

KEY ISSUES FOR SHEEP AND BEEF FARMERS

Waikato Regional Council is currently consulting on its proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1. The Council is seeking submissions on the proposed plan until **5pm 8 March 2017**. This template has been created to help you get involved.

Get involved

It is critical that you get involved in the process directly. The plan and its implementation will influence how you manage your land, so it is important that you understand what is being proposed and that you have your say.

- For more information on the proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 visit:
<http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/Council/Policy-and-plans/Plans-under-development/Healthy-Rivers---Plan-for-Change/>
- Review B+LNZs one page summary and full brief of the key issues by visiting the Beef + Lamb New Zealand Website:
<http://www.beeflambnz.com/news-events/News/2016/october/healthy-rivers/>
- Download a copy of the proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 at:
<http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/PageFiles/46657/PlanChange1.pdf>
- Attend a B+LNZ Farmer Submission Workshop near you in November, visit the Beef + Lamb New Zealand Website for the schedule:
<http://www.beeflambnz.com/news-events/News/2016/october/healthy-rivers/>
- Provide feedback to the council online at:
<http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/Council/Policy-and-plans/Plans-under-development/Healthy-Rivers---Plan-for-Change/Plan-change-1-have-your-say/>
- Provide your feedback to the council via email: healthyrivers@waikatoregion.govt.nz

Share your thoughts or get help with your submission by contacting Environment Policy Manager Corina Jordan: corina.jordan@beeflambnz.com, mobile 027 202 7337.

Instructions for using this template:

- Make sure you complete the covering sheet on the first page of the submission form.
- Delete or add table rows as required – you can say as much or as little as you like, you're not limited to commenting on just the Plan sections included in the template.
- You must either support or oppose a part of the plan and ask for the council to make a decision on your submission point
- Wherever possible, try to back up your statements with examples from your own experiences, and/or cost implications on your farm business.
- **Your feedback must be lodged with Waikato Regional Council by 5pm on Wednesday 8 March 2017.**



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

Please consider forwarding a copy of your submission to B+LNZ so we can echo your comments in our submission

We moved to Troopers Road in Oct, 2010. We were sharemilkers - we bought a very run-down farm that supposedly had 550 cows on it. We are in Waipa catchment, ^{Priority 1} we have 400 cows, ^{peak 427} we milk OAD, System 1, seasonal & have all young stock on farm plus some beef cattle. ^{We grow winter crops to feed the animals.}

Property development includes completely redoing the water reticulation on 50% of the farm; 2.8 km 50mm pipe, 23 new troughs, 5 x 25000 l water storage tanks

- fencing all waterways that run all the time.
- fencing off all steep areas along tracks on main dairy block & planting in ornamentals
- renovating 70% of pasture through cropping & replanting in new AR37 grass to repel black beetles & increase ^{me. + amount of feed grown on farm}
- we have 5 QEII blocks on farm
- we have big tomos planted in mature pine trees which we might want to harvest at some stage
- we have 80ha of steeper limestone. We have bad tomos; one of national significance & 2 of regional significance. Tomos are of great concern to us because our cows die when they fall in them we have spent a lot of time & money on fencing these off
- In 2012, 2013 & 2014 we had 3 droughts in a row which impacted severely on our finances & we were limited in our ability to supply any fertilizer. Our N use was severely restricted; don't put N on when it is very dry.
- In 2015/16 season the dairy payout dropped badly

(beef+lamb)
by a business

We are financially stressed & unable to do any further development at present.

One of our ~~best~~ main concerns is that where we have fenced off (& haven't been able to afford trees or plants) the area has turned into wasteland of gorse, pruet, blackberry and it will be very expensive to get this land back to a usable state. It will have to be sprayed by helicopter several times to control the gorse etc to be able to plant it in trees/something a lot more aesthetically pleasing.

We would have liked to be eligible for free timber trees to plant in this area. It would be better to look at & useful in the future

• most of our water originates on farm from a big spring. We would like to do hydro-electric from this spring

• Our Olsen P is very low due to lack of P fertilizer applied in the past & our soil is allophanic. If we could lift our Olsen P to within the accepted rates for growing grass (35 Olsen P) we could grow clover. Clover would fix N & we could possibly apply less.

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

<p>The specific provisions my submission relates to are:</p> <p>State specifically what Objective, Policy, Rule, map, glossary, or issue you are referring to.</p>	<p>My submission is that:</p> <p>State:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whether you support, or oppose each provision listed in column 1; • brief reasons for your views. 	<p>The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:</p> <p>Give:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • precise details of the outcomes you would like to see for each provision. The more specific you can be the easier it will be for the Council to understand the outcome you seek
<p>Provision</p>	<p>I support/ oppose/ and for each whether or not you wish to amend</p> <p>The reasons for this are:</p>	<p>I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below</p> <p>As an alternative I propose</p>

The specific provisions of the proposal that this submission relates to & the decisions it seeks from Council are as detailed in the following table. The outcomes sought & 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.

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

<p>Provision <i>Policy 2, Policy 6, Policy 7, Schedule B</i></p>	<p>I support/ oppose/ and for each whether or not you wish to amend</p> <p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p><i>We seek certainty for the future for our farm & our children & we have already spent money, time & energy on environmental mitigations.</i></p>	<p>I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below</p> <p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p><i>Plan in current form is declined</i></p>
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WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL PROPOSED WAIKATO REGIONAL PLAN CHANGE 1 - WAIKATO AND WAIPA RIVER CATCHMENTS

<p>Provision <i>Policy 6 Restricting land use change</i> <i>3.11.5.7 Non-complying Activity Rule - land Use Change</i></p> <p><i>and any consequential amendments arising from this submission point</i></p>	<p>Support / oppose / and for each whether or not you wish to amend</p> <p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p><i>We want to be able to fore here the mngt on farm e.g harvest pine trees, look at land when cleared & be able to decide on what would be best for the farm.</i></p> <p><i>If a neighbouring block came up for sale we might like to graze our heifer replacements there rather than send them out to grazing & then increase our cow numbers, hence milk produced & sold & revenue earned for NZ.</i></p>	<p>I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety / Retained as proposed / amended as set out below</p> <p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p><i>keeping it as it is before the plan changes; let market forces rule.</i></p>
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WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL PROPOSED WAIKATO REGIONAL PLAN CHANGE 1 - WAIKATO AND WAIPA RIVER CATCHMENTS

<p>Provision <i>Schedule B</i> <i>Nitrogen Reference Point</i></p> <p><i>& any consequential amendments arising from this submission point</i></p>	<p>I support oppose/ and for each whether or not you wish to amend</p> <p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p><i>The grandparent of Nitrogen reference point was done when we had 3 droughts in a row & it was a waste of money to apply urea when soil was dry & grass was dead. Reference points were taken in abnormal seasons compared to summers when there is rain.</i></p> <p><i>N loss is not a big issue</i></p> <p><i>Also not sure that Overseer is the best tool for working out Nitrogen loss; another system may be better</i></p>	<p>I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below</p> <p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p><i>Don't have a reference point or go into a 10 year average. That would eliminate just referencing on 2 drought years & would be a fairer approach.</i></p>
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WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL PROPOSED WAIKATO REGIONAL PLAN CHANGE 1 - WAIKATO AND WAIPA RIVER CATCHMENTS

<p>Provision <i>Schedule C</i> <i>Stock exclusion</i></p> <p><i>If any consequential amendments arising from this submission point.</i></p>	<p>I support/ oppose/ and for each whether or not you wish to amend</p> <p>The reasons for this are:</p> <p><i>Rules 3.11.51 - 3.11.57 determine which level of resource consent process our farm will be subject to & if stock exclusion can't be met then could end up as classified as a restricted discretionary activity under RMA.</i></p> <p><i>Not practical to fence entirely for stock exclusion on our back, steep country. Use helicopters + planes here can't get materials in - would have to bulldoze tracks</i></p>	<p>I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below</p> <p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p><i>Excluding stock from main water ways that can be accessed without drastic measures</i></p>
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which would negate any gains & cause erosion/ sediment & need explosion on exposed subsoil.

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Thank you for a chance to tell you how it
affects our farm

Yours sincerely

Flora Bartholomew + David Talloch

Flora Bartholomew 6.3.17.

Signature

Date