

**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
401 Grey Street
Hamilton East
Private bag 3038
Waikato Mail Center
HAMILTON 3240

Complete the following

Full Name: Deborah MacDonald

Phone (Hm): 07 8778034

Phone (Wk): 07 8778034

Postal Address: 1071 Ngapongga Rd R.D. 1 Papio

Phone (Cell): 0211448828

Postcode: 3971

Email: a-dmacdonald@farmside.co.nz

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.

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



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

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Waikato Regional Councils proposed Plan Change 1.

We farm a 430 hectare sheep + beef hill country property north west of Piopo. Our farm is still very much under development, with scrub + gorse to eradicate, nutrient levels that need improving and pasture that needs renovating. We thankfully have fully reticulated water. We all want our rivers to be healthy but feel that the proposals in the Healthy Rivers Proposed Plan need amending so that hill country farming remains profitable ^{and} at the same time reduce any negative environmental impacts as best we can.

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

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>Schedule 1 Farm Environment Plan</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>There needs to be a sensible FEP for each farm but are aware that its an expensive process. How can we be sure that having paid for an that it will remain current + valid for an adequate period of time?</p>	
		<p>Some points need address - eg. the degree of slope that you are able to cultivate as most of our hill country farms are mostly over 15° Cropping is an integral part of our farming process and don't have enough 'flat' land to cultivate</p>	

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

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
Schedule B Nitrogen Reference Point.	Oppose:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a property that has not reached its full farming potential due to shortcomings as poor farming practice or financial limitations in the past should not be limited to past fertiliser application, stocking numbers, capping or class of stock farmed. • many farms are purchased because their profitability can be much improved by altering these things. 	<p>Delete in its entirety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess each farm individually + not have blanket rules • we need information on the best ways to reduce losses of Nitrogen, Phosphorus, sediment + pathogens into our waterways. • Class of stock ratios for our hill country farms needs to be assessed i.e. do not overstock with cattle on the hills.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • such restrictions would have far-reaching financial impacts for many farmers + their community. • farmers would not be able to change methods / class of stock to meet changing markets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • individual areas / or farms need to be assessed to estimate optimum fertiliser application rates, stocking rates

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

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
Schedule C Stock Exclusion.	Oppose.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hill country farms not easily fenced + therefore expense would be enormous. • the vast number of wetlands on our farms makes it not viable to fence them all. • most of the fouling of water ('fouling') is due to extreme paradise duck numbers in our area (not cattle). 	<p>Amended as set out below,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • do fence main waterways we all like clean water, but do the math on smaller ones • provide funding for fencing • provide funding for water reticulation (if its feasible to install) • get rid of paradise ducks
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • where troughed water is also available in same paddock, the stock rarely go to the natural waterways to drink + 'poo' • urban areas contribute far more run-off into our waterways why just hit on farmers? 	<p>Question:- do fenced-off waterways shade the water more + therefore increase the e-coli present?</p>

Yours sincerely

Deborah MacDonald

 5.3.17

Signature

Date