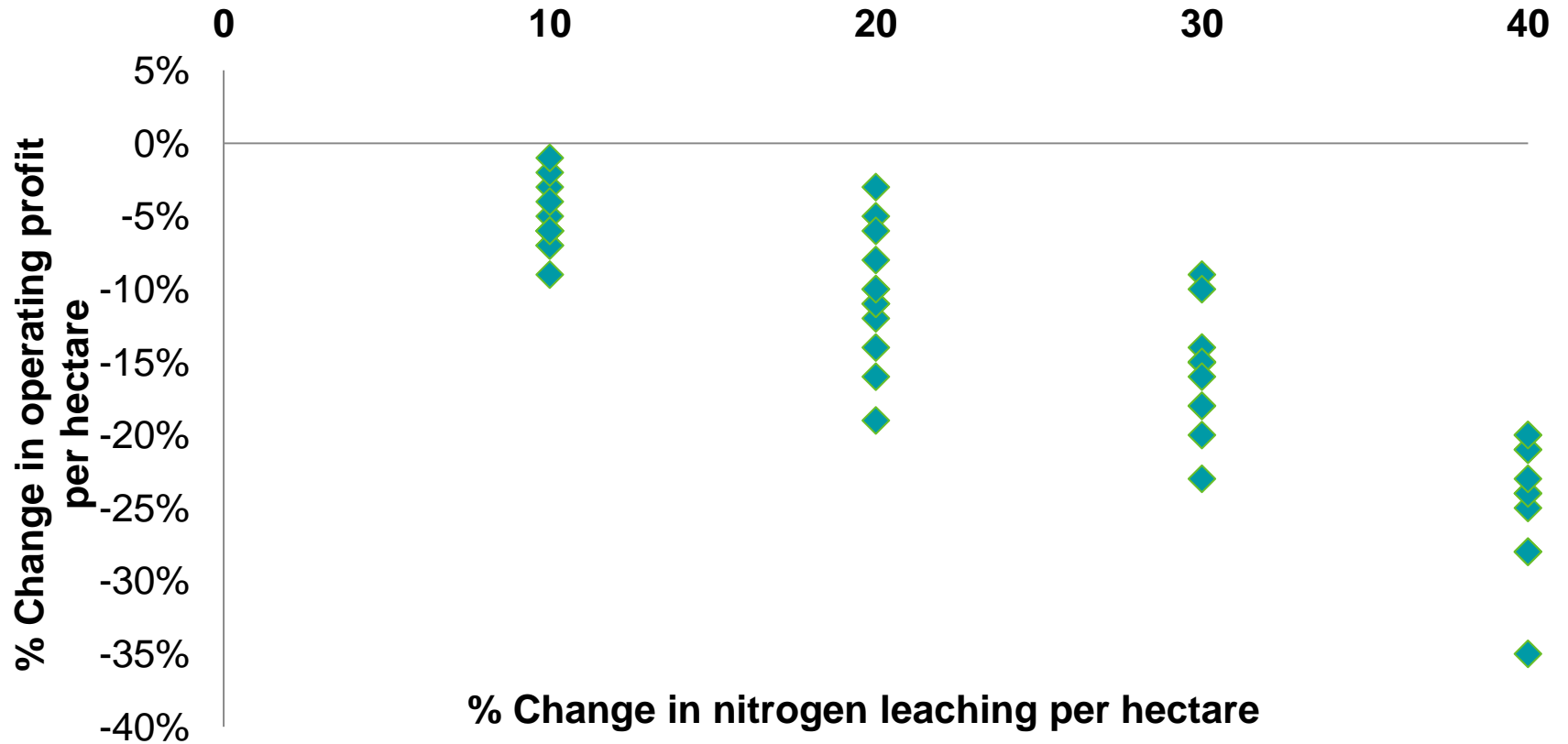
- Set up in 2013 – pre CSG, pre Policy
- Objective – provide base info for the collaborative process –to set water quality limits.
- DairyNZ – determine potential impacts of –N loss on dairy farms in the WRC
- Overseer 6.1.2 and Farmax modelling
-10%, -20%, -30% and -40%
- Create abatement cost curves

Nitrogen Mitigations

1. Optimise feed pad / standoff pad
2. N fertiliser – timing, applications, volume
3. Reduce imported supplements (up to 20%)
4. Reduce stocking rate (up to 20%)
5. Introduce standoff pad

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Impacts – Upper Waikato



Key Findings for N loss modelling

- Wide variation in farms – unique, need to understand distributions.
- Larger the mitigations the higher the costs.
- Ability to pay is compromised at lower milk prices, particularly for highly indebted farms.
- Adequate modelling was carried out with Overseer and Farmax.