

**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
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Complete the following:

Full Name(s): Mark Mandeno

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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.

If others make similar submissions, I would consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing.

Commented [j1]: If this is a group submission everyone must include their details and sign the form, unless the group is a legal entity.

To help the council the group could give itself a name ie collectively referred to as the group.

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M. M. M.

Signature

4-3-17

date

Signature

date

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Introduction

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Waikato Regional Councils proposed Plan Change 1.

My name is Mark Mandeno, I am a sheep and beef farmer in the Karapiro sub-catchment. My family and I have been farming this property for 40+ years, we have always tried to take care of our Farm environment and have always enjoyed the ability to use our water ways as drinkable and swimmable when we please.

I feel that good farming practices over the years have allowed our water-ways to improve and we still work at improving on these ideas. I think New Zealand as a whole could do better at improving many aspects of our impact on our environment. However I see the Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change as an attack on one industry (farming) of New Zealand that isn't solely responsible for water quality in New Zealand.

New Zealand farming as a whole has made changes and learnt a great deal over the last 15 years about caring about the land and animals in a more environmentally sustainable way. I see this continuing more in the future as markets and farming industry and even social pressure will drive this and get better results and a more positive approach by all in the industry than the proposed Waikato regional plan.

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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
Rule 3.11.5.4 Schedule C stock exclusion	I oppose	The reasons for this are: The cost of trying to achieve this on a farm such as mine would make our farm non-profitable.	I seek that the provision is: Amended as set out below: We could start with the water bodies with the largest water volume and over a far longer timeframe (as stipulated by water quality testing) slowly step down in volume until a positive change starts to occur.
Rule 3.11.5.4 Schedule C stock exclusion	I Oppose	There is little to no provision for land contour in the proposed plan.	This needs to be amended so that other alternatives can be put in place instead of fencing on contour that is too steep and inaccessible. i.e. water troughs etc. to lessen the risk of stock entering water ways.

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The specific provisions my submission relates to are:	My submission is that:		The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:
Rule 3.11.5.4 Schedule B Nitrogen Reference Point (NRP)	I Oppose	Not everyone wants to be a dairy farmer but everyone should be able to improve their land with correct use of any tool available, i.e. fertilizer, etc.	I think this should be removed or reformed to allow farmers to farm their land as they deem necessary.
Rule 3.11.5.4 Schedule B Nitrogen Reference Point (NRP)	I Oppose	I oppose that a nitrogen reference point is to be set. It rewards polluters and was a crude mechanism for balancing out nutrient loads across the catchment. It would see low-emitting dry stock farmers capped at low levels with no flexibility to allow them to react to market forces and alter their farm systems to stay profitable.	I recommend for this to be amended so that it allows for farmers to follow markets and environmental changes to allow them to change their policies to suit. This is vital for the survival of farming in New Zealand.
Rules 3.11.5.1 and 3.11.5.2 Permitted Activities	I Oppose	I oppose this as the tillage of steeper country can be done at the correct time of the year and when weather suits so as to limit environmental damage.	These rules should be changed to allow the working of steeper ground as long as it doesn't impact on the environment.
Schedule 1 Farm Environment Plans (FEP)	I Oppose	We farmers are not in the business of destroying our environment as it's the environment of our farms that we preserve and culture to provide our livelihood.	I recommend this be removed as all this creates is a paper trail that does nothing to improve the environment of the farm.

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The specific provisions my submission relates to are:	My submission is that:	The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:

Yours sincerely Mark Mandeno

Commented [j2]: If a group. The final signature can be on behalf of the ... group'.

MM
Signature

MM

8-3-17
Date