

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

**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: JAMES LOWRY

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Phone (Cell): 0274137926

Postcode: 2695

Email: lowry@no8wireless.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

J. Lowry

Signature

07/03/2017

date

Signature

date

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.

First of all I would like to say that I support the objective of improving the water quality of our rivers but feel that the changes and restrictions in PC1 will unfairly impact our farming business with excessive costs and unfair restrictions which will negatively affect futures profits and viability, and do little to alter the quality of water leaving our farm.

I believe that the issue of water quality is a national one and needs a collaborative approach from all New Zealanders (why is it ok to pollute Raglan Harbour but not the Waikato River) also the Urban community seem to have no responsibility on this plan.

Also from a personal perspective the biggest negative influence on water quality on our farm comes from Koi carp which doesn't seem to be mentioned anywhere. Our family have been farming this property since 1905 in my time here I have followed best management practices of the day as I want future generations to be able to farm here sustainably.

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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
<p>Provision</p> <p>POLICY 6 - RESTRICTING LAND USE CHANGE</p>	<p>I support/ oppose/ XXXX</p> <p>If you support you can support but require amendments eg support with amendments</p> <p>(delete as required)</p>	<p>The reasons for this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This rule will affect our flexibility to make decisions around farming policy in the future. ● This rule could also have a negative effect on farm values. ● The loss of flexibility restricts our ability to change our farming practices to meet market changes. It could also affect our ability to take advantage of grass surpluses or prevent feed deficits. 	<p>I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below (delete as required)</p> <p>As an alternative I propose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Changes of land use should be allowed on land types that the relevant change is deemed suitable & sustainable.
<p>RULE 3.11.5.3 PERMITTED ACTIVITY RULE FARMING ACTIVITIES WITH A FARM ENVIROMENT PLAN UNDER A CERTIFIED INDUSTRY SCHEME</p>	<p>I OPPOSE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The use of a Nitrogen reference point is unfair as it rewards previous high polluters & restricts the flexibility of farmers who have traditionally farmed as low Nitrogen omitters. Either through low intensity farming and or through using good enviromentally friendly farm management practices. ● The rule will also have a negative effect on property values of sheep/beef farms that have been farmed traditonally & the use of Overseer is to inaccurate for a regulatory approach. 	<p>As a alternative I propose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● I would like to be able to develop our own farm FEP either after some formal training or under the guidance of a suitable farmer entity.

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AND WAIPA RIVER CATCHMENTS**

Yours sincerely

 **JAMES LOWRY**

 07/03/2017
Signature Date

Signature Date