

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

CT and EM Brown

Submitter Number:

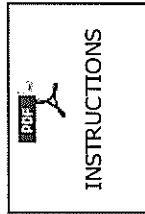
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Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:



Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

Full name: CT & EM Brown

Company name:

Address1: 267 State Highway One

Address2: Waikanae

Address3:

Address4:

Town: Kapiti Coast

Postcode: 5391

Telephone Work:

Telephone Home: 275331129

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Email address: chresmae@gmail.com

Trade competition

Yes I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission

No I/we could gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

If you could gain an advantage please complete one of the following:

I/we are directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of my submission that adversely affects the environment

and does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

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Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

Yes I/we do wish to be heard in support of my/your submission

[Note: this means that you wish to speak in support of your submission at the hearing(s).]

I/we do not wish to be heard in support of my/our submission
[Note: this means that you cannot speak at the hearing. However, you will still retain your right to appeal
any decision made by the Wellington Regional Council to the Environment Court.]
Yes If other make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Date:

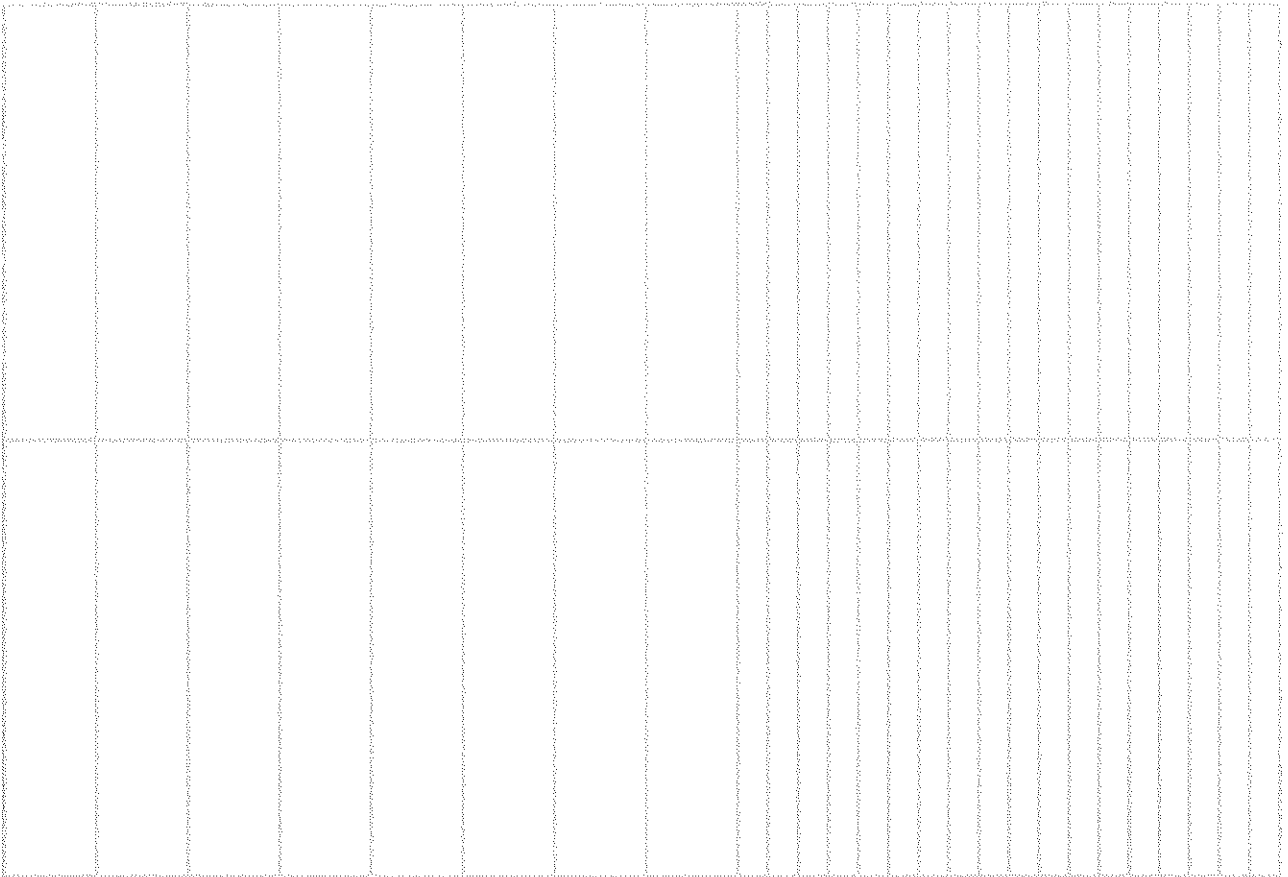
Objectives

My submission on this provision is:

Reasons for my submission:

I seek the following from WRC (give precise details):

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Objective O25: Aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai	Amend	Objective 3.6.b talks of restoration of aquatic ecosystem health Delete clause (b) etc is encouraged. To what is it to be restored?	Delete Objective O28
Objective O28: Extent of wetlands	Oppose	The only way to extend natural, (and outstanding) wetlands is to dam or impede water egress from the wetlands. Most wetlands form (integral) parts of farms and are essential for grazing especially during times of drought. Extending wet lands will diminish farming profitability by restricting grazing and imposing costs.	



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Reasons for my submission:

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Policies

<p>Policy P7: Uses of land and water</p>	<p>The Policy P7.b suggests that land should be used for the disposal of stormwater, i.e. floods. This implies that GWRC is happy to see land inundated during floods without it doing anything to avoid, remedy, or mitigate the effects of floods. Stormwater channels need to be identified and recognised in the Natural Resources Plan,(NRP), and they need to be maintained so they are of use during flood events.</p>	<p>Identify and recognise stormwater channels in the NRP. Provide for their maintenance by Councils and land owners by making this a permitted activity in the NRP.</p>
<p>Policy P7: Uses of land and water</p>	<p>The Policy P7.b suggests that land should be used for the disposal of stormwater, i.e. floods. This implies that GWRC is happy to see land inundated during floods without it doing anything to avoid, remedy, or mitigate the effects of floods. Stormwater channels need to be identified and recognised in the Natural Resources Plan,(NRP), and they need to be maintained so they are of use during flood events.</p>	<p>Identify and recognise stormwater channels in the NRP. Provide for their maintenance by Councils and land owners by making this a permitted activity in the NRP.</p>
<p>Policy P8: Beneficial activities</p>	<p>Policy P8.f, should be amended to provide for the maintenance and cleaning of water bodies that are stormwater channels. Fencing and planting of stream and drain edges complicates this process and will create a situation where water channels become blocked and water movement impeded by vegetation.</p>	<p>Water bodies that are storm water channels MUST be maintained so that water can move freely.</p>
<p>Policy P9: Public access to and along the coastal marine area and the beds of lakes and rivers</p>	<p>Policy P9 can be misused by members of the public who seek to travel up rivers for sporting or recreational activities and find their progress slow or difficult to intrude onto farmers land which may have the stream or river running through it.</p>	<p>The protection of property owners rights to restrict the public access to their properties.</p>
<p>Policy P15: Flood protection activities</p>	<p>Policy P15 is a great statement and should take precedence over policies to protect water bodies.</p>	<p></p>
<p>Policy P38: Restoration of wetlands</p>	<p>Policy P38 suggests that all natural wetlands are in need of restoration which is not necessarily true. Many of these wetlands are on private property. Demands to restore these sites may become onerous for many landowners.</p>	<p>Work to identify natural wetlands in need of restoration should be identified in conjunction with landowners, and resources provided by GWRC to assist landowners in this task.</p>

<p>Policy P39: Adverse effects on outstanding water bodies</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Policy P39 could be used to prevent access to or through outstanding water bodies by their owners.</p>	<p>Policy P39 should include measures to remedy or mitigate adverse effects,</p>
<p>Policy P59: Industrial point source discharges</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Policy P59 could curtail the spreading of fertilizer as it only provides for avoidance. Provision should be made for the situation where the discharge is occasional or transitory such as dust from fertiliser spreading.</p>	<p>Amend the policy to only include discharges which are ongoing or semi permanent basis.</p>
<p>Policy P63: Improving water quality for contact recreation and Māori customary use</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Policy P63. Storm water is something that no one person has control over. It is best managed by having a good storm water network to carry it to the sea. Storm water needs to be considered in its own right and not as an interference with other natural processes.</p>	<p>Delete the references to stormwater from the policy.</p>
<p>Policy P73: Minimising adverse effects of stormwater discharges</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Policy P73 should be broadened to deal not only with urban areas but also Rural areas where storm water from urban areas often ends up. Hard engineering drain and stream maintenance should be a permitted activity for land owners.</p>	<p>Include the words "and existing" after the word "new" in clause b.</p>
<p>Policy P78: Managing stormwater from large sites</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Policy P78 should also include the protection of productive farm land from inundation, as well as the other issues mentioned.</p>	<p>Modify clause (d) to include productive farm land.</p>
<p>Policy P101: Management of riparian margins</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Policy P101 does not specify where the riparian margins are. Water bodies that function as storm water channels need to be maintained to allow for the swift passage of water in the event of a flood. The exclusion of livestock implies fences which imply access difficulties for mechanical diggers to clean storm water channels.</p>	<p>Insert clause (d) allow access for mechanical diggers to storm water channels.</p>

Rules - Land use

My submission on this provision is:

I seek the following from WRC (give precise details):

Rule R97: Access to the beds of surface water bodies by livestock – permitted activity

Amend

5.4.3.e.(i) Sheep are not necessarily the best livestock to farm where there are wetlands. My farm is cattle only and the wetland is considerable. This is an unnecessary limitation on a farmers ability to use his/her land to the best of their ability. Remove the limitation to sheep only in 5.4.3.e.i

