#### Waikato Regional Council

#### Submission for

Healthy Rivers Proposed Plan Change 1

Any plan change needs to involve the whole communities' activities including storm water and treated sewage discharges to the waterways.

It is not fair that farming controls their leaching potential if municipal bodies are allowed to continue discharges to rivers without improvement in water quality before discharging.

#### UREA

When farmers apply urea as nitrogen fertiliser to pasture the rates are around 20kg of nitrogen per hectare at any one application. Potential leaching from this amount is minimal.

Urine patches are the main contributor up to 1000 kg of nitrogen per hectare in a single urine patch. These are the main source of nitrogen leaching from grazed pasture.

#### STOCKING RATES

In the Waikato when cows are stocked at more than 3 cows per hectare they need to be supplemented with maize silage. Maize silage is grown on additional land where no stock grazes on it so no urine deposited. Therefore highly stocked farms need to measure the total area their feed is coming from. The stocking rate over the whole area will still be around 3 cows per hectare. If a lower stocking rate for every hectare is applied then the land now growing maize will be return to livestock grazing and have urine deposits.

#### **OVERSEER**

This is only a computer modelling tool and should not be used as a regulatory tool. Rivers and streams need to physically sampled to identify areas of leaching.

#### SWIMMIBILITY

Sampling has shown that late autumn after rainfall is the time most leaching

takes place and rivers are most at risk of exceeding desired swimmable levels. Because of New Zealand's cool temperatures from April to November swimming is not a desirable option during that time.

#### CLARITY

Clarity of the Waikato River changes when the Waipa joins it and drainage from peat swamps and lakes in the lower Waikato naturally carry tannin stained water from the peat soils. As well Koi Carp by their nature eat vegetation and stir up sediment in the river beds and banks. Clearing Koi Carp from the river system would a useful tool to improve water clarity.

#### E.COLI

E.coli is everywhere in the environment so naturally some must be present in waterways. It is recommended that water in rivers and streams in native bush which is above any farmed land has to be treated to be safe to drink because of giardia and e.coli. This would suggest that this water would never be safe to drink or swim in. In the lower reaches wild fowl and fish also add to levels of e.coli. Algae blooms only form in still water. They could be chemically treated at point of source. The hydro lakes are a good example of where this could be done.

Waikato Regional Council needs to get any issued sorted with Hauraki Iwi leaders before any progress can be made on this plan. The whole region, town, country and Maori need to be treated equally and fairly.

It is a concern to find out how much influence Maori Iwi have on WRC decision making.

We need to add a K to Iwi (Kiwi) and work together as a united region.

David Wilson 96 Tui Road R D 3 Morrinsville

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# **PROPOSED WAIKATO REGIONAL PLAN CHANGE 1**

# WAIKATO AND WAIPĀ RIVER CATCHMENTS

Mandatory questions form for submissions on Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 - Waikato and Waipā River Catchments.

Important: Save this PDF to your computer before answering. Please check or update your software to allow for editing. We recommend Acrobat Reader.

FORM 5, Resource Management Act 1991

SubForm	PC12016	COVER SHEET
	FOR OF	FICE USE ONLY
		Submission Number
Entered	1	Initials



THIS FORM CAN	BE
Mailed to	Chief Executive, 401 Grey Street, Private Bag 3038, Waikato Mail Centre, Hamilton 3240
Delivered to	Waikato Regional Council, 401 Grey Street, Hamilton East, Hamilton
Faxed to	(07) 859 0998 <b>Please Note:</b> if you fax your submission, please post or deliver a copy to one of the above addresses
Emailed to	healthyrivers@waikatoregion.govt.nz Please Note: Submissions received by email must contain full contact details.
Online at	www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/healthyrivers
YOUR NAME AN	D CONTACT DETAILS - please ensure these details match those on your original submission
Full name: David L	esley Wilson
Full address: 96 T	ui Road, R D 3 Morrinsville 3373

TRADE COMPETITION AND ADVERSE	EFFECTS (select appropriate)
OI could / O could not gain an adva	ntage in trade competition through this submission.
(a) adversely effects the environme	
(b) does not relate to the trade cor	npetition or the effects of trade competition.

• I do not wish to speak at the hearing in support of my submissions.

### JOINT SUBMISSIONS

If others make a similar submission, please tick this box if you will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing.

Date: 06 March 2017

## SIGNATURE OF SUBMITTER - note you can also type your name to certify the above information is true and correct

Signature: D L Wilson Personal information is used for the administration of the submission process and will be made public. All information collected will be held by Waikato Regional Council, with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information. PLEASE CHECK that you have provided all of the information requested and if you are having trouble filling out this form, phone Waikato Regional Council on 0800 800 401 for help.