

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

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

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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.

 4/3/17

Thank you for allowing me to submit my opinion on the Waikato Regional Plan involving the Waikato and Waipa river catchments.

I have owned a farm in the Mangaotaki valley for 60 years and am now semi retired on 32ha wintering 400 ewes. The land I am on was all originally dairying. I desire the right of the next owners to use the land to its best suitability for the good of New Zealand with whatever class of stock that is chosen.

I wish to comment and register my objection on several aspects of the proposed Waikato Regional Plan and for future river areas of the region.

1. Targets for water quality need to be realistic and obtainable with adequate concern for people - both farming and urban - and not aimed at an impossible target (the Mangaotaki river has always been swimmable).
2. I agree with fencing of rivers and major streams but it is impracticable to fence all streams on hill country. Evidence of pollution from swift flowing hill country streams seems to be lacking.
3. Allow all farm land use to be permitted up to 18su/ha. Previous history of a farm should be disregarded e.g. farm running 13su of sheep per ha must be able to change and run cattle if markets and financial situation dictate.
4. Farm land can be assessed for the amount of N it can readily cope with without causing excess N runoff. Fertiliser with N content could be limited to cope with this situation.
5. Small farms e.g. 50ha or less should be exempted from many requirements but still obliged to rules relating to water protection and N levels. Costs involved in the scheme e.g. land inspections could cripple small landowners.
6. Finally it appears that there are problems with iwi which when the scheme enters my area this could also cause a problem. This whole scheme in whatever shape it finally proceeds must under no circumstance apply differently to any land whoever is the owner(s).

 4/3/17