



# Hill Country Farming Group

PPC1 Submission  
Block 1 Hearing Presentation  
March 27



**Our financial capabilities, our  
communities, our water...**

**49 Members - 21,400ha - 1265 waterways**





Summary Point 3





Summary Point 4









Summary Point 5





Summary Point 5





Summary Point 5





Summary Point 5





Summary Point 5





Summary Point 5





Summary Point 5



# CSG Focus Statement

*To come up with limits, timelines and **practical options for managing contaminants** and discharges into the Waikato and Waipa catchments to ensure our rivers and lakes are safe to swim in and take food from, support healthy biodiversity and provide for **social, economic** and cultural wellbeing.*



"Regional vitality is  
closely aligned with  
economic opportunities"

– Rebooting the Regions,  
Prof. Paul Spoonley  
Massey University



Summary Point 13-30



# Community

“We all live somewhere and local roots and identities crafted through place are still part of most people’s everyday life.”

- Ashton and Thorns (2007)



Summary Point 34.1



“Rural researchers across the world have closely examined the way in which this broad process of change – often called “rural restructuring” – has transformed the countryside from areas of agricultural production into arenas of *both* production and consumption.”

- The Study of Rural Change from a Social Scientific Perspective

M Mackay, H Perkins and S Espiner, Lincoln University (2009)



Summary Point 34.3





Summary Point 34.3



Summary Point 34





Summary Point 34.4



Summary Point 35





Summary Point 35





Summary Point 35





Summary Point 35



Summary Point 35





Summary Point 35



Summary Point 35





Summary Point 35





Summary Point 35





Summary Point 35





Summary Point 35





Summary Point 35



Summary Point 35





Summary Point 36.1



Summary Point 36.2





Summary Point 36.3



Summary Point 36.3



“Social capital is generated and accumulated within families and correlated with improved long-term social welfare of children as a consequence of growing up in "social capital rich" families.”

for policy - Rural families, industry change and social capital: some considerations

K Sampson, C Goodrich, R McManus (2011)



Summary Point 37.1





Summary Point 37.1



Summary Point 37.3



“Where farming is the primary economic activity, the entire rural economy, including services such as health care, education and basic infrastructure, may depend on the profitability of the sector.”

– European Commission paper on Agriculture’s Contribution to Rural Development (2000)



Summary Point 38





Summary Point 38



Summary Point 38





Summary Point 40

# Social Capital

The term "social capital" originated, in part, in an attempt to understand how "those features of social organisation, such as trust, norms and networks can improve the efficiency of society by facilitating coordinated actions".

In general, a rural setting tends to intensify the need for and prevalence of social capital. Social capital becomes the "social glue" that holds communities together, so that families, as the building blocks of community, can function in optimum social health.

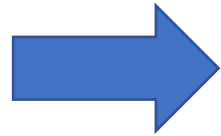
- Rural families, industry change and social capital: some considerations for policy

K Sampson, C Goodrich, R McManus (2011)



# HCFG Members Survey

17 respondents



91 unique community contributions

# Sport

- 3 netball coaches
- 4 netball administrators
- 6 rugby coaches
- 4 rugby administrators
- 4 pony club administrators
- 5 tennis club administrators
- 1 golf club president
- 4 make land available for pony club
- 5 grow calves for rugby club fundraising



# School

- 5 BOT members
- 8 PTA members
- 7 provide land for Waerenga Trail Ride fundraiser
- 1 volunteer movement coach
- 4 Calf Club Day judges
- 2 Flower Show judges

# Volunteers

- 1 fire brigade chief
- 2 House of Treasures helpers
- 1 DISC youth centre supporter
- 1 rural support worker
- 4 local Community Hall committee members
- 2 Recreation Centre committee members
- 1 Playgroup committee member
- 1 Breed Society President
- 1 Plunket committee member
- 1 Aparangi volunteer
- 1 community yoga leader
- 1 church committee member
- 1 Boys Rally leader
- 1 vicar



# Alternative future for Waipuna Valley?

- 2200ha
- Headwaters of Waerenga Stream
- >100 small tributaries
- 4 typical hill country farms
- scattered lifestyle blocks and smaller sections
- 1 commercial forestry block





Summary Point 44





Summary Point 49



# Alternative Solutions





Summary Point 49

# Land and Water Forum advice

*“stock exclusion regulation **would be impractical in hill country (>15°) areas...** Instead, councils will set stock exclusion rules in critical source areas or areas of ecological significance based on a risk-assessment undertaken in the catchment.”*

**Land and Water Forum, 4th report 2015.**



# Land and Water Forum advice

*“**Stock access to waterways** – livestock can disturb stream beds and transport soil into waterways if not excluded. This is particularly problematic in intensively farmed areas. In hill country areas sediment management is often more appropriately undertaken through critical source area identification and management. **Requiring fencing in hill country can increase sediment loss to waterways through land clearance and track building and maintenance for fences.**”*

**Advice to Minister Parker May 2018**







# The small areas which make a big difference - CSAs

## **Dr Christopher Dada (B&LNZ expert evidence)**

*“Rather than a ‘blanket fencing approach’ currently proposed in the WRPC1, a more effective response to reduce the risk of pathogens from agricultural land uses entering waterbodies is the identification and management of critical source areas.”*



## Richard Parkes (B&LNZ expert evidence)

*“Management of Critical Source Areas (CSAs) is one of the best ways to mitigate environmental risk associated with sheep and beef farming, with up to 80 percent of sediment and phosphorus loss able to be mitigated in this way (McDowell et al., 2011; Monaghan et al., 2017).”*

# CSA's - the small areas that make a big difference



CSA Management:

Bulldozing 1 hour x \$140

Bulldozer transport \$200

Fencing: \$20/m x 450m

Planting: 100 poles x \$20

**Total cost: \$11,340**

Summary Point 51



# CSA's - the small areas that make a big difference



## CSA Management

Fencing: 25m x \$20/m  
Planting: 10 Kowhai, 10  
flaxes @ \$4.30 ea

**Total Cost \$786**

# CSA's - the small areas that make a big difference

June 2018



January 2019



Cost to fix: 10m 2 wire permanent electric fencing x \$5.47/m, 50m bungy, 1 x bungy gate, 10 x Warratahs, 25 Insulators, 1 x S150 Solar Energiser, 1 x trough, 20m x 20mm alkathene, 5 hours labour: **Total Cost = \$1574**



# CSA's - the small areas that make a big difference



Cost to fix: 100m 2 wire permanent electric fencing x \$5.47/m, 50m bungy, 4 x bungy gates, 20m underground cable, 1 Pk Woodpost claw insulators  
**Total Cost = \$778** (electrified from existing fence)

# Alternative Fencing Approach 1.

1. Define Intensive and Non Intensive Farming
2. Apply blanket fencing rules to Intensive Farms and to high risk activities on Non-Intensive Farms.
3. Focus on CSAs for Non-Intensive Farms

Adopted by: Auckland, Gisborne, Southland, Canterbury, Marlborough, Horizons and Taranaki.



# Alternative Fencing Approach 2.

1. Blanket fencing rule up to 15° for all farms
2. Focus on CSAs management beyond 15°

Adopted by Wellington, Northland,  
Recommended by LAWF, NPS-FM.



## Vaughan Payne WRC as proponent evidence

*“A complex issue such as water quality management needs to be founded on a robust information and evidential basis, one that has been tested, and one that is open and transparent and shared with all involved.” Point 34*





**Justified and appropriate  
water solutions**



Vaughan Payne WRC as proponent evidence

*“The power of the collaborative process was that **those most impacted** by the policy were those who ‘held the pen’.”*





**Justified and appropriate  
water solutions**



Cr. Livingston

*“Everyone must do their bit”*





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