

# PROPOSED WAIKATO REGIONAL PLAN CHANGE 1 WAIKATO AND WAIPĀ RIVER CATCHMENTS



**Submission form on publicly notified – Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 – Waikato and Waipā River Catchments.**

**Important: Save this PDF to your computer before answering. If you edit the original form from this webpage, your changes will not save. Please check or update your software to allow for editing. We recommend Acrobat Reader.**

**FORM 5 Clause 6 of First Schedule, Resource Management Act 1991**

SubForm	PC12016	COVER SHEET	
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
		Submission Number	
Entered		Initials	
File Ref		Sheet 1 of	

## SUBMISSIONS CAN BE

<b>Mailed to</b>	Chief Executive, 401 Grey Street, Private Bag 3038, Waikato Mail Centre, Hamilton 3240
<b>Delivered to</b>	Waikato Regional Council, 401 Grey Street, Hamilton East, Hamilton
<b>Faxed to</b>	(07) 859 0998 <i>Please Note: if you fax your submission, please post or deliver a copy to one of the above addresses</i>
<b>Emailed to</b>	healthyivers@waikatoregion.govt.nz <i>Please Note: Submissions received by email must contain full contact details.</i>
<b>Online at</b>	www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/healthyivers

**We need to receive your submission by 5pm, 8 March 2017.**

## YOUR NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS

Full name: Charles Richard Trausdale for Murvale Farm Ltd.  
 Full address: 644 Matahuru Valley Road, P.O. 4 Ohinewai 3784  
 Email: murvale644@gmail.com  
 Phone: 078285715 Fax: 078285716

## ADDRESS FOR SERVICE OF SUBMITTER

Full name: as above  
 Address for service of person making submission:  
 Email:  
 Phone: Fax:

## TRADE COMPETITION AND ADVERSE EFFECTS

- I could /  could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.
- I am /  am not directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that:
  - (a) adversely effects the environment, and
  - (b) does not relate to the trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

Delete entire paragraph if you could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

THE SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE 1 THAT MY SUBMISSION RELATES TO

Please state the provision, map or page number e.g. Objective 4 or Rule 3.11.5.1 (Continue on separate sheet(s) if necessary).

See attached submission

I SUPPORT OR OPPOSE THE ABOVE PROVISION/S

(Select as appropriate and continue on separate sheet(s) if necessary).

- Support the above provisions
- Support the above provision with amendments
- Oppose the above provisions

MY SUBMISSION IS THAT

Tell us the reasons why you support or oppose or wish to have the specific provisions amended. (Please continue on separate sheet(s) if necessary).

See attached submission

I SEEK THE FOLLOWING DECISION BY COUNCIL

(Select as appropriate and continue on separate sheet(s) if necessary).

- Accept the above provision
- Accept the above provision with amendments as outlined
- Decline the above provision
- If not declined, then amend the above provision as outlined

PLEASE INDICATE BY TICKING THE RELEVANT BOX WHETHER YOU WISH TO BE HEARD IN SUPPORT OF YOUR SUBMISSION

I wish to speak at the hearing in support of my submissions.

I do not wish to speak at the hearing in support of my submissions.

JOINT SUBMISSIONS

If others make a similar submission, please tick this box if you will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing.

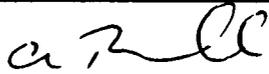
IF YOU HAVE USED EXTRA SHEETS FOR THIS SUBMISSION PLEASE ATTACH THEM TO THIS FORM AND INDICATE BELOW

Yes, I have attached extra sheets.

No, I have not attached extra sheets.

SIGNATURE OF SUBMITTER

Signature:



Date:

8 / 3 / 17

Personal information is used for the administration of the submission process and will be made public. All information collected will be held by Waikato Regional Council, with submitters having the right to access and correct personal information.

PLEASE CHECK that you have provided all of the information requested and if you are having trouble filling out this form, phone Waikato Regional Council on 0800 800 401 for help.

## **MURVALE FARM LTD**

As owner of Murvale Farm Ltd at 644 Matahuru Valley Rd RD4 Ohinewai 3784, a farm consisting of 260 hectares of medium to steep hill country lying east – west across the valley, I wish to submit my concerns and partial disapproval of the Healthy Rivers Scheme as it applies to my farm and locality.

Murvale Farm Ltd, and Richard and Jane Trousdale who lease a part of the property, have stocking rates of 70% sheep and 30% cattle ratios and income equally in that proportion. It is interesting to note sheep are not mentioned as contaminants on the Healthy River Scheme.

While I agree in principle to the improvement of water quality under the scheme I believe the hill country is being falsely accused of creating water contamination.

### **Points of note:-**

- (1) The Hapukohe Range area has its own micro-climate created by its geographic location forming a catchment and watershed area with a rainfall of between 64-45 inches annually, with turbulence and thunderstorms quite common. (Ask any glider pilot) The nature of the rainfall (up to 7 inches in a 24 hour period) over its steep topography gathers and sheds water rapidly. Subsequently the run off creates naturally formed channels that are self-cleansing and humanly impossible to control.**
- (2) The numerous tributaries to the central Matahuru stream are almost without exception in the category not requiring preventative treatment to keep stock out of waterways i.e. none of the tributaries are over 1 metre wide and 30 cm deep.**
- (3) The Matahuru stream itself does fall into the category requiring preventive fencing and I would suggest most of that area is already fenced to contain the flood plain area.**

- (4) With regard to keeping cattle out of the main watercourse of the Matahuru stream Murvale farm would be quite happy to single wire electric fence off the main stream, above the flood level, thus keeping cattle out of the water yet still allowing sheep to graze to the water edge thus keeping the pasture clean and avoid the need to plant trees and spray bad vegetation such as gorse and blackberry.
- (5) With regard to recommended fencing off of swampy areas one must first understand the nature of our hill country's topography. In our case numerous gullies have small swamp's in many of them. I have found it more beneficial to drain these swamps with a hydraulic digger – locating hidden springs- rather than fencing them off. This allows the wet area to harden off and grow grass while a narrow drain allows clean water to flow out. It also reduces stock loses and further contamination through decaying carcasses if they cannot be retrieved for disposal elsewhere. This project over the last 10 years has cost in the vicinity of \$17000 but has been money well spent with savings in livestock and reduction in contamination. It has also been my experience to see areas of swamp under torrential rainfall being lifted up and sliding downhill and into streams creating silt and sediment pollution in waterways downstream.
- (6) Stock movement and mustering is the domain of an experienced stockman and as both sheep and cattle are reluctant to go into water culverts and bridges have been placed strategically over the whole farm to allow stock to flow where they are most comfortable doing so.
- (7) It is an interesting fact of nature that some of our best springs are located on some of the highest ridge points. This allows tapping of these springs to gravity feed water by pipe to troughs therefore negating the need for stock to go down to stream level to drink.

Other troughs are placed on hill tops and water is reticulated by pump via pipes to them, again negating stock moving down to streams to drink.

(8) The farm is subdivided into 40 paddocks and a system of rotational grazing is used for all stock, this results in stock being spread over a large area reducing faecal contamination, break fencing of stock is not practised at all avoiding heavily contaminated areas.

(9) Construction over the years has created an inventory of:-

7 bridges

29 culverts

2 fenced dams

19 water troughs

These have all been created to assist stock and vehicle movement for the benefit of the user and reduce disturbance in watercourses.

Both households on the farm and the 2 woolsheds use water gravity fed from springs or water pumped from streams to header tanks to gravity feed to buildings.

It must be noted all families and employees drink the water from both springs and streams and in time of drought, when one spring dries up only water from the tributary streams to the Matahuru stream can be used. Over these 50 years there have been no ill-effects or water borne illness affect anybody.

It is interesting to note hill country contour on Onetai Station on the Awakino River Taranaki is being researched into the effect steep contour has on filtering water on its way down to stream and river level, preliminary findings are showing positive signs of cleansing.

I respectfully submit that I believe the proponents of the Healthy River Scheme have started with the wrong premise and are getting the wrong

answers in relation to the grazing areas of hill country in the Hapuakohe Range.

I would certainly drink the water of the Matahuru stream at the bridge north of the Matahuru Waiterimu Hall on Taniwha Rd but certainly not drink the water from Sherrards Bridge at the junction of Waiterimu Rd and Tahuna Rd.

I suggest the Regional Council's water sampling points are totally flawed.

In conclusion rainfall and water are either our best friend or worst enemy. It provides the basis of sustenance and survival on one hand and yet can cost thousands of dollars to infrastructure when falling in torrents.

Its power is way beyond human control and urban dwellers have no understanding of that power.

We respect our hill country and water resources and are constantly working to protect our farming lifestyle and environment.



Charles Trousdale