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**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

Full Name(s): Graeme Anthony Brier

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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.

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

Comment [j1]: If this is a group submission everyone must include their details and sign the form, unless the group is a legal entity

To help the council the group could give itself a name ie collectively referred to as the ... group

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G.A. BRIER  06/03/2017
Signature date

Signature date

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Introduction

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

My name is Graeme Brier, I represent my family as a trustee of The Brier Family Trust. We are sheep and beef farmers in two Western Waikato catchments plus a 29Ha farmlot in the Priority 1 Waipa catchment.

In the past we have fenced to exclude cattle from main rivers and protected Native bush areas. We have farmed in Western Waikato for 36years. Our farms are in a high rainfall area. We have attempted to farm sustainably with high sheep to cattle ratios (70-30) and farming a large percentage of younger, lighter, cattle.

Already we are feeling the effects of Plan Change One with great uncertainty surrounding the future of hill country farming. This lack of confidence in our future leaves us reluctant to invest capital in future farm production. Not a good outcome for anyone.

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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.

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
Provision Farm Environment Plan 3.11.5.3	I support but require amendments	The reasons for this are: Each farm is different. A Farm Environment plan is a good starting point to identify contamination sources and possible improvements.	I seek that the provision is: amended as set out below As an alternative I propose A farm by farm approach under a subcatchment umbrella should produce better outcomes for the farm and the rivers. Keep FEP requirements simple and achievable.

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The specific provisions my submission relates to are:	My submission is that:		The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:
<p><i>Stock Exclusion</i></p> <p>3.11.5.2</p> <p>3.11.5.3</p> <p>3.11.5.4</p>	<p>Oppose and Amend</p>	<p>No guidelines to assess the slope on hills with varying contour.</p> <p>Land with >25 degree slope given no confidence looking forward</p> <p>Not enough information supplied to support exclusion of stock on hill country.</p>	<p>Alternative:</p> <p>Change stock exclusion requirements so that they align with the Ministry for the Environment guidelines.</p> <p>Dry stock hill country properties should prioritise water reticulation and planting of shade/shelter trees away from waterways</p>
<p><i>Sub catchment scale planning</i></p> <p>3.11.4.5</p>	<p>Support and Amend</p>	<p>Breaking down the Clean Rivers plan into small sections where local knowledge and ownership will create a positive attitude with measurable outcomes will be far more effective than a 'broad-brush' approach</p>	<p>Alternative</p> <p>More real information be available to each subcatchment to enable better planning and measured outcomes</p>
<p>3.11.4.7</p>	<p>Support and amend</p>	<p>The lack of scientific research should be the highest priority. People will not accept restrictions without the appropriate science.</p>	<p>Alternative</p> <p>Need to be able to access different livestock and management options with real information.</p>

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The specific provisions my submission relates to are:	My submission is that:		The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:

Yours sincerely Graeme Brier

Comment [j2]: If a group. The final signature can be 'signed on behalf of the ... group'.

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