Submission

Waikato Regional Council Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 Waikato and Waipa River Catchments.

Submission on a publicly 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 Councils

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I am not a direct trade competitor for the purposes of the submission but the proposed plan has a direct impact on farming and our local economy. 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.

Signature

Date

Provision: Schedule C - Stock Exclusion.

I oppose Schedule C - Stock Exclusion.

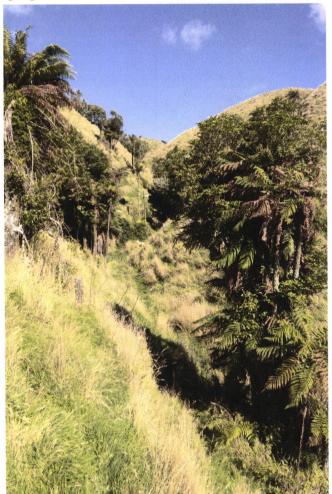
The reasons for this are:

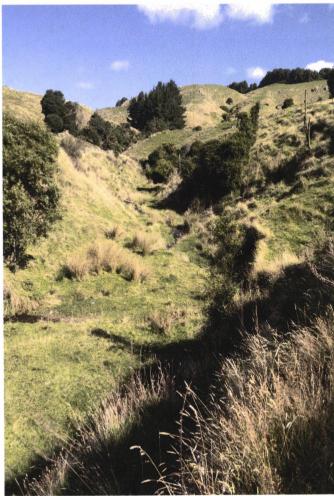
Stock exclusion from rivers and streams is logical. Fencing off minor streams in steep country is virtually impossible and prohibitively expensive for no gain as the water coming out of these areas is already crystal clear and good for swimming and food gathering. The damage is done further down by instensive land use, urban waste and runoff, hydro dams and the likes of Koi Carp.

Destroying the viability of hill country will be of no gain to the community at large.

I seek that the provision is amended as set out below:

I propose that minor streams in steep country are not required to be fenced off.





2 examples of minor streams that can't be fenced off without creating unacceptable erosion due to necessary earth works to bench a track for the fence.

Provision: Schedule B – Nitrogen Reference Point

I oppose Schedule B - Nitrogen Reference Point

The reasons for this are:

It gives current heavy stockers (high stocking rates) a license to carry on while penalising the people that have already backed off heavy stocking and given up cropping and artificial nitrogen use.

For those that already have a reduced stocking rate it places lower ceiling on future stocking rates thereby lowering the market value of the land relative to those that are currently have a high stocking rate. This is a grossly unfair solution to the problem with severely negative consequences for those farmers that already have a low Nitrogen Reference Point.

Overseer is a measurement tool that is fraught with inaccuracies. To use it as an arbitrary reference point is a major stumbling block.

I seek that Schedule B be deleted in its entirety. A completely new approach needs to be taken that is fair and allows all farmers the same rights for land use on similar classes of land. Overseer is not fit for this purpose and should not be used.