

**Submission: Waikato Regional Council's Proposed Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora
Plan Change 1 (PPC1)**

To Waikato Regional Council
401 Grey Street
Hamilton East
Hamilton 3240

From Malcolm and Rosita Crawford
694 Matahuru Road
R.D. 4 Ohinewai 3784
Email jackrussell694@gmail.com

Submission

We have reviewed the Waikato Regional Council's Proposed Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora Plan Change and oppose the Plan change in its current form for the reasons set out below.

We farm 700 hectares in three blocks. We have farmed in the same valley for 70 years. There is very little land under 25 degrees. Approximately 30 hectares in native bush. Small area of pine trees but have found this option to be unprofitable and too much excavation needed for harvesting which is no longer allowed. In the 1970's-1980's the Government offered suspensory loans to **clear more** hill country. We did not take up this offer. Government need to take some of the blame for the development of more hill country. We farm up to 1000 cattle including 400 breeding cows plus 1500 ewes and young stock.

Sheep are no longer profitable.

We have been breeding Angus Stud cattle for over 56 years. This plan would destroy the work and expense that we have put into raising quality stud Angus cattle.

We only use RPR non soluble fertiliser and **no nitrogen**. This land is ash soils and does not leach like other areas. We do not practice strip grazing.

47% of water comes from hill country and is very clean until entering low land areas where it becomes polluted by dairy farming. (section 32 Evaluation Report). 4% deterioration of water quality comes from non dairy land, 43%-63% from dairy farms. **One rule does not fit all.**

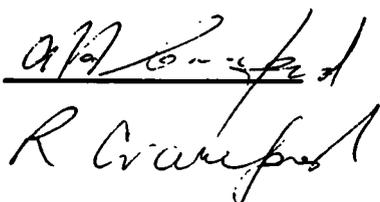
The Matahuru stream runs into Lake Waikare, a big ponding area, then into the Wangamarino swamp, another ponding area, so sediment would never reach the Waikato River. Small Ponding areas at the foot of each valley would be a possibility to restrict pollution when flooding.

Bulldozing would have to be used for fencing gullies and this is no longer allowed.

Koi Carp also pollute water as it runs into lower lands. This is the Waikato Regional Council's responsibility. They have not addressed this issue. Koi Carp could be chased out and a weir used as they do not climb water falls.

The Biggest burden in fencing hills would be ours with only the **smallest gain in water quality.**

This proposal would decrease land values and source of income. We would end up with no home, nothing for our families, our employees or wider community.


R Crawford

6-3-2017
06.03.2017