

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Tim Mansell and Family

Submitter Number:

S351



Form 5

Submission on publicly notified proposal for policy statement or plan, change or variation
Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991

To: Greater Wellington Regional Council

This submission has been prepared on behalf of Tim Mansell and Family in relation to properties on Otaki Gorge Road as well as 583 and 655 Otaki Gorge Road, Otaki

This is a submission on the following proposed plan: Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region.

The submitters could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

The specific provisions of the proposal that this submission relates to are set out in Parts 2 through to 10 of this submission.

The submission opposing or supporting provisions is set out in Parts 2 through to 10 of this submission.

The submission seeks relief from the Regional Council as set out in Parts 2 through to 10 of this submission. The ~~provisions in strike-through font~~ highlight the areas in the Proposed Regional Plan the submitters wants deleted. The provisions in underline font highlight the areas the submitters wants included.

The submitters wishes to be heard in support of their submission.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a trailing line, positioned above a horizontal line.

Signature of person authorised to sign
on behalf of submitters

Date 27 October 2015

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Land Matters Ltd specialises in environmental management and is based on the Kapiti Coast.
- 1.2 This submission addresses specific concerns Tim Mansell and Family (the submitters) have in respect of their properties as well as general comments in respect of the policy direction and process adopted by the PROPOSED Regional Plan.

2.0 SUBMITTER'S PROPERTY

- 2.1 The submitters own property located along Otaki Gorge Road in Otaki including 583 and 655 Otaki Gorge Road totalling almost 400 hectares. Some titles are blue water/accretion titles adjoining and within the Otaki River bed (i.e. these titles extend or contract as the river bank erodes or accretes). Part of the land holding adjoining the Otaki River Gorge is alluvial plains while the larger landholdings across the road is hill country with a number of unnamed streams crossing down and through.

The properties are farmed and stock include sheep, cattle and pigs. Farming practices include cultivating the land, application of fertiliser and weed sprays, tracking and general maintenance of existing tracks. The submitters live on the land enjoying its many qualities.

- 2.2 The Proposed Regional Plan identify a number of natural features located either within or adjoining the properties concerned, including:
- Schedule F1 Site (being the Otaki River) having a high macroinvertebrate community health index;
 - Schedule F2 Site (being the Otaki River) being an Indigenous bird habitat
 - Schedule H Site (being the Otaki River) as a recreational river
 - Schedule I Site (being the Otaki River) as a Trout Fishing River and a Trout Spawning Habitat
 - Class 2 Rivers (Hill Country areas)
- 2.3 The submitters have specific concerns about how the PROPOSED Regional Plan provisions will affect the day-to-day operations on their property; future use of the property and the practicality and/or necessity of imposing certain provisions.
- 2.4 Specifically the submitters are concerned about the Proposed Regional Plan's provisions relating to water allocation and water takes; land cultivation and vegetation disturbance; fencing off streams in hill country for dry dairy stock; breakfeeding; application of fertilisers and weed control – both aerial and hand application provisions; timeframes for sealing silage pits; earthworks from construction of new farm tracks or maintenance of existing farm tracks particularly in the hill country where many pass alongside creeks and streams; construction of new culverts; and standards relating to farm refuses.

The submitters consider many of the rules and associated provisions relating to the above activities are unnecessary on the basis that the effects generated by the activities can be

managed as a permitted activity. Furthermore, the submitters are concerned that there appears to be a lack of consistency in application of rules between Kapiti Coast District Council and the Regional Council resulting in unnecessary bureaucracy. The ss suggest that other provisions such as those relating to application of fertiliser or weed control and construction of culverts can be better managed and that make suggestions as to how this could be implemented.

As one of the larger landowners on the Kapiti Coast, the Mansell Family consider themselves the guardians of their land and respect the need to manage it sustainably. They are looking to the Regional Council to support them in their effort by minimising the amount of regulation and increasing the support of non-regulatory incentives. The Mansell Family support the Whaitua Process but would like it to be broader in its brief. This submission includes comments about the Whaitua process and how it could be undertaken so that it better reflects community values for waterbodies.

The submitters submissions and the relief they seek are noted in the paragraphs below.

GENERAL SUBMISSIONS

3.0 COMPULSORY AND NON-COMPULSORY VALUES OF THE NPS-FW, MAHINGA KAI PROVISIONS AND CUSTOMARY RIGHTS, MITIGATION HEIRARCHY AND MINIMISATION OF EFFECTS, IMPROVING OR ENHANCING THE ENVIRONMENT

3.1 The submitters oppose the generic approach and the adoption of region-wide objectives and policies prior to undertaking the **Whaitua process**. The submitters oppose the methodology adopted by the Proposed Regional Plan which provides for the Whaitua process to only considering water quantity provisions and not consider water quality provisions and in particular the non-compulsory values that may be included as provided for under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater.

3.2 The submitters oppose those provisions in the Proposed Regional Plan that incorporate the *non-compulsory* values set out under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater (NPS-FW). The NPS-FW requires Councils to identify “values for each waterbody in each region and in the first instance apply the compulsory values of:

- Te Hauora o te Wai/The health and mauri of water – that the freshwater management unit supports a healthy ecosystem appropriate to that freshwater body type (river, lake, wetland or aquifer); and
- Te Hauora o te Tangata/The health and mauri of people – that as a minimum, the freshwater management unit will present no more than a moderate risk of infection to people when they are wading or boating or involved in similar activities that involve only occasional immersion in the water.

Then the NPS-FW states that a Regional Council may choose to include other additional values which are not compulsory being:

- Te Hauora o te Taiao/ The Health and Mauri of the Environment in respect of *Natural Form and Character* – where people value particular natural qualities of the freshwater;
- Mahinga kai/food gathering, places of food – protection of water resources so that kai would be safe to harvest and eat and knowledge transfer is present;
- Mahinga kai – kei te ora te mauri/the mauri of the place is intact – the freshwater resources would be available for customary use at some places (but not everywhere);
- Mahinga kai – fishing – that the freshwater resource would be allow for fish numbers to be sufficient and suitable for human consumption.

The submitters are opposed to all those provisions in the proposed Regional Plan that give effect to non-compulsory values of protecting the quality of water resources. The submitters support a process for considering whether non-complying values be included in the Regional Plan through the Whaitua process and then if necessary/appropriate through a variation to the Regional Plan.

The Whaitua process has yet to commence on the Kapiti Coast and it should be through that process that determines whether the Regional Plan contains provisions that give effect to the non-compulsory values. Those values relate to whether resource users within a particular freshwater management unit (which under the Regional Plan propose to be catchments) protect and/or enhance water quality for mahinga kai values and primary contact recreational values.

3.3 When including provisions requiring management of adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems (i.e. the compulsory values), the submitters oppose any adherence to a mitigation hierarchy (i.e. first seek to avoid, then to remedy and then to mitigate) through provisions in the Proposed Regional Plan. The Plan is not the best place to make this decision as all decisions on whether to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects need to be undertaken on a case by case basis depending on the receiving environment, the proposal at hand, the construction technology/methodology used etc. Likewise the submitters oppose any attempt to define “minimisation of effects” as the Proposed Regional Plan’s attempt to do this places undue restrictions on the assessment of effects before an application has even been lodged.

3.4 The submitters oppose all provisions that require in the first instance, the environment to be “restored” or “enhanced” where those provisions are located outside the coastal environment. The submitters question assessment of costs that would be required for restoration and/or enhancement across the entire region.

The costs of doing this work in the manner proposed by the Proposed Regional Plan will be excessive and mainly fall on the resource user when the benefits of restoration and enhancement will extend to the wider community, iwi and local government. Restoration and enhancement should only be included in a regional plan as required under the NPS-FS and that is where waterbodies have been over-allocated to the point of exhaustion and as required under the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement.

For all other habitats, restoration and enhancement should only be considered on a site by site, catchment by catchment basis (possibly through the Whaitua process) and then through a variation to the Regional Plan. Costs for undertaking restoration and enhancement should not

solely fall on the resource user or landowner.

Likewise the submitters oppose any requirement to extend protected sites by the inclusion of buffers or through 'connections' etc. Sites suitable for restoration and/or enhancement must be able to be identified in a regional plan, costs should be fairly distributed amongst the beneficiaries, and timeframes should be reasonable (Objective O25 and Policy P63 are examples of how such provisions should work). In all other areas/locations the regional plan should be looking to manage effects to maintain those environments.

Furthermore, the submitters are concerned that the provisions of the Proposed Regional Plan are adopting a region-wide planning approach targetting the worst case scenario waterbodies (typically on the east coast) when the waterbodies on the Kapiti Coast are generally identified as being of good quality and stable and do not require the same sort of treatment. According to the State of the Environment Report, the waterbodies on the Kapiti Coast are:

- *Largely remained stable*
- *Larger rivers are in good health where they flow out of forested ranges*
- *Water Quality and ecological health are degraded in small lowland coastal streams such as the Mangapouri, Mangaone & Whareroa Streams (noting it is not the entire stream that is degraded and the coastal inlet at Mangapouri is noted as having 'Fair' water quality and the Mangaone Estuary as having 'Fair' recreational grade)*
- *Waitohu Stream hill country has 'Excellent' water quality*
- *Otaki River mid section has 'Excellent' water quality and 'Very Good' recreational grade*
- *Inland Waikanae River has 'Good' water quality and 'Excellent' water quality in the lower reaches with 'Good' recreational grade*

According to Section 32 Report '*Ki Uta ki Tai*,' information on water quality will only be available for the *Whaitua* Committees under Stage II of the plan process - "*GW does not have sufficient information to establish water quality limits across the region as required by the NPS – FW ...*" (Paragraph 3.2.6).

- 3.5 The submitters oppose all provisions relating to *mahinga kai* as currently worded and also oppose the definition of *mahinga kai* in the Proposed Regional Plan. Firstly, the submitters consider that the reference to *mahinga kai* and gathering of food in general is not a compulsory value as defined by the NPS-FW and therefore does not automatically need to be included in the Regional Plan.

Secondly the submitters note that the NPS-FW provides for a wider application of *mahinga kai* to be considered in a regional plan not just for the purpose of the cultural harvesting of food (refer paragraph 3.1 above).

Thirdly, the submitters consider the protection of *mahinga kai* across the entire region (defined in the Proposed Regional Plan as the the "customary" gathering of food) is too broad in that it goes beyond what is required under Section 6 of the Resource Management Act ("the Act") in respect of protecting "protected" customary rights and/or providing for Maori's relationship to their ancestral lands, water, sites, wahi tapu and other taonga. Section 6 reads:

S.6 Matters of National Importance

“In achieving the purpose of this Act, all persons exercising functions and powers under it, in relation to managing the use, development, and protection of natural and physical resources, shall recognise and provide for the following matters of national importance:

- (a) the preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment (including the coastal marine area), wetlands, and lakes and rivers and their margins, and the protection of them from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development:*
- (b) the protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development:*
- (c) the protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna:*
- (d) the maintenance and enhancement of public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes, and rivers:*
- (e) the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga:*
- (f) the protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development:*
- (g) the protection of protected customary rights.”*

Section 6(g) of the Act states that protection of customary rights (i.e. Mahinga kai as defined in the Proposed Regional Plan meets the definition of customary rights) is only compulsory in relation to “protected customary rights.” The Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 defines ‘protected customary right’ as an activity, use or practice established under the Act and recognised by a protected customary rights order or an agreement. Protected customary rights orders can be granted over a specified part of the common marine and coastal area. Such orders recognise a particular activity, use or practice which has been exercised since 1840¹.

- 3.6 The submitters seeks that Proposed Regional Plan define protected customary rights (including mahinga kai) and protect those protected customary rights as set out in section 6(g) of the Act.
- 3.7 The submitters supports those provisions (e.g. O14, O15 and O16) in the Proposed Regional Plan that recognise and provide for the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga including providing for the customary gathering of food within mana whenua sites. The submitters oppose the significant restrictions placed on mana whenua sites and in particular the potential prohibition of an activity within those sites. If the Regional Plan is to prohibit an activity it must list that activity in its plan and not rely on a third party advisor (i.e. a cultural impact assessment provided by an iwi authority) as that is likely to be ultra vires. A Regional Plan can not require as a policy or rule

¹ Source: <http://www.environmentguide.org.nz/rma/principles/section-6-matters-of-national-importance/>

² Land and Water Forum, 2012. *Second Report of the Land and Water Forum: Setting Limits for Water Quality and Quantity, and Freshwater Policy and Plan-Making Through Collaboration.*p.22,

that a resource user obtain the written approval of a third party – provisions for requiring affected party approvals are set out in the Act. The submitters opposes any provisions in the Proposed Regional Plan that requires third party approvals.

- 3.8 The submitters opposes any provisions in the Proposed Regional Plan that seek to protect, maintain or enhance sites that would come under the NPS-FW definition of, “Te Hauora o te Taiao/ The Health and Mauri of the Environment in respect of *Natural Form and Character* – where people value particular natural qualities of the freshwater” as this is a non-compulsory value and the inclusion of provisions providing for it in the Regional Plan should be determined through the Whaitua process and if appropriate provisions only included as a variation to the Regional Plan.

3.9 Relief Sought

- 3.9.1 The submitters oppose all provisions in the Proposed Regional Plan giving effect to the non-compulsory values of the NPS-FW relating to mahinga kai and ‘Te Hauora o te Taiao/ The Health and Mauri of the Environment in respect of *Natural Form and Character*’ (i.e. people value particular natural qualities of the freshwater) be either deleted, or amended to remove references to the non-compulsory values for water quality and water quantity. These provisions include, but are not limited to the following:

Schedule H1 and Rivers shown on Map 20 (Note: In line with the principle that the Whaitua process should determine the non-compulsory values, the submitters also opposes all provisions identifying regionally significant primary contact recreation water bodies listed in Schedule H1 and shown on Map 20 and in particular the Otaki and Waikanae Rivers. Not all parts of these rivers are used for primary contact recreation purposes and it may not be appropriate to identify those reaches as regionally significant for primary contact recreation.)

Objective 05

“Fresh water bodies and the coastal marine area, as a minimum, are managed to:

- (a) safeguard aquatic ecosystem health ~~and mahinga kai;~~*
- (b) provide for ~~contact recreation~~ secondary recreational contact and/or provision of potable water and Maori customary use, and*
- (c) in the case of fresh water, provide for ~~the health needs of people~~ secondary recreational contact and/or provision of potable water* (* would require a new definition for ‘secondary recreational contact’)”*

Objective 24

“Rivers, lakes, natural wetlands, and coastal water are suitable for secondary recreational contact and/or provision of potable water, and significant contact recreation fresh water bodies are suitable for contact recreation ~~contact recreation and Maori customary use,~~ including by:

- (a) maintaining water quality; or*
- (b) improving water quality in*

- i. Significant contact recreation fresh water bodies to meet, as a minimum, the primary contact recreation objectives in Table 3.1, and
- ii. all other rivers and lakes and natural wetlands to meet, as a minimum the secondary contact recreation objectives in Table 3.2.”

Schedule H: Contact recreation and Maori customary use (and as shown on Map 20)

Schedule H1: Regionally significant primary contact recreation water bodies (shown on Map 20”

Objective O25

“To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health ~~māhinga kai~~ in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:

- (a) water quality, flows, water levels and aquatic and coastal habitats are managed to maintain aquatic ecosystem health ~~and māhinga kai~~, and
- (b) restoration of aquatic ecosystem health ~~and māhinga kai~~ is encouraged over time* (* refer paragraph 8.0 of this submission), and
- (c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is improved over time to meet that objective”

Policy P10: Contact recreation and Maori customary use

“The management of natural resources shall have particular regard to the actual and potential adverse effects on ~~contact recreation~~ the health and mauri of people involved in secondary contact recreation and Maori customary use sites, in fresh and coastal water, ~~including by:~~

- ~~(a) providing water quality and, in rivers, flows suitable for the community’s objectives for contact recreation and Maori customary use~~
- ~~(b) managing activities to maintain or enhance contact recreation values in the beds of lakes and rivers, including by retaining existing swimming holes and maintaining access to existing contact recreation locations, and~~
- ~~(c) encouraging improved access to suitable swimming locations, and~~
- ~~(d) providing for the passive recreation and amenity values of fresh water bodies and the coastal marine area~~

Policy P31: Aquatic ecosystem health ~~and māhinga kai~~

“Aquatic ecosystem health ~~and māhinga kai~~ shall be maintained, or where possible/identified restored over time, by managing the effects of use and development on physical, chemical and biological processes to:

- (a) minimise limit adverse effects on natural flow characteristics and hydrodynamic processes, and the natural pattern where they exist, and natural range of water level fluctuations in rivers, lakes and natural wetlands, and
- (b) minimise limit adverse effects on aquatic habitat diversity and quality, including the form, frequency and pattern of pools, runs, and riffles in rivers, and the natural form of rivers, lakes, natural wetlands and coastal habitats, and
- (c) minimise limit adverse effects on habitats that are important to the life cycle and survival of aquatic species, and
- (d) minimise limit adverse effects at times which will most affect the breeding, spawning, and dispersal or migration of aquatic species, and

- (e) ~~avoid creating barriers to the migration or movement of indigenous aquatic species, and restore the connections between fragmented aquatic habitats where appropriate, and~~
- (f) ~~minimise limit~~ adverse effects on established riparian habitats and restore them where practicable, and
- (g) avoid the introduction, and restrict the spread of, aquatic pest plants and animals."

Policy P32: ~~Adverse effects on aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai~~
 "Significant ~~adverse effects on aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai~~ shall be managed. by:

- ~~(a) avoiding significant adverse effects; (see comments in next section under 'Water Quality')~~
- ~~(b) where significant adverse effects cannot be avoided, remedying them, and~~
- ~~(c) where significant adverse effects cannot be remedied, mitigating them, and~~
- (d) where significant adverse effects cannot be avoided, remedied or mitigated and/or residual significant adverse effects remain, it is appropriate to consider the use of biodiversity offsets.

Proposals for mitigation and biodiversity offsetting will be assessed against the principles listed in Schedule G (biodiversity offsetting)"

Policy P62: *Promoting discharges to land*

"The discharge of contaminants to land is promoted over direct discharges to water, particularly where there are adverse effects on :

- (a) *aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai, or*
- (b) secondary recreational contact and/or provision of potable water* ~~contact recreation and Maori customary use."~~

Policy P70: *Managing point source discharges for aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai*

"Where an objective in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, or Table 3.8 of Objective O25 is not met, point source discharges to water shall be managed in the following way"*

*Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 and 3.8 to be amended so criteria is only assessing aquatic ecosystem health not mahinga kai.

3.9.3 The submitters opposes generic application of provisions controlling use and development without reference to managing potential adverse effects. The submitter opposes any "mitigation hierarchy" including the reference in Schedule G. The submitter opposes the attempt to define "minimisation of adverse effects" under Policy P4 by requiring applicants to consider alternative locations and locating activities away from Scheduled sites. There is a reason why an applicant has sought a consent for the specific location and unless the activity on that site is prohibited then they have every right to apply for a consent in that location. The Regional Plan should instead look at managing effects from activities on locations. These provisions the submitters oppose include, but are not limited to the following:

Objective O19

~~The interference from use and development on natural process is minimised.~~ Note: in some circumstances interference from use and development on natural processes may be justified. Other objectives provide an effects based approach and should be used instead.

Policy P4: Minimising adverse effects

"Where minimisation of adverse effects is required by policies in the Plan, minimisation means reducing adverse effects of the activity to the smallest amount practical and shall include:

- ~~(a) consideration of alternative locations and methods for undertaking the activity that would have less adverse effects, and~~
- ~~(b) locating the activity away from areas identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies), Schedule C (mana whenua), Schedule E (historic heritage), Schedule F (indigenous biodiversity), and~~
- (c) where possible, timing the activity, or the adverse effects of the activity, to avoid times of the year when adverse effects may be more severe, or times when receiving environments are more sensitive to adverse effects, and*
- (d) using good management practices for reducing the adverse effects of the activity, and*
- (e) designing the activity so that the scale or footprint of the activity is small as practicable."*

Policy P26: Natural processes

"Use and development will be managed to ~~minimise~~ limit adverse effects on the integrity and functioning of natural processes and minimise adverse effects on significant habitats and landscapes." The submitter opposes the use of the word "minimises" with the current definition as set out in Policy 4 above but would support an amended Policy P4.

- 3.9.4 The submitters oppose any provisions which impose additional restrictions on adjoining land on the basis that they are "buffers" or provide "connections" between habitats either for the purpose of managing biodiversity, water quality or natural hazards. Protected sites should be easily identified within a Regional Plan and natural hazards should only require buffers where appropriate. These provisions include, but are not limited to the following:

Objective O28

The extent of natural wetlands is maintained ~~or increased~~ and where possible their extent and condition is restored over time.

Policy P30: Natural buffers

~~The adverse effects of Use and development on natural features such as beaches, dunes, or wetlands that buffer development from natural hazards shall be minimised, if that use or development reduces the ability of that feature to operate as a buffer.~~

- 3.9.5 The submitters oppose any provisions which require 'restoration' and/or 'enhancement'. Submitters are seeking the Regional Council engage with landowners and the community over sites where this could occur and how that work might be funded and over what time frame the work might occur. Provisions should be specific and identify clearly areas that require enhancement (see the proposed objective O18 and Policy P62 as examples of what may be suitable). These provisions include, but are not limited to, the following:

Objective O3

Mauri is sustained, and where possible/identified enhanced over time particularly the mauri of fresh and coastal waters"

Objective O9

"The recreational values of the coastal marine area, rivers and lakes and their margins and natural wetlands are maintained and where possible/identified enhanced over time."

Objective O11

"Opportunities for Maori customary use of the coastal marine area, rivers and lakes and their margins and natural wetlands for cultural purposes are recognised, maintained and where possible/identified enhanced over time."

Objective O23

"The quality of water in the region's rivers, lakes, natural wetlands, groundwater and the coastal marine area is maintained and where possible/identified or improved over time."

Objective O28

"The extent of natural wetlands is maintained, or where possible/identified increased and their condition is restored over time."

Objective O29

"use and development provides for the passage of fish and koura and where possible/identified the passage of indigenous fish and koura is restored over time."

Objective O30

"The habitat of trout identified in Schedule 1 (trout habitat) is maintained and where possible/identified improved over time."

Objective O33

"~~Sites with Significant~~ The values of mana whenua values sites are recognised and provided for and where possible/identified restored over time." Note: submitters consider the provisions too onerous in respect of mana whenua sites and instead seek that the 'values' of those sites be recognised and provided (having regard to tikanga Maori and the kaupapa of the kaitiakitanga for that site). See paragraph 3.8.6 below.

Objective O35

"Ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values are protected and where possible/identified restored over time."

Objective O38

"Identified special amenity landscape values are maintained and where possible/identified enhanced over time."

Policy P17: Mauri

"The mauri of fresh and coastal waters shall be recognised as being important to Maori by:
(a) managing the individual and cumulative effects of activities that may impact on mauri in the manner set out in the rest of the Plan, and
(b) providing for activities that sustain and where possible/identified enhance mauri over time
(c) recognising the role of kaitiaki in sustaining mauri"

Policy P38: Restoration of wetlands

"The restoration of natural wetlands and the construction of artificial wetlands to provide habitat for indigenous flora and fauna and to carry out the physical and ecological functions of natural wetlands, shall be encouraged where possible/identified, over time."

P44: Protection and restoration of sites with significant mana whenua values

"The values of mana whenua sites are recognised and provided for and where possible/identified restored over time." ~~Sites with significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C (mana whenua) shall be protected and/or restored.~~"

- 3.9.6 The submitters support the Proposed Regional Plan identifying 'protected customary rights'. The submitters oppose all other provisions protecting or managing waterbodies for the purpose of mahinga kai (unless as part of a mana whenua site) and request that such provisions be removed from the Proposed Regional Plan unless the provisions specifically refer to mana whenua sites.
- 3.9.7 The submitters supports the Proposed Regional Plan giving effect to recognising and providing for the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga as set out in Objectives O14 – O16 as set out in section 6 of the Act. However, the submitters oppose the significant restrictions on activities within mana whenua sites. These provisions include, but are not limited to the following:

Objective O33

~~"Sites with Significant~~ The values of mana whenua values sites are recognised and provided for and where possible/identified restored over time."

Policy P44: Protection and restoration of sites with significant mana whenua values

"Sites with significant mana whenua values shall be identified in Schedule C (mana whenua) shall be protected and/or restored"

Policy P45: Managing adverse effects on sites with significant mana whenua values

~~"in the first instance, Where possible alternative locations should be sought for activities in sites with significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C (mana whenua) should be avoided.~~

~~if the site cannot be avoided, more than minor adverse effects on the significant mana whenua values must be evaluated through a cultural impact assessment undertaken by the relevant iwi authority or iwi authorities. If alternative locations can not be found, the activities undertaken within these sites shall recognise and provide for the values mana whenua hold for that site as listed in Schedule C. The adverse effects of activities shall be managed in accordance with tikanga and kaupapa Maori. as recommended in the cultural impact assessment by:~~

- ~~(a) avoiding more than minor adverse effects, and~~*
- ~~(b) where more than minor adverse effects cannot be avoided, remedying them, and~~*
- ~~(c) where more than minor adverse effects cannot be remedied, mitigating them, and~~*
- ~~(d) receiving written consent of the iwi authority.~~*

~~Where more than minor adverse effects on significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C (mana whenua) cannot be avoided, remedied or mitigated, the activity is~~

~~inappropriate. Offsetting of effects in sites with significant mana whenua values is inappropriate."~~

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3.9.8 That the definition for *Mahinga kai* be amended to align itself with the definitions under the NPS-FW as follows:

- *"Mahinga kai" - food gathering, places of food – protection of water resources so that kai would be safe to harvest and eat and knowledge transfer is present;*
- *"Mahinga kai – kei te ora te mauri" - the mauri of the place is intact – the freshwater resources would be available for customary use at some places (but not everywhere);*
- *"Mahinga kai fishing" – that the freshwater resource would be allow for fish numbers to be sufficient and suitable for human consumption."*

3.9.9 That the Whaitua process consider whether to provide within the Regional Plan on a catchment by catchment basis (or site by site basis) for the non-compulsory values and that those be included as a variation to the Regional Plan. That the Whaitua process include not just the customary gathering of food (i.e. *Mahinga kai*) but the gathering of food for all people as set out in the three definitions under the NPS-FW when considering whether to include those values in the Regional Plan on a catchment by catchment basis.

4.1 WATER QUALITY

4.1 The Mansell's oppose the inclusion of any provision within the Proposed Regional Plan that gives effect to non-compulsory water quality values (i.e. the protection of water bodies for the purpose of collecting food, and for primary contact/swimming recreation).

4.2 The submitters oppose any provision within the Proposed Regional Plan that seeks to improve water quality with the exception of those water-bodies that have already been over-allocated. The submitters consider such provisions should only be included on a catchment by catchment basis once having considered whether improvement is appropriate and this is best done under the Whaitua process. The submitters recognise that the Whaitua process, having reviewed the data on the relevant water catchments and considered the varied water values stakeholders have for a catchment, is more appropriate to determine whether a catchment's water quality should be improved or not.

The wording of the NPS-FW is to "maintain or improve the overall quality of freshwater within a region." The Land and Water Forum working on the wording on the NPS-FW recommended that "*maintain*" means staying within the same band and "*improve*" means moving to a higher band². To determine whether a waterbody does require improvement or enhancement each

² Land and Water Forum, 2012. *Second Report of the Land and Water Forum: Setting Limits for Water Quality and Quantity, and Freshwater Policy and Plan-Making Through Collaboration*.p.22,

regional council must first classify its water bodies into a set of freshwater management units (FMUs). In the Wellington Region this is being done through the Whaitua process.

- 4.3 The submitters oppose Rule 82 clause (a) being the **application of fertiliser** from ground-based or aerial applications onto or into surface water bodies and any other relevant provisions. The submitters support an amended provision which provides for best practice when undertaking aerial top-dressing as opposed to a blanket no discharge rule as with the best will in the world it is not always possible when undertaking aerial topdressing to avoid surface waterbodies.
- 4.4 The submitters oppose Rule 83 being the **discharge of collected animal effluent** onto or into land as a controlled activity. The submitters oppose that there is no extended timeframe within which to comply with clause (g) being the requirement to provide permanent sealed animal effluent collection, storage and treatment facilities. The regional plan must apply fair methodology when requiring high-cost mitigation. The submitters support a variation to Rule 83(g) and any other relevant provisions which allows an extended period of time, in line with the timeframe granted to local authorities for to upgrade their stormwater systems (refer Rule 50).
- 4.4 The submitters oppose Rule 89 being the discharge of contaminants onto or into land and the associated discharge of odour from a **new farm refuse dump**. The submitters consider that the area of 50m³ is insufficient to meet their daily needs; and that there appears to be no basis for the other provisions relating to requirements that they are located in silty or clay soils or that they not be located within an area prone to flooding or ponding; that they not be located 0.6m above the seasonally highest water table. The submitters consider that it would be more appropriate and simpler if the rule just referred to a set-back distance from water supplies which are used for potable water.
- 4.5 The submitters oppose Rules 94, 95 and 96 and any other provisions relating to **break-feeding and cultivation**. The submitters oppose the requirement for a 5 metre set-back from any surface water-body for break-feeding and/or cultivation. The submitter considers that the provision in Rule 94(c) that "*sediment laden surface water resulting from cultivation does not flow to a surface water body*" is sufficient for ensuring adverse effects from break-feeding do not impact on those water bodies. The submitter would support an amendment to Rule 94(b) to encourage best-practice of starting break-feeding at the far side of the paddock to the waterbody (this means that stock will only be at a close proximity to the waterbody for the shortest period of time). The provisions for cultivation are effectively requiring riparian vegetation to develop within the 5m to the waterbody edge when this may not be necessary for all water-bodies.
- 4.6 The submitters oppose Rule 97(d) and (e) relating to **livestock exclusion** and specifically are concerned about the requirement that dairy cows **including dry dairy cows** will now be required to be fenced off from Category 2 surface water bodies as well as all rivers that have an active bed width of 1m or wider. The latter category could mean that streams in the hill country where they have an active bed width of 1m or wider (which is likely) would have to be fenced

when the submitters were grazing dry dairy cows on their hill country. The submitters oppose the Rule 97(d) and the timeframes within which they must be imposed being Rule 97(e) and the definition of **dairy cows** as follows, “*a herd of cows reared for commercial milk production, including dry cows and heifers.*”

The submitter questions why dry cows and heifers are included in the livestock exclusion provisions. On parts of their hill country where stream bed widths could be wider than 1m, stream banks would be impractical to fence. This provision may affect the current operations of the submitters property.

- 4.7 The submitters are concerned that the provisions relating to **earthworks** do not exclude the construction of new farm tracks (see Rule 99). Specifically the submitters are concerned that any new farm tracks on their hill country property may be captured by the new erosion prone slopes of 20 degrees or more and/or the rules that earthworks can affect more than 3000m² (contiguously) within a property. The submitters supported the current rules which allowed for tracks provided no uphill cut of more than 2 metres to extend for more than 200m lineal metres and provided it wasn't occurring on slopes greater than 28 degrees.

The submitters are seeking the definition of earthworks in chapter 2 of the Proposed Regional Plan excludes the construction of new farm and forestry tracks in accordance with the provisions in District Plans in the region. The submitters state that provided **new farm and forestry tracks** comply with the same permitted activity conditions as set out in Rule 99 (a) – (d) that all effects will be appropriately managed.

The submitters also oppose the definition of **erosion prone land** being slopes of 20 degrees or less. Submitters seek that the current definition of erosion prone land applies which are for slopes of 28 degrees or more to be consistent with Kapiti Coast District Council's Proposed District Plan.

- 4.8 The submitters oppose the provisions relating to **stormwater run-off from properties** as set out in Rule 48 on the basis that it does not address any particular activity; and on the basis that Rule 99 already addresses run-off from earthworks. Natural rainfall falling on a property should not subject to rules in a Regional Plan – this is unreasonable. The way Rule 48 is written is that landowners could be liable for effects on watercourses as a result of a landslide occurring on their property. This is unfair and has no basis in the Resource Management Act which refers to “people” not discharging contaminants or water into water (refer section 15 of the Act).
- 4.9 The submitters oppose the provisions relating to **vegetation clearance** that trigger Rule 100 and Rule 101. Specifically the submitters seek that the definition of vegetation clearance as set out in Chapter 2 of the Proposed Regional Plan be amended to only refer to vegetation clearance which involves the removal of roots or stumps (e.g. root racking or stump clearance). The submitters would like the Regional Plan to focus on effects based rules and in this instance look to manage those effects that look to destroy the roots of plants but allow measures such as roller crushing, burning, harvesting of pine plantations etc where the roots will not be disturbed. Root die-off takes some time and unless the landowner is cultivating the ground the landowner will be replacing that vegetation with either grass or replanting as a production forest.

4.10 The submitters oppose the provisions relating to **maintenance of drains**. The submitters support the ability to clear a section of a drain (including both sides) at one time. It is not practical to leave one side or the middle of a drain particularly if the drain is narrow and the digger can reach the entire width of the drain. The submitters oppose the rule that requires all fish and koura that may have been removed from the drain to be returned to the drain. Instead the submitters would support a 'best practice provision' which states, 'where possible, all fish and koura should be returned to the drain.' The submitters oppose the rule that would prevent the removal of woody debris with a diameter greater than 0.2m from the drain.

4.11 Relief Sought

4.11.1 The submitters oppose Rules 36 and 37 and specifically the requirement for non-commercial applicators to hold a GROWSAFE certificate. The submitters seek for all references to requirements to hold a GROWSAFE certificate be deleted.

4.11.2 The submitters oppose Rule 48 regarding stormwater discharges from an individual property and seeks that it be deleted.

4.11.3 The submitters oppose Rule 82 and any associated provisions which require that aerial topdressing avoids any discharges to surface water bodies. The submitters support changes to the provisions that provide instead for "best practice" and "to avoid wherever practicable discharges to surface water bodies" by aerial topdressing pilots.

4.11.4 The submitters oppose Rule 83 and any other relevant provisions requiring immediate compliance and installation of permanent sealed collection and treatment facilities for animal effluent. The submitters support a phased regime similar to that proposed for territorial authorities for the treatment of stormwater.

4.11.5 The submitters oppose rule 89 and seeks for it to be amended to allow for a refuse up to 100m³ in size. The submitters seek that Rule 89 (c)(ii) be deleted; that rule 89(d)(i) be deleted; that rule 89(e) be deleted; that Rule 89(h) be deleted; and that Rule 49(i) be deleted.

4.11.6 The submitters oppose Rules 94, 95 and 96 in relation to break-feeding and cultivation. The submitters oppose the activity status of 'discretionary' for any non-compliance and state that at the most any activity not complying should be 'controlled.' The submitters would support amendments to Rule 94(a) and Rule 95(a) to remove the requirement for a 5m setback from a waterbody and to amend Rule 94(b) and 95(b) to require best-practice to be applied.

4.11.7 The submitters oppose Rule 97(d) managing livestock exclusion from waterways. The submitters also oppose the definition of dairy cows to include "dry cows and hieifers." The submitters seek that either the definition for dairy cows be amended to exclude 'dry cows and hieifers.'

4.11.8 The submitters oppose the definition of "natural wetlands". The submitters support amending the definition to exclude areas of land that might contain a large number of rushes; and/or another type of wetland type species but no other wetland indicator species.

The submitters oppose all provisions relating to wetlands in general including Rules 5.5.2, Rule R104, R105, R106, R107, R108, R109, R110 and R111. The submitter's support the following amendments being made, but are not limited to, the following:

"Natural Wetland

...

"Natural wetlands do not include:

(a) damp gully heads, or wetted pasture, or pasture predominantly containing with patches of rushes or pastures predominantly containing one wetland species having no other wetland indicator species...."

Rule 104: Structures in natural wetlands and significant natural wetlands – permitted activity

"The maintenance, repair, addition, alteration, or replacement (like for like) of an existing structure, and the placement of a new structure of an area less than 10m² for the purpose of hunting and recreation (including maimai and jetties), and the removal of an existing structure in a natural wetland or significant natural wetland, including any associated:

- (a) disturbance of a river or lake bed, or foreshore or seabed that forms part of a natural wetland, and*
- (b) deposition in, on or under a river or lake bed, or foreshore or seabed that forms part of a natural wetland, and*
- (c) diversion of water, and*
- (d) discharge of sediment to water*

is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- ~~(e) only hand-held machinery is used in any area of the natural wetland, and~~*
- (f) the activity shall comply with the wetland general conditions for activity in natural wetlands, significant natural wetlands and outstanding natural wetlands specified above in Section 5.5.2"*

Rule R105: Planting and pest plant control in natural wetlands, significant natural wetlands and outstanding natural wetlands – permitted activity

"The deliberate introduction or planting of a plant, and the removal or control of pest plants in the bed of a natural wetland, significant natural wetland, or outstanding natural wetland including any associated:

- (a) disturbance of a river or lake bed, or foreshore or seabed, that forms part of a natural wetland, and*
- (b) deposition in, on, or under a river or lake bed, or foreshore or seabed, that forms part of a natural wetland, and*
- (c) damage to part of the foreshore or seabed that forms part of a natural wetland, and*
- (d) diversion of water, and*
- (e) discharge of sediment to water*

is a permitted activity provided the following conditions are met:

- (f) only appropriate indigenous wetland species are deliberately introduced or planted, and*
- (g) only appropriate pest plant species are deliberately removed or controlled, and*
- (h) only agrichemicals approved by the Environmental Protection Authority are used, and*
- ~~(i) agrichemicals are not applied by aerial spraying, and~~*

- ~~(j) only hand held machinery is used in any area of the wetland, and~~
(k) the activity shall comply with the wetland general conditions for activities in natural wetlands, significant natural wetlands and outstanding natural wetlands specified above in Section 5.5.2"

- 4.11.9 The submitter opposes all provisions relating to drain clearance in Rule 121. The Submitter supports more practical provisions that allow a machine to clear both sides and the middle of a drain at one point in time; the Submitters support provisions that provide for best practice when returning fish and koura to drains if they have been removed during the clearance process; the Submitters support the removal of woody debris from drains.
- 4.11.10 The submitter opposes the definition of earthworks in Chapter 2 of the Regional Plan and seeks that it be amended to "exclude" the construction of "new" farm and "forestry" tracks.

The submitter supports a new permitted activity rule for new farm and forestry tracks as follows:

"New Rule Earthworks – New or Existing Farm and Forestry Tracks are permitted, provided the following conditions are met –

- (a) soil or debris is not placed where it can enter a surface water body or the coastal marine area;*
- (b) earth disturbance will not create or contribute to instability or subsidence of a slope or another land surface at or beyond the boundary of the property where the track is being constructed or maintained*
- (c) work areas are stabilised within six months after the completion of the works*
- (d) any earth disturbance shall not, after the zone or reasonable mixing, result in any of the following effects in receiving waters –*
 - a. the production of conspicuous oil or grease films, scums of foams, or floatable or suspended materials, or*
 - b. any conspicuous change in colour or visual clarity, or*
 - c. any emission or objectionable odour, or*
 - d. the rendering of fresh water unsuitable for consumption by animals, or*
 - e. any significant adverse effect on aquatic life."*

- 4.11.11 The submitters oppose Rule 99 and the minimum of 3000m² of land that can be disturbed on an property before a resource consent is required and also seeks that farm and forestry tracks be exempt. The submitter seek that Rule 99 be amended so that it is reflective of property sizes and based on catchments. Amend Rule 99 to either increase the minimum area of earthworks permitted per property based on it as a percentage area of the total property (so that larger properties can undertake more earthworks); and/or so that the rule are applied to catchments affected (i.e. so that a earthworks up to a certain square metre can be undertaken within each catchment within each property).

- 4.11.12 The submitter opposes the definition of 'erosion prone land' as set out in Chapter 2 of the Proposed Regional Plan and seeks for it to be amended as follows:

Erosion Prone Land

The pre-existing slope of the land exceeds 20 28 degrees

4.11.13 The submitter opposes the activity status of Rule 101 so that activities not complying with Rule 99 or Rule 100 are a discretionary activity. The submitter supports Rule 101 being a *restricted discretionary activity* where Council's discretion is limited to management of sediment from construction and long term effects from the earthworks.

5.0 WATER QUANTITY & WATER ALLOCATION

5.1 The Submitters recognise that the policy direction for Water Quantity is set by the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management which sets out three objectives a Regional Plan must meet. The three objectives of the NPS-FW to safeguard water quantity require Regional Council's in their Plans to:

1. avoid any further over-allocation of fresh water and phase out existing over-allocation (Objective B2 NPS-FW);
2. improve and maximise the efficient allocation and efficient use of water (Objective B3 NPS-FW); and
3. To protect significant values of wetlands and of outstanding freshwater bodies (Objective B4 NPS-FW)

The submitter supports improving those waterbodies that meet the criteria set by the NPS-FW which refers to improving waterbodies that "have been degraded by human activities to the point of being over-allocated". The submitters oppose the region-wide limits on water takes.

The submitter supports protecting *significant* values of outstanding freshwater bodies and *significant* values of wetlands. For this reason the submitter opposes the inclusion in the all ephemeral and wet areas as natural wetlands as it is the responsibility of the Regional Council to identify those wetlands with *significant values* and protect them.

5.2 The submitters oppose the **water allocation limits** set in the Proposed Regional Plan under chapter 5.6 and request the existing limits remain in place.

5.3 The submitter's oppose the restrictions to prevent **water takes where the water is within 50m of a natural wetland** (noting that the submitter reserves their right to withdraw this objection should the criteria for natural wetlands be amended).

5.4 Relief Sought

5.4.1 As noted above in paragraph 4, the submitters oppose the definition of natural wetlands and all rules relating to wetlands and seeks the relief as set out in paragraph 4.0 above.

5.4.2 The submitters oppose the limits on water takes as set out in chapter 5.6 of the Proposed Regional Plan. The submitter supports returning to the limits set under the Operative Regional Plans until such time that the Whaitua process identifies which waterbodies have been over-allocated.

6.0 AIR QUALITY

6.1 The submitters oppose Rule 36 and Rule 37 regarding **application of agrichemicals** and specifically the requirement under Rule 36(i) and R37(c) to hold a GROWSAFE certificate. The submitters hold a “agrichemical approved handler” license as they are required to under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act and they are unable to purchase certain quantities/chemicals without this certificate. Introducing a third-party license (albiet from a not-for-profit trust) appears unnecessary. According to the Environmental Protection Agency’s website – an “agrichemical approved handler” is required when:

“An approved handler is required when a pesticide is:

- *highly toxic to people; and/or*
- *toxic to the environment (ecotoxic) and used in a way that may harm the environment. Such use is called wide dispersive where there is potential for the pesticide to affect other than the intended area; and/or*
- *applied onto or into water.*

... Additionally, the requirement [for a handlers certificate] applies whenever there is the possibility of the pesticide entering water and leaving the property³.”

...In all circumstances, the user must have been adequately trained in health and safety aspects of the pesticide and its use.”

According to the GROWSAFE website, a GROWSAFE Registered Chemical Applicators Certificate teaches people, “*how to protect people, animals, the environment and to ensure food safety.*” The submitters question what additional value the GROWSAFE course brings to non-commercial ground-based applicators given the existing requirements under HSNO.

6.2 The submitters oppose the **detailed notification requirements when applying agrichemicals** as specified in Rule 36(g)(iii) that requires that they supply a copy of a spray plan to the owners and occupiers of properties who are “likely to be directly affected by the discharge” or owners and occupiers of properties who “request a copy.” The latter provision could mean that people not even affected could request a copy of a spray plan. Futhermore, what does it mean to be ‘directly affected?’ Where there are multiple adjoining landowners they could all consider themselves directly affected simply because they are a neighbour when in fact they are not directly affected. The rule should be limited to a specific distance from the area which is being sprayed.

There should be no requirement to provide a copy of the spray plan 24 hours before a discharge of agrichemicals because there may not be sufficient time to do this particularly if there are a number of neighbours affected; and secondly because those neighbours have the opportunity at the start of the spray season to obtain a copy.

³ Environmental Protection Agency factsheet Approved Handler Requirements for Pesticides (Feb 2012, EPA0144) (<http://www.business.govt.nz/worksafe/information-guidance/all-guidance-items/hsno/guidance-docs-epa/approved-handler-requirements-for-pesticides-information-sheet-70kb-pdf>)

The submitters oppose the requirement that requires compulsory certification to a particular qualification without consideration of other qualifications such as the ‘approved chemical handler’ certificate. The submitters note that under the Hazardous Substances and Noxious Organisms Act (HSNO) certain chemicals can not be sold in large quantities without the buyer holding in their name a suitable qualification. On this basis the submitter questions whether Rule 36 (i) is relevant at all.

6.2 Relief Sought

6.2.1 That Rule 36 be amended and that provision 36(g) and 36(i) be deleted and replaced with the following:

- (g) *the applicator, manager or owner of the property shall prepare a spray plan at least once per annum, and*
 - (i) identify sensitive areas adjacent to where discharges of agrichemical shall occur in accordance with NZS 8409:2004 management of Agrichemicals: Seciton 5.3 and appendix M4, and*
 - (ii) notify adjacent neighbours that a spray plan is available on request at start of a spray season, and*
 - (iii) gain written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required, and*
 - (iv) ~~supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to the discharge of agrichemicals~~ verbally notify at least 24 hours prior to the discharge of agrichemicals the owner/occupier of a property which is either identified as a sensitive area; or is within 50 metres of the area which will be affected by the discharge or likely to be directly affected by the discharge, or requests a copy, and*
- (h) ...
- ~~(i) for ground based applications where the applicgtor is not a commercial applicator the applicator shall~~
 - (i) hold a GROWSAFE Introductory Certificate, or
 - ~~(ii) be supervised by a person holding a current GROWSAFE Advanced Certificate, and~~

7.0 BIODIVERSITY

7.1 The submitters opposes requirements to ‘restore’ ecosystems and habitats with significant indigneous biodiversity. The requirement to ‘restore’ goes beyond that set by section 6 of the Act which simply requires Regional Plans protect areas of significant indigneous biodiersity and habitats with significant indigenou fauna. Restoration should be a joint effort between the

landowner, the wider community, iwi and local government and should not be the sole responsibility of a resource user unless it is part of an off-setting requirement.

- 7.2 The submitters oppose all provisions which require connections be created between two or more habitats. A significant habitat must be considered such on its own merits and the boundaries drawn on maps in the Regional Plan must contain that habitat so that they are easily defined. Policy P42 is seeking to extend boundaries of a significant habitat outside the processes set by Schedule 10 of the Act (the plan change process). This policy is inherently unfair as it tries to achieve an outcome by stealth. Buffers and other connections must be identified within the boundaries of a significant site at the time the Proposed plan is publicly notified.

7.3 Relief Sought

- 7.3.1 The submitter opposes provisions that seek to 'restore' habitats outright without the support of the community and the buy-in of the landowner. These provisions include, but are not limited to the following:

Policy P40: Ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values

"Protect, and where possible restore over time, the following ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values:

- (a) the rivers and lakes with significant indigenous ecosystems identified in Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes);*
- (b) the habitats for indigenous birds identified in Schedule F2 (bird habitats), and*
- (c) significant natural wetlands, including the significant natural wetlands identified in Schedule F3 (significant wetlands);*
- (d) the ecosystems and habitat types with significant indigenous biodiversity values in the coastal marine area identified in Schedule F4 (coastal sites) and Schedule F5 (coastal habitats)."*

- 7.3.2 The submitter opposes all provisions to extend the boundaries of a significant habitat through inclusion of buffers and/or requiring connections to habitats outside the boundaries of a site. Such provisions in the plan include, but are not limited to the following:

Policy P42: Protecting and restoring ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values

"In order to protect the ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in Policy P40, particular regard shall be given to managing the adverse effects of use and development in surrounding areas on physical, chemical and biological processes to:

- ~~*(a) maintain ecological connections within and between those habitats, or*~~
- ~~*(b) provide for the enhancement of ecological connectivity between fragmented habitats through biodiversity offsets, and*~~

- ~~(c) provide adequate buffers around ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values, and~~
(d) avoid cumulative adverse effects on, and the incremental loss of the values of those ecosystems and habitats.”

8.0 TIMEFRAMES

- 8.1 The NPS-FW gives Regional Council's a timeframe within which to meet its requirements but does not specifically state that in the interim it shall adopt a precautionary approach. As such the submitters oppose the adoption of a precautionary approach in the Regional Plan. The submitters oppose all provisions which require that immediate attention is required to improve or enhance a waterbody. The Proposed Regional Plan appears to have double-standards when dealing with territorial authorities or larger entities allowing longer timeframes within which to comply when compared to individual resource users (see objectives O48, O52). These larger organisations are more likely, financially, to be able to comply within a shorter timeframe than an individual. The framework set out in the Proposed Regional Plan is inherently unfair and biased.

8.2 Relief Sought

- 8.2.1 That the provisions which require immediate attention to improve or enhance a waterbody are either deleted or amended. Suggested amendments are proposed to the provisions noted below but are not limited to those provisions:

Objective O9

“The recreational values of the coastal marine area, rivers, lakes and their margins and natural wetlands are maintained and where possible, enhanced, over time.”

Objective O11

“Opportunities for Maori customary use of the coastal marine area, rivers and lakes and their margins and natural wetlands for cultural purposes are recognised, maintained and where possible, improved, over time.”

Objective O23

“The quality of water in the region's rivers, lakes, natural wetlands, groundwater and the coastal marine area is maintained, or where possible, improved, over time.”

Policy P3: Precautionary Approach

Use and development shall be managed with a precautionary approach where there is limited information regarding the receiving environment and the risk of adverse effects the activity may have on this environment may be both high and likely to occur.

Objective 047

"The amount of sediment-laden runoff entering water is reduced over time."

Policy P20: Exercise of Kaitiakitanga

"Kaitiakitanga shall be recognised and provided for by:

- (a) managing natural and physical resources in sites with significant mana whenua values listed in Schedule C (mana whenua) in accordance with tikanga and kaupapa Maori as exercised by mana whenua, when possible;*
- (b) the identification and inclusion of mana whenua attributes and values in the kaitiaki information and monitoring strategy in accordance with Method M2;*
- (c) identification of mana whenua values and attributes and their application through tikanga and kaupapa Maori in the maintenance and enhancement of mana whenua relationships with nga Taonga Nui a Kiwa."*

Policy P35 Restoring fish passage

"The passage of indigenous fish and koura shall be restored, over time, where this is appropriate for the management and protection of indigenous fish and koura populations."

Policy P38: Restoration of wetlands

"The restoration of natural wetlands and the construction of artificial wetlands to provide habitat for indigenous flora and fauna, and to carry out the physical and ecological functions of natural wetlands, shall be encouraged where possible, and supported by local and regional government."

9.0 LANDSCAPES

- 9.1 The submitters oppose the blanket inclusion of special amenity landscapes in District Plans. The submitters support providing for Special Amenity Landscapes only where the wider community have identified the values associated with those landscapes as worthy of inclusion. The submitter supports criteria in the Regional Plan to assist communities identify Special Amenity Landscapes. The submitter would support the consideration of special amenity landscape values, in relation to waterbodies, through the Whaitua process subject to consultation with landowners prior to any identification.
- 9.2 The submitters oppose the provisions that require Special Amenity Landscapes and Outstanding Landscapes to be restored and/or enhanced. The reasons are the same as set out earlier in this submission.

9.3 Relief Sought

- 9.3.1 The submitters opposes any provisions relating to special amenity landscapes. The submitters would support amendments to the Proposed Regional Plan that list criteria for sites to be included as a special amenity landscape and that this work be undertaken as part of the Whaitua process. In the interim, all provisions should be deleted as follows:

Objective O38

~~"Identified special amenity landscape values are maintained or enhanced."~~

Policy P49: use and development adjacent to outstanding natural features and landscapes ~~and special amenity landscapes~~

"Use and development in the coastal marine area on sites adjacent to an outstanding natural feature or landscape ~~or special amenity landscape identified in a district plan~~ shall be managed by:

- (a) protecting visual and biophysical linkages between the site and the outstanding natural feature or landscape, and*
- (b) avoiding adverse cumulative effects on the values of an outstanding natural feature or landscape."*

10. BEDS OF LAKES AND RIVERS

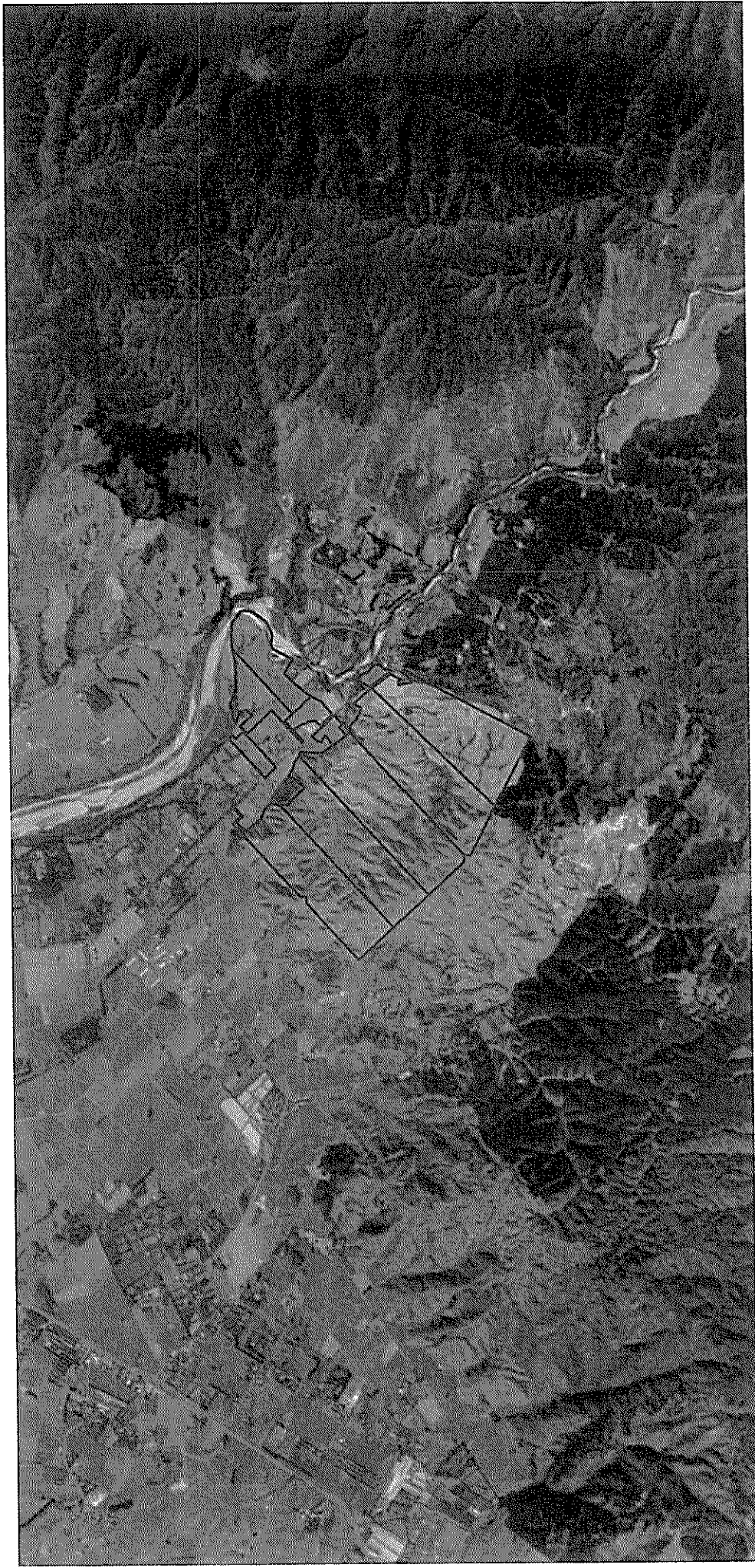
- 10.1 The submitters oppose the rules relating to river crossings and and culverts. The submitters state that the application of region-wide provisions for culverts are not necessarily applicable to the Kapiti Coast and its climatic conditions necessitating certain culvert sizes. The submitters supports providing as a permitted activity culverts of a larger dimension than proposed for water bodies located on the Kapiti Coast; or deleting the maximum size of culverts. Specifically the submitters oppose Rule 114(f)(ii) which limits river crossings to catchments less than 50ha on the west coast (west of the Ruamahanga River). There is no rationale behind the large difference between the east coast and the west coast.
- 10.2 The submitters also oppose Rule 114(g) which limits formed crossings to 20m² as a permitted activity where the structure is in or on the bed of the river. This would significantly limit fords. Surely the focus of the Plan should be on addressing effects on habitat which would mean limiting the width of a ford (i.e. the distance it measures between upstream and downstream) and not the length of the ford or overall size of the ford.
- 10.3 The submitters oppose Rule 115 (h)(ii) and (iii) which limits the overall size of the culvert to 1.2m. The rule already has a provision to ensure that it does not exceed 20m in length presumably to manage fish passage; the rule also contains a provision to ensure it allows flows from a 5% AEP (or 20 year event) to ensure passage of flood waters can be maintained. There

does not appear to be any reasonable basis for including a maximum culvert size with these other provisions in place

10.4 Relief Sought

10.4.1 The submitters oppose Rule 114(f)(ii) and seek that the area be increased to 200ha as per the east coast.

10.4.2 The submitters oppose Rule 115(h)(ii) and Rule 115(h)(iii) and seek that it be amended to just refer to the minimum size limit of 0.3m diameter but remove any maximum size.



1:50000



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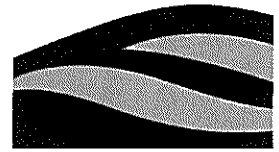
Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Submitter Number:

S352



**FEDERATED
FARMERS**
OF NEW ZEALAND



Submission to:

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

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To: Wellington Regional Council

On the: Proposed Natural Resources Plan

From: Jamie Falloon
Wairarapa/Wellington/Kapiti Provincial President
Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Date: 23 October 2015

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Hearings:

We wish to be heard, and would consider appearing jointly with other submitters.

We request that provision is made for hearing days in the Wairarapa and Kapiti.

INTRODUCTION

Federated Farmers welcome the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed Natural Resources Plan (pNRP).

Federated Farmers is a voluntary member-based organisation working for profitable and sustainable farm businesses. We represent around half of pastoral farming and cropping businesses in the Wairarapa and wider region.

We acknowledge submissions from individual members and primary sector colleagues.

OVERVIEW

Federated Farmers acknowledge the extensive state of the environment (SOE) monitoring undertaken by Wellington Regional Council (WRC) over the last 20 years. Recent analysis of state and trends confirms that ecological health and water quality across the region are reasonably good and generally stable, while indicating areas where improvements are warranted.

We acknowledge the significant investments made by WRC and our industry colleagues to support sustainable rural landuse; and in particular the commitment to active resourcing of non-regulatory partnerships in priority catchments. Lowland and hill country farmers in this region have achieved significant improvements in productivity in recent decades: in the context that water quality is generally stable, this is testament to the success of those programmes.

We welcome the preparation of the pNRP, alongside the establishment of local whitua committees. We expect that the pNRP should serve as a strategic framework which provides for an appropriate balance across all values and uses; and which supports aligning public and private investment to achieve progressive improvements in priority areas.

In particular, we expect that:

- The pNRP will establish a framework for overall maintenance of current water quality and minimum flow/allocation regimes, while indicating priorities for whitua attention; and
- Whitua committees will agree community objectives for improvement, informed by closer consideration of community values, priorities and costs.

Consistent with this expectation, we support the approach proposed for contact recreation. We make recommendations in the body of our submission for adopting the contact recreation template for safeguarding indigenous ecosystem health and other values.

KEY AREAS OF SUPPORT

Federated Farmers strongly support the ongoing commitment to non-regulatory partnerships supported by funding recently approved in the Longterm Plan. We agree that priorities for partnership investments should include:

- Coordination and land management advisory services in priority catchments
- Restoration of sites highly valued for biodiversity and other values, including investment in riparian management and wetlands
- Provision of Land Management advisory services to enable beneficial activities, eg, river crossings; develop agreed practice for contentious areas, eg, drain cleaning; and to extend one-on-one advisory services to willing landowners outside priority catchments

We welcome the commitment to increased monitoring and research in water quality “hotspots” to support community understanding, and to inform effective and cost-effective targeting of investments.

GENERAL CHANGES SOUGHT

We seek amendments to pNRP values, objectives and policies to give better effect to primary production values, including stock drinking water and reliability of water for irrigation.

We recommend changes to rules to give better effect to striking an appropriate balance across values and uses; to focus on evidence-based effects; and to provide clear and certain conditions.

In particular, we seek changes to:

- Ensure that policy is made in the plan, rather than in consents
- Reduce the reliance on discretionary activity status, in favour of clear matters for discretion or control
- Expand policies to give clear direction on pNRP administration through consent, compliance and enforcement activities
- Prioritise certain activities (by scale of activity or effects) for specific activity-based controls; while enabling a wider range of activities with clear effects-based conditions attached to permitted activity status
- Positively enable beneficial activities, eg, river crossing structures, wetland enhancements

CRITICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

We register our very strong concern that the quality of cost-benefit analysis in the section 32 (s32) reports is manifestly inadequate across critical areas of the pNRP, including failure to provide explicit social impact assessment for the regional and catchment communities. In particular, **we strongly recommend a s32 report for Primary Production is prepared prior to the hearing to inform proper consideration by the Hearing Panel including:**

- Cost-benefit analysis of the sum of proposed costs and restrictions on primary production at regional scale
- Cost-benefit analysis of the sum of proposed costs and restrictions in designated areas, including Wairarapa Moana and drinking water protection zones
- Cost-benefit analysis of major capital items, including livestock exclusion and effluent ponds
- Cost-benefit analysis of alternate proposals - including in this submission - for managing the effects of primary production activities.

We register our equally strong concern that the quality of evidence and process followed in preparation of the schedules is manifestly inadequate in key areas, including:

- Failure to provide clear criteria and evidence, eg, outstanding water bodies, important trout rivers
- The quality of engagement with those affected by specific schedules and associated rules (including with reference to the Local Government Act), including failure to advise affected landowners, eg, inanga sites, drinking water protection zones
- Reliance on high level description and mapping, with plan readers referred to other sites outside the pNRP for finer-resolution data, eg, trout spawning sites

- Failure to provide cost-benefit analysis of the schedules and the sum of their proposed restrictions vis-à-vis alternate options for prioritising significant sites, eg, the relative costs/benefits of Schedule F1 Rivers with significant indigenous biodiversity values vis-à-vis the approach promoted in the WRC Biodiversity Strategy to prioritise high value sites
- Failure to provide cost-benefit analysis of non-regulatory or regulatory options for giving effect to the values in the schedules, eg, wetlands, mana whenua sites

We recommend work is required prior to the hearing to provide clear criteria, evidence and cost-benefit analysis of the pNRP schedules of significant sites.

Acknowledging that the pNRP proposes expanded research and monitoring to support water quality, **it is our very strong recommendation that additional work is required to inform pNRP water take provisions and whaitua review of minimum flow and allocation regimes – urgently in the case of the Ruamahanga whaitua.** Specifically:

- Expanded low flow monitoring (including in the lower Ruamahanga below Waihenga)
- Critical analysis and groundtruthing of key information gaps, assumptions and uncertainties in WRC groundwater/surface water models
- Calibration and validation of sub-catchment (not just global) seasonal water balances
- Critical analysis and groundtruthing of Category A/B/C ground and surface water connects

Finally, we register our very strong concern that the pNRP seeks to pre-empt the whaitua in two critical areas:

- Water quality: proposing numeric objectives for improvement un-informed by NPS requirements for iterative analysis of options and achievability; and narrative objectives aspiring to “reference state”, with the “interpretation” of these objectives relying on documents outside the pNRP
- Water quantity: proposing that currently operative allocations be substituted with “default” formula for environmental and recreational values, again un-supported by any analysis of options or implications.

We recommend that explicit cost-benefit analysis of pNRP water quality and allocation proposals is required prior to the hearing; alongside alternate proposals - including in this submission - for maintaining current state and maintaining currently operative water allocations, pending more detailed whaitua consideration.

PROPOSED NATURAL RESOURCES PLAN

All recommendations in the body of this submission assume consequential amendments to give effect to the relief sought.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.0: Introduction

“Many people living and working in the region have made individual and collective efforts to protect and enhance the natural resources with the region”

“A comprehensive and integrated approach to natural resource management can be achieved by working collaboratively and using both regulatory and non-regulatory methods underpinned by scientific evidence.

“Recognising there are several distinct catchment areas within the region, the plan provides for a de-centralised approach to establishing priorities and programmes within each of these catchments through the whaitua committees”

Support with amendments

Reason: it is important to describe/quantify individual and collective efforts and progress made, before looking to identify areas for further investment or improvement.

Relief sought: add the following, or words to similar effect: “Around half of the land and waterways in the region are in the ownership and stewardship of the farming community. In total, around 1000 farms: 200 dairy farms; 250 sheep and beef farms >500ha, the balance <500ha; 100 cropping farms; 250 horticultural enterprises. Each of these farming sectors is well-supported by industry: levy investments in R&D and extension programmes and a network of industry staff working on the ground with farmers and growers.

Alongside industry, the GWRC Land Management Team has been working with hill country farmers targetting erosion hotspots for decades. On the strength of the success of that programme, the one-on-one partnership approach was more recently extended to lowland catchments. As at 2014:

- Wairarapa hill country: 800 odd farms, 500 farm plans covering 75% of erosion prone land
- Wairarapa valley: 200 odd farms, 70+ farm plans within just a couple of years

The farm plan objectives are two-fold – deliver profitable and sustainable farming systems. The solutions are farm-specific with scope for pragmatism and innovation. The hallmark of the relationship is willing engagement. This approach is core to the expanded non-regulatory approach proposed in pNRP.

In the period since 1990, primary sector productivity has significantly increased while water quality indices are stable. Farm production statistics show:

- Sheep and Beef: lambing percentage up 40%, kg product/ha up nearly 60%
- Dairy: cow numbers doubled, milk solids trebled, irrigation allocation quadrupled

Alongside this growth, farmers have made significant environmental investments, eg:

- Over the last 20 years, 20,000 poles have been planted year on year in the hill country
- Within the last few years, 600km/95% of Dairy Accord waterways have been fenced

Through this period, water quality indices have remained stable:

- Groundwater quality is generally very good, with significant improvements in historic hotspots including Kapiti (horticulture) and Taratahi (Freezing Works)
- Overall river water quality is reasonably good, and the majority of SOE sites exhibit relatively stable water quality and ecological health
- Lake Wairarapa has been stable at least since 1994 when monitoring began

1.3 Guiding Principles

“Te Upoko Taiao intend that the plan will be achievable, practical and affordable for the region”

“Mahitahi (partnership) – partnership between WRC, iwi and the community, based on a commitment to active engagement, good faith and a commonality of purpose”

“Ongoing collaboration between regulators, resource users, iwi, government and the wider community will be required to manage the region’s natural and cultural resources effectively.

“The structure and content must be readable, functional and accessible”

Support with amendments

Reason: The mahitahi principle is consistent with partnership programmes already in place, and with the collaborative whaitua planning processes underway; and is consistent with the Regional Policy Statement (RPS, 2.4): *“Natural and physical resources are better managed when the social, economic and cultural factors that surround and drive their use and protection is taken into account. Decisions made about the management of resources are more effective and lasting if they reflect choices made by the community in terms of what it is best or most able to do”.*

Relief Sought: amend as follows or to similar effect: *“ongoing collaboration between regulators, resource users, iwi, government and the wider community ~~will be required~~ is already in place and can be further built on to manage the region’s natural and cultural resources effectively”*

1.4 Integrated Catchment Management

“The first step in integrated catchment management is the identification of values and associated outcomes at catchment scale”

Support with amendments

Reason: the plan format currently goes part-way to developing the decentralised approach in the whitua chapters: well-developed for water quantity (minimum flows, allocation) but, oddly, not developed for water quality (outcomes, priorities, significant sites). Locating these provisions in whitua chapters would greatly assist the functionality and accessibility of the plan for readers.

Relief sought: add the following or words to similar effect: “The first step in integrated catchment management is the identification of values and associated outcomes at catchment scale. To support whitua discussions and to assist readability for the community, proposed minimum flows and water allocation limits; water quality outcomes and priorities for indigenous species and contact recreation; and schedules of significant sites are located in the whitua chapters”

1.5.1 Statutory Framework

“WRC has a programme to progressively implement the requirements of the NPS-FM by 2025. The key feature of this programme is the catchment-based collaborative community approach – the whitua process. Whitua committees will work with their catchment communities to develop recommendations for limits, as directed by policy CA2 of the NPS-FM”

Support with amendments

Reason: the reference to limits in CA2 is incorrect. We note this misunderstanding is repeated more than once in the s32 reports.

We suggest key points from the NPS-FM as elaborated in the MfE guide to implementation would usefully be summarised in the introduction to assist WRC staff and plan users.

Key points articulated in the s32 reports would usefully be expressed here.

Relief Sought: add the following, or words to similar effect: “The NPS-FM recognises that engagement with communities and robust, durable solutions can take time. It recognises the importance of quality rather than quick fixes and frameworks.

The setting of objectives will start from the basis of current water quality. Longterm monitoring data will be used both to assess current state and to determine progress. In large catchments, eg, Taueru/50,000 hectares, more monitoring sites will be needed to help isolate hotspots and determine causes, either from legacy or current landuses.

Objectives will be developed in the context of economic, environmental, social and cultural considerations. Objective setting will be an iterative process: final decisions about objectives will be fully informed by an understanding of their costs and achievability.

The NPS-FM provides flexibility in terms of which methods can be adopted. A mix of approaches – regulatory and non-regulatory – will be tailored to individual catchments and targetted to local issues, interests and parties. WRC will work collaboratively with landowners and water users in setting targets, timeframes and methods at a catchment scale.

The placement of proposed provisions in whitua chapters recognises that pNRP provisions are interim to the extent they will be reviewed by whitua committees. The whitua committee process will consider for each catchment – or sub-catchment – all the values that are relevant to setting objectives, with a full set of relevant catchment – or sub-catchment – evidence. Improvement efforts will be tailored in accordance with the issues, values and economic constraints of each catchment”.

1.5.2 Community Views, Scientific and Technical Information – identifying issues:

“A range of methods and tools have been used to identify the natural resource issues of the region, including environmental monitoring and research programmes, scientific research, community engagement, resource consent monitoring, manawhenua perspective, maori and community consultation and rulings of the Environment Court”.

“How the objectives, policies and rules in the plan address these considerations is described in the s32 reports”.

Amend

Reason: Key themes expressed in consultation with iwi and community, including in the 2010 public engagement process, have helped set the direction for the pNRP and should be summarised in the introduction.

Likewise, key themes identified through monitoring and research have strongly shaped the direction for the pNRP and should be summarised here.

To an extent, some of this has been developed in the s32 reports. We make the point that the quality of analysis in those reports is less than rigorous, and sometimes misleading. For example, in the case of wetlands, two estimates of wetland area from disparate documents are included in the same sentence: the difference is then casually – incorrectly - described as a decrease.

Soil conservation is identified as a lower priority issue in the pNRP and it would be appropriate to briefly state the information supporting that position. We note here that the s32 reports are somewhat misleading in this area also. WRC currently announce an increase in “disturbed” land: more usefully, WRC could have used the same source data to announce a decrease in “bare” land.

Acknowledging the importance of the up-front problem statements, Section 32 analysis is then critical to the robust identification of options, costs and benefits before proposing a particular suite of objectives and methods.

In 2014, MfE issued guidance emphasising this point: *“The Resource Management Amendment Act 2013 introduced new requirements under s32. These new requirements do not change the purpose of s32. They do however encourage quantification of costs and benefits, emphasise the need to assess economic costs and benefits, and generally require a more robust, more clearly articulated analysis that is proportionate to the type of proposal”.* The MfE Guide instructs councils that:

- *“A well-defined problem forms a strong foundation for an evaluation: the degree of clarity about the problem will influence the type and range of policy solutions considered and the quality of analysis of the options*
- *Identify a sufficient range of options to address the problem or issue, and critically compare these before narrowing in on a preferred option or options*

- *Evidence-based analysis should be able to demonstrate relationships between issues, objectives and policy responses. This avoids policy being developed on the basis of gut instinct, habit, imitation or prejudice*
- *All costs and benefits of a proposal should be identified and assessed so decision-makers have a sound understanding of the impact a proposal will have on the community, the economy, and the environment”.*

It is our very strong submission that the quality of problem statements, consideration of alternatives and cost-benefit analysis of options is less than adequate across critical areas of the pNRP including:

- Identification and interpretation of proposed “outcomes”
 - Including Tables 3.4 rivers, 3.5 lakes, 3.6 groundwater, 3.7 wetlands, 3.8 coastal
- Identification and regulation of “significant sites” and “protection zones”
 - a number of the schedules - including outstanding waterbodies, mana whenua sites, significant biodiversity rivers, trout fishery and spawning rivers, community drinking water protection zones - are ill-supported by clear criteria for prioritising sites, and/or by evidence of values or risks proportionate to the proposed rules
- Significant farm capital expenditure items
 - including stock exclusion, pond sealing and storage, impermeable lining for silage storage, 5 metre cultivation setbacks

It cannot be established whether the plan is “*achievable, practical and affordable for the region*” without clear quantification of costs in key areas.

We note that the s32 consideration of baseline and alternate options is generally confined to WRC programmes. There is little or no discussion of District Council programmes in related areas, eg, earthworks and vegetation clearance. Equally there is no real consideration of industry programmes, eg, the very significant investments made by the dairy sector into the Supply Fonterra programme, the Sustainable Dairy Accord commitments, and the network of DairyNZ and Fonterra staff working with farmers across the region. WRC in effect seem to assume it is all “up to them”: the net result is that rules are proposed which duplicate or conflict with District Council rules or industry programmes when the real opportunity is to look for efficiencies and synergies.

We note that the s32 reports accompanying the plan number twenty in total, addressing most of the key values in the plan including maori values, aquatic ecosystems, recreation, natural heritage, historic heritage etc. One addresses “beneficial use and development” but discussion is mostly confined to infrastructure and energy.

It is currently a notable omission that there is no s32 report for primary production: instead, discussion is scattered throughout, mostly in reference to effects in relation to other values. There is no matching analysis of the effects on *primary production values* of pNRP provisions to support those other values.

It is our very strong submission that – not only do we need more explicit cost-benefit analysis of specific items – we also need a coherent s32 report for primary production which analyses the sum of the costs and benefits of the pNRP at both regional and catchment scale.

We note that in at least one area – piping of streams – WRC intend to undertake more detailed cost-benefit analysis, in consultation with other parties, prior to the hearing to provide additional guidance to the hearing panel.

Acknowledging the plethora of s32 reports (1000+ pages in total), it is currently a surprising omission that WRC have not prepared an integrative report, distilling key themes and directions, double-checking consistency of approach across disparate policy areas, and attempting an overall evaluation of the balance arrived at to achieve the over-riding purpose of the Resource Management Act. We would have found such a report useful, but we leave it to the discretion of the Hearing Panel as to whether preparation of such a report would assist deliberations.

A final point: we record concern that incorrect problem statements in the s32 reports have shaped the WRC approach in the pNRP. To the extent that any work in the s32 reports is material in making determinations on the pNRP, we strongly caution that it be tested before being relied on.

Relief Sought: that WRC undertake more detailed cost-benefit analysis of options, in consultation with Federated Farmers and other parties, prior to the hearing to provide additional guidance to the hearing panel in the key areas described above, ie;

- analysis of options for identification and interpretation of pNRP “outcomes”
- analysis of options for identification and regulation of “significant sites” and “protection zones”
- analysis of options for significant farm capital expenditure items
- preparation of a new s32 report for “primary production” integrating and assessing options, costs and benefits at regional and catchment scale

Amend 1.5.2 to add the following or words to similar effect: “The RMA was generally seen by participants in the public engagement process as an involved and expensive process that over-regulated natural resources. General public and iwi participants emphasised the need for an integrated catchment approach to natural resource management which involved collaboration with all resource users.

Water was identified as an important topic for 70 of the 88 groups: 27 groups wanted sufficient water quality to provide habitat for aquatic life; 18 groups wanted water quality sufficient for contact recreation including swimming.

Longterm monitoring shows that water quality trends remain relatively steady across the Wellington region. The LAWA data indicates that water quality in freshwater bodies in the Wellington region is in general above average for bacteria, clarity, nitrogen, phosphorous and pH water quality parameters compared to similar waterbodies around the country.

Overall water quality has been steady or improving over the past ten years, but some fresh and coastal water systems exhibit degraded ecosystem health, community, cultural or social values. Water quality issues are likely to be caused by a combination of legacy uses and current practices.

The aim of the pNRP is to maintain current water quality except for identified locations where water quality will be improved through specific programmes. The pNRP provides a clear framework for prioritisation of investment in land management actions and infrastructure planning, that will achieve an improvement in water quality in priority catchments where the state and pressure on values most warrant it. An expanded non-regulatory approach forms the core of the catchment-specific provisions for managing agricultural landuse.

The public groups described how GW could do a lot more monitoring of waterway condition: this information could be provided to landowners to raise their awareness about the condition of their local catchments and what they could do to improve it.

Wetlands were important to a number of groups: they would like GW to document wetlands of significance and assist landowners repair and restore these. Riparian protection was recognised as providing a wide variety of benefits for both urban and rural communities: education and financial

The proposed plan contains provisions in response to issues identified by iwi: these provisions support kaitiaki in providing for their values and supporting the mauri of the region in partnership with local government, resource users and the general community.

The main threats to biodiversity were identified as pests and urban subdivision.

Other considerations such as soil conservation are also addressed in the plan. WRC has been involved with soil conservation measures for over 40 years in the eastern Wairarapa hill country. This history and relationship with landowners has proved beneficial in mitigating the effects of landuse on erosion-prone land.

State and trends analysis shows that most of the region's soil is intact and there has been a slight increase in stable and inactive land surfaces due to the revegetation of some former erosion scars.

Between 2002 and 2010, "bare soil" decreased by nearly 6000ha: bare soil from cultivation increased, mainly due to the timing of the survey (earlier in the cropping cycle); but this was more than offset by decreases in bare soil from tracking, grazing pressure and rural earthworks".

1.6 Values of Water in the Plan

"The NPS-FM is particularly important in describing values, and provides a framework for establishing freshwater objectives. It provides a management framework to guide the allocation of freshwater so that it may be used in a way that contributes to economic growth and at the same time, maintains environmental integrity.

Key to the framework is the setting of national bottomlines for two compulsory values – ecosystem health and human health for recreation. The NPS-FM has additional national values which are less prescriptive, such as for water supply and navigation".

Support with amendments

Reason: the NPS-FM marks a fundamental shift from the previous "issue" based approach to plan-making to the "value" based approach. Key points from the MfE guide to implementation of the NPS-FM would usefully be summarised in the introduction.

Relief Sought: add the following, or words to similar effect: "The two compulsory national values are not prioritised above others: rather the NPS-FM directs that it is for regional communities, facilitated by regional councils, to consider values and priorities locally.

Where values conflict, whaitua committees, facilitated by WRC, will arrive at an agreed balance between the levels at which each value will be provided for, including where and when and to what level they apply across a catchment.

Table 1.1 Values of water

"Table 1.1 illustrates shared values, intrinsic values, direct use values and commercial/economic values"

Amend

Reason: Table 1.1 is currently presented as a simple list. It should be expanded to present succinct region-specific descriptors: partly to give due weight and respect to each of the values, but also to assist whaitua in arriving at an appropriate regional balance across values and uses.

One important value is missing: animal drinking water.

The value of waste removal and dilution should be expanded to include the important related function of attenuation.

Table 1.1 introduces the concept of "shared values": this is a new concept which merits explanation of intent and application.

Relief Sought: expand each of the values with succinct, region-specific descriptors, for example:

Stock Drinking Water: the importance of reliable access to drinking water for livestock is recognised and provided for in the pNRP; including in summer-dry eastern areas, and in areas with limited access to groundwater and/or reliable infrastructure for pumping, reticulation or electric fencing. Proposed provisions for restricting livestock access to surface water bodies seek to achieve a balance between reducing effects on other values, while maintaining reliable access to drinking water for livestock

Water removal and dilution and attenuation: filtering and attenuation services of water - including overland, sub-surface, wetland and in-stream processes – are recognised

Food and Fibre production: around half of the Wellington region land area produces food and fibre products for domestic and export markets. Dairy, meat and forestry products are dominant, alongside smaller land areas devoted to cropping, horticulture, viticulture and beekeeping. The pNRP establishes a management framework for enabling the growth of the primary production sector within a lower environmental footprint. Water is a critical input: the pNRP recognises the importance of security and reliability of supply for irrigation

Shared Values: water quality and quantity will be managed for a range of values including economic, municipal, environmental and recreational. Iwi have equal interest in all these values, as well as their own distinct value set. A shared values framework recognises the aspirations of iwi and the wider community. Commonalities or differences will be distinguished at the level of attributes and objectives supporting achievement of the values

Aquatic Ecosystem Health and Mahinga Kai: in a healthy freshwater ecosystem, ecological processes are maintained, there is a range and diversity of indigenous fauna and flora, and there is resilience to change. Mahinga kai brings in the concept of human use and requires that water quality and quantity sustain flora and fauna important to iwi. In the Wellington region, the abundance of indigenous freshwater species has declined significantly consequent to human settlement – indirect impacts arising from landcover changes and river management, alongside

direct impacts of commercial and recreational fishing and predation/competition from introduced fish species. Two nationally vulnerable species found in the region include lamprey and short-jaw kokopu. WRC seek to identify the highest biodiversity value systems for pro-active management, to re-establish riparian vegetation along the ten highest priority stream systems, and to remove barriers to indigenous fish passage with priority given to high value stream systems.

Contact Recreation and Tangata Whenua Use: the most popular swimming beaches and rivers are in proximity to urban centres, and breaches of swimming standards are most often found in proximity to major centres, eg, Hutt River, Owhiro Bay, Titahi Bay. As a minimum, lakes and rivers will meet the national bottomline for secondary contact recreation; and swimming rivers and beaches will meet minimum acceptable conditions. Rivers and beaches which do not meet these bottomlines will be recommended to whaitua as priorities for improvement. Tangata whenua use provides for a range of recreation activities as well as other relationships important to community and spiritual wellbeing

Active Recreation, eg, Sport Fishing: Fishing licence holders are estimated at around 0.8% of the regional population. The most popular fishing rivers are Hutt River and Ruamahanga River, accounting for two-thirds of annual use. Other popular close-to-home fishing rivers are Waiohine, Waikanae and Wainuiomata. Monitoring results for the Hutt and Waikanae rivers for the period 1999-2014 show the abundance of trout is stable in Waikanae River and increasing in Hutt River. The pNRP seeks to maintain trout habitat while safeguarding indigenous species from the adverse effects of introduced species

Human sustenance, health and wellbeing, eg, municipal and domestic water supply: The Wellington region enjoys high quality drinking water. Total water takes are divided almost equally between municipal supply (principally Wellington) and irrigation (principally Wairarapa). The pNRP seeks to maintain the existing high quality of drinking water, and to enable development of storage to assure reliability of supply for both urban and rural uses.

Other values: expand with similar region-specific descriptors

2 INTERPRETATION

2.1.1 Objectives and 2.1.2 Policies

Amend

Reason: improved functionality and readability; and to assist in highlighting duplications and gaps.

Relief Sought: amend the plan structure to present objectives and policies together, grouped by values.

2.1.3 Rules

Amend

Reason: as currently written, the pNRP simply lists activity status, from permitted to prohibited.

More usefully, this section would give clear direction on WRC intent.

In the context of overall *maintenance* of current state, Federated Farmers support a clear regulatory framework which prioritises and controls activities with significant adverse effects.

In the context of *improvement* or “restoration”, the RPS is clear – and we agree - that non-regulatory methods are preferred. Rules may at best yield grudging compliance, but are unlikely to yield generous engagement. Our recommendations in the following sections reflect this understanding.

Accepting that rules may *proscribe* certain activities, we are clear that rules are ill-suited to *prescribe* good management practices (GMP). GMP of its nature is context specific, with an expectation of judgement, flexibility and ongoing innovation. Attempts to prescribe GMP in pNRP rules are mostly resulting in conditions which at one extreme, lack certainty; or at the other extreme, result in a high level of micro-management.

We recommend clear prioritisation of significant activities (significance of either scale or effects) for specific activity-based controls; while enabling a wider range of activities with effects-based conditions attached to permitted activity status.

We acknowledge and support WRC efforts to structure many rules as permitted activities. Having said that, too many rules ricochet from permitted to discretionary. It is our strong submission that this is at best an inefficient approach, likely to drive significant increases in transaction costs and resourcing requirements, and significantly at odds with the frequently expressed WRC intent to make policy in the pNRP, not in the rules.

Less and better regulation is the order of the day. Treasury have published guidance for Best Practice Regulation and key principles which have been – or should be - used in the design of pNRP rules would usefully be highlighted here.

Relief Sought: add text to the following or similar effect:

Rules in the pNRP are designed to maximise the use of permitted activities (PA) with clear effects-based conditions to provide maximum certainty at minimum cost for the regional community. PA rules will usually default to either controlled or restricted discretionary status, with matters for control or discretion restricted to the PA conditions breached.

To the extent rules are classified as fully discretionary, WRC discretion will be exercised within the pNRP policy framework. WRC does not intend to make policy inside consents, or within compliance and enforcement activities.

The pNRP is supportive of applicants jointly seeking global consents for activities.

This approach has been guided by Treasury Principles for Best Practice Regulation, including that pNRP rules are:

- Flexible
 - the underlying approach in the pNRP is principles or effects based
 - entities have scope to adopt least-cost and innovative approaches
 - non-regulatory measures including self-regulation are used wherever possible
- Proportional
 - proposed rules have been tested against a risk-based, cost-benefit framework
 - the burden of rules and their enforcement is proportionate to benefits expected
 - changes proposed in the pNRP have been tested to assure the benefits outweigh the costs of disruption
- Certain
 - the regulatory system is predictable and provides certainty for pNRP users
- Growth supporting
 - economic objectives are given appropriate weighting in the pNRP
 - identifying and justifying trade-offs is explicit in the accompanying s32 reports
 - the need for businesses to take longterm investment decisions is taken into account, including by providing for maximum consent durations for major investments

2.1.4 Other Methods

Amend

Reason: Partnership programmes are central to the plan and merit additional succinct explanation.

RPS Method 64 explains the importance of non-regulatory partnerships, including the following:

- *“Taking a whole of catchment approach is promoted within the RPS. It means considering the full mix of purposes, uses and activities within a catchment in terms of how these interact and contribute to outcomes. This approach suggests a need to work with multiple parties to establish shared objectives for a catchment, and to ensure uses and activities are working towards the same goals.*
- *A regulatory approach cannot restore aquatic ecosystems from the effects of many existing and historic activities. Setting right the effects of historical activities can be facilitated by providing information and financial incentives to promote their maintenance, enhancement or restoration. Providing assistance to community groups and promoting initiatives involving community participation are key elements”.*

Relief sought: re-structure the plan to locate methods before rules, and add the following text or to similar effect:

The non-regulatory methods express the commitment to partnership which is central to the plan. They build forward from existing programmes including the long-standing hill country erosion programme and the more recent lowland farm advisory and wetland restoration programmes; and acknowledge programmes and investments underway by other sectors supporting the uptake of good management practices.

These programmes have proven to be successful in terms of public acceptance, the adoption of sustainable land management practices, and the achievement of desired environmental outcomes.

Restoration objectives will be achieved through non-regulatory methods, supported by partnership funding budgetted in the WRC Longterm Plan.

2.1.5 Whaitua Chapters

Amend

Reason: align water quality and quantity provisions within consistent framework

Relief Sought: amend to read:

Chapters 7 to 11 contain the whaitua catchment specific provisions for both water quantity and water quality.

2.1.6 Definitions, schedules and maps

Amend

Reason: to assist functionality and readability of the pNRP

Relief Sought: amend as follows or to similar effect;

The schedules and maps present high resolution data which does not rely on data external to the plan for clear interpretation.

Schedules and maps of significant sites are located in the whaitua chapters

2.2 DEFINITIONS

Amend

Reason: amend the definitions below to assist practical application and consistent with reasons presented for amendments elsewhere in the pNRP.

Clarify the application of the definitions to assist readability and functionality.

Relief Sought: amend as below or to similar effect:

Reason: liquid effluent and solid manure are different products with different properties.

Animal effluent	<u>For the purpose of Rule R83</u> , means Dry or wet , liquid, solid or semi-solid, treated or untreated faeces and urine from animals other than humans, including associated process water, washdown water, contaminants and sludge .
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Reason: amend for clarity and practical application.

Artificial farm drainage canal	An open (not piped) artificial watercourse, that is designed and constructed for the purpose of land drainage of surface or subsurface water and does not form part of a natural stream network . Channels designed and constructed to convey water only during rainfall events and which do not convey or retain water at other times (e.g. swales) are excluded from this definition. Note: maintenance of channels excluded from the definition of artificial farm drainage canal because they only convey water during rainfall events and do not convey or retain water at other times (e.g. swales) is not controlled by rules in the Plan.
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Reason: consistent with NPS and pNRP – indigenous biodiversity is a specific value, distinct from introduced species.

<u>Indigenous Aquatic ecosystem health</u>	The degree to which an <u>indigenous</u> aquatic ecosystem is able to sustain its ecological structure, processes, functions, and resilience within its range of natural variability.
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Reason: tighten scope for practical prioritised application

Break-feeding	<u>For the purpose of Rule R95, means</u> The feeding of livestock on pasture or forage where feed allocation is controlled by the frequent movement of an electric fence. <u>For the purpose of this plan, breakfeeding refers to winter months (June to September) where grazing results in significant de-vegetation.</u>
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Reason: consistent with reasons presented on Schedule A (to delete), Schedule C (to state site specific values which may be compromised by site specific activities) and Schedule F (to prioritise high value systems).

<p>Category 1 surface water body</p>	<p>For the purpose of Rule 97, Category 1 surface water body includes, and is limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) sites of with significant mana whenua value identified in Schedule C (mana whenua) <u>which specify site specific restrictions on livestock access</u>, and (b) inanga spawning habitat identified in Schedule F1b <u>at peak spawning time identified in schedule F1a (March-May) (inanga spawning)</u>, and (c) habitats for indigenous birds in rivers identified in Schedule F2a (birds-rivers) (d) estuaries identified in Schedule F4 (coastal sites), and (e) significant wetlands greater than 0.4 <u>1.0</u> hectare in size identified in schedule F3 (f) outstanding water bodies identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies), and (g) within 1000m upstream of a surface water community drinking water supply abstraction site shown on Map 26.
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Reason: no cost-benefit analysis for water races and drains. Clarify exclusions.

<p>Category 2 surface water body</p>	<p>For the purpose of Rule 97, Category 2 surface water body includes, and is limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (h) estuaries other than those identified in Schedule F4 (coastal sites), (i) within the mapped lowland areas shown on Map 29, rivers that have an active bed width of 1 metre or wider, and drains greater than 1m wide, and water races, and (j) rivers and streams important to trout spawning habitat identified in Schedule I (trout habitat), <u>during spawning periods (31 May-31August)</u> and (k) natural lakes, <p>but excludes <u>ephemeral and intermittent waterbodies</u> and any surface water body that meets the definition of Category 1 surface water body.</p>
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Reason: composting animal parts is a beneficial activity.

<p>Compost</p>	<p>Any combination of solid or semi-solid vegetable and animal waste that has fully decomposed and matured to a stabilised product. For the purposes of this plan rule xx, compost does not contain human sewage, dead animals or animal parts.</p>
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Reason: consent applicants should not be required to pay for treatises on treaty claims

<p>Cultural impact assessment</p>	<p>A report prepared to consider and assess the potential impacts of an activity on the cultural values within an area.</p> <p>A cultural assessment may include, but is not limited to, Māori history, Treaty claims and settlements, presence of significant sites, social effects <u>describing the site-specific effects of activities on site-specific values and recommendations for avoiding, remedying and mitigating adverse effects. options for arriving at an appropriate balance of values and uses.</u></p>
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Reason: clarify exclusions

<p>Cultivation</p>	<p>Any process that involves turning over or tilling the soil for the preparation of growing crops, excluding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (l) direct drilling <u>and strip tilling</u> (m) no-till practices (n) harvesting <u>of forage and crops including ground disturbance</u> (o) forestry
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Reason: clarify exclusions and map extent

<p>Drain</p>	<p>Any <u>permanently flowing</u> artificial watercourse, open or piped, <u>shown in Map xx</u> that is designed and constructed for the purpose of land drainage of surface or subsurface water. Channels designed and constructed to convey water only during rainfall events and which do not convey or retain water at other times are excluded from this definition.</p> <p>Only for the purpose of Rule R121 (drain clearance) a drain also includes a highly modified watercourse or river and is channelled to such an extent that it has the characteristics of a farm drainage canal. <u>and is shown in Map xx</u></p>
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Reason: clarify exclusions for practical, prioritised application.

<p>Earthworks</p>	<p><u>For the purpose of Rule 99</u>, The disturbance of a land surface from the time between which soil is first disturbed on a site until the time that the site is stabilised.</p> <p>Earthworks includes blading, contouring, ripping, moving, removing, placing or replacing soil or earth, by excavation, or by cutting or filling operations, or by root raking.</p> <p>Earthworks does not include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) cultivation of the soil for the establishment of crops or pasture b) the harvesting of crops c) thrusting, boring, trenching or mole ploughing associated with cable or pipe laying d) the construction, repair or maintenance of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) pipelines ii) electricity lines iii) telecommunications structures or lines iv) radio communication structures v) firebreaks or fencelines <u>or farm tracks</u> vi) <u>farm drains or farm dams</u> e) repair or maintenance of existing roads or tracks f) maintenance of orchards and shelterbelts g) domestic gardening h) repair, sealing or resealing of a road, footpath or driveway
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Reason: amend for clarity.

<p>Ephemeral flow path</p>	<p>A river that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (p) does not have a active bed, or (q) has a bed that is predominantly vegetated, and (r) only conveys water during heavy rainfall events, and (s) does not convey or retain water at other times. <p><u>An ephemeral flowpath excludes a valley floor</u></p>
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Reason: the definition needs more careful risk assessment and fine resolution mapping.

<p>Erosion prone land</p>	<p>The pre-existing slope of the land exceeds 20 <u>28 degrees on erosion-prone substrate as shown in Map xx</u></p> <p><u>Excludes land with stable greywacke base or other non-erosion prone substrates</u></p>
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Reason: amend for clarity.

<p>Fertiliser</p>	<p>A solid or fluid substance or biological compound, or mix of substances or biological compounds that is described as, or held out to be for, or suitable for, sustaining or increasing the growth, productivity, or quality of plants or, indirectly animals through the application to plants or soil of any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (t) Nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, sulphur, magnesium, calcium, chlorine, or sodium as major nutrients; (u) Manganese, iron, zinc, copper, boron, cobalt, molybdenum, iodine, or selenium as minor nutrients; (v) Fertiliser additives to facilitate the uptake and use of nutrients; and <p>Includes non-nutrient attributes of the materials used in fertiliser; but not compost or substances that are plant growth regulators that modify the physiological functions of plants.</p> <p><u>For the purpose of Rule 82, lime is excluded</u></p>
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Reason: amend for accuracy.

<p>Good management practice</p>	<p>Practices, procedures or tools <u>normally developed by industry</u> (including rules) that are effective and efficient at achieving the desired performance while providing for desired environmental <u>sustainable management</u> outcomes. Good management practice <u>is context specific</u>. It evolves through time and results in continuous improvement as new information, technology and awareness of particular issues are developed and disseminated. <u>Industry agreed</u> Good Management Practice guidelines can be found on the Wellington Regional Council's website</p>
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Reason: intent and application not clear. Either clarify or delete.

<p>Gully</p>	<p>A channel or small valley especially one cut by heavy rain.</p>
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Reason: amend for wider application.

<p>Hazard-Risk management strategy</p>	<p>A coherent, integrated framework for the management of <u>risks a-hazard</u>, normally developed by a local authority or appropriately qualified agency, and including some or all of the following elements; hazard and risk identification, impact assessment, potential mitigation works (costs/impacts/maintenance), assessment of environmental effects, assessment of alternate options, cost-benefit analysis, budget allocation; community engagement and implementation plan.</p>
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Reason: intent and application not clear. Either clarify or delete.

High risk soils	Soils with a high degree of preferential flow, artificial drainage or coarse structure with infiltration or drainage impediments, or soils on rolling/sloping country.
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Reason: amend and map for clarity and practical application.

Highly modified river or stream	<p>For the purposes of Rule R121 only, means a river or stream that has been modified and channelled to the extent that it has the characteristics of (in form or function) an artificial farm drainage canal. For the purposes of this definition, the characteristics of a farm drainage canal are considered to include that; it has been channelled into a single flow, the channel is straight, with no 'natural curves', the channel is mechanically formed with straight or steeply angled banks, it is maintained to keep the water table at least 0.3m below the root zone of the surrounding pasture, and that it exhibits these characteristics for at least its entire length through the property in which the watercourse is being assessed.</p> <p><u>Highly modified streams are shown in Map xx</u></p>
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Reason: amend for clarity

Livestock	<p><u>For the purposes of Rule 97, means farmed dairy cows, cattle, deer and pigs.</u> Domestic animals, such as cattle or horses, raised for home use or for profit. For the purpose of this plan livestock does not include horses while they are being used for transportation, or bird species</p>
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Reason: amend for clarity

Mahinga kai*	<p>The customary gathering of food and natural materials, the food and resources themselves and the places where those resources are gathered.</p> <p><u>For example, species, species</u></p>
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Reason: amend for clarity

Mana whenua Sites	<p>Māori with ancestral claims to a particular area of land and resources. Literally, translated as "authority over the land". Whanau, hapu and iwi are mana whenua of a particular rōhe, while Māori are tangata whenua of Aotearoa (New Zealand).</p> <p><u>For the purposes of the plan, means sites significant to mana whenua located in public or private ownership listed in Schedule C</u></p>
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Reason: intent and application not clear. Either clarify or delete.

<p>Natural processes</p>	<p>Dynamic natural, physical and ecological relationships and events that are characteristically natural in their occurrence and effects, that act to shape the natural environment, its landforms and features, such as beaches, dunes, wetlands, and rivers; and including processes of: wave formation, breaking and dissipation; swash run-up; nearshore currents; sediment transport, erosion and deposition, flooding, river meandering, aggradation and mass movement.</p>
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Reason: amend for clarity

<p>Natural wetland</p>	<p>Is a permanently or intermittently wet area, shallow water and land water margin that supports a natural ecosystem of plants and animals that are adapted to wet conditions, including in the beds of lakes and rivers, the coastal marine area (e.g. saltmarsh), and groundwater-fed wetlands (e.g. springs).</p> <p><u>For the avoidance of doubt, the term does not apply to dry land that does not support a natural indigenous ecosystem of plants and animals that are adapted to wet conditions and that occurs within an area commonly referred to in its entirety as a wetland.</u></p> <p>Natural wetlands do not include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (w) damp gully heads <u>or gullies, hill country seeps,</u> or wetted pasture, or pasture with patches of rushes, <u>or sedges or raupo</u> (x) areas of wetland habitat in or around bodies of water specifically designed, installed and maintained <u>including</u> for any of the following purposes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) water storage ponds for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) public water supply, or b) hydroelectric power generation, or c) firefighting or d) irrigation, or e) stock watering or (ii) water treatment ponds for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) wastewater, or b) stormwater, or c) nutrient attenuation, or d) sediment control, or e) animal effluent, or (iii) beautification, landscaping, amenity, <u>biodiversity</u> or (iv) drainage. <p>'Wetland' has the same meaning as in the RMA</p>
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Reason: amend for clarity and practicality.

<p>Offal pit</p>	<p>A hole excavated on a rural property for the sole purpose of disposing of offal from that property.</p> <p><u>Does not include in-situ burial of single carcasses. An offal pit should not contain farm refuse dump contents.</u></p>
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Reason: reasons presented in relation to schedule A3

Outstanding wetland	A natural wetland identified as having multiple significant indigenous biodiversity values and identified in Schedule A3.
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Reason: amend for clarity

Point source discharge	The discharge of contaminants at a specific identifiable location (such as a factory or property) or fixed facility such as a pipe, ditch, or smokestack.
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Reason: Currently the same term is used in different rules, for different purposes.

Property	<p><u>For the purpose of rules xx, a property is</u> Any contiguous area of land held in one ownership.</p> <p><u>For the purpose of rules xx, means...</u></p>
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Reason: amend for consistency with the RMA and regional priorities.

Regionally significant infrastructure*	<p>Regionally significant infrastructure includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ pipelines for the distribution or transmission of natural or manufactured gas or petroleum ▪ strategic telecommunications facilities, as defined in section 5 of the Telecommunications Act 2001 ▪ strategic radio communication facilities, as defined in section 2(1) of the Radio Communications Act 1989 ▪ the national electricity grid, as defined by the Electricity Governance Rules 2003 ▪ facilities for the generation and transmission of electricity where it is supplied to the network, as defined by the Electricity Governance Rules 2003 ▪ the local authority water supply network and water treatments plants ▪ the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants ▪ the Strategic Transport Network, as defined in the Regional Land Transport Plan 2015- ▪ Wellington City bus terminal and Wellington Railway Station terminus ▪ Wellington International Airport ▪ Masterton Hood Aerodrome ▪ Paraparaumu Airport ▪ Commercial Port Area within Wellington harbour and adjacent land used in association with the movement of cargo and passengers and including bulk fuel supply infrastructure, and storage tanks for bulk liquids, and associated wharflines ▪ <u>River and catchment flood protection schemes, rural drainage infrastructure, rural water infrastructure including water races</u> ▪ <u>Rural transport infrastructure</u>
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Reason: reasons presented in relation to Schedule F3A

Restoration and Management Plan	A plan required for managing the restoration of a wetland under Rule R106... A restoration and management plan can be <u>developed by a landowner or catchment group or in partnership by Wellington Regional Council and relevant landowners and stakeholders</u> ; Restoration management plans must be prepared in accordance with Schedule F3a (restoration plans)
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Reason: reasons presented in relation to Table 3.4

River class	Classification of the region's rivers based on size, nature of the catchment and substrate, <u>and length of accrual period</u> , described as: River class 1 Steep, hard sedimentary River class 2 Mid-gradient, coastal and hard sedimentary River class 3 <u>4</u> Mid-gradient, soft sedimentary River class 4 <u>3</u> Lowland, large, draining ranges River class 5 Lowland, large, draining plains and eastern Wairarapa River class 6 Lowland, small River classes are mapped in Maps 21a-e, <u>and rivers are named by class in each whaitua chapter</u>
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Reason: clarify intent and tighten scope for practical application, eg, spray sensitive, noise sensitive

Sensitive area	For the purpose of rules xx, A sensitive area includes the following means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dwelling house • Educational facilities • Amenity areas and public places • Group drinking water supplies and community drinking water supply protection areas • Surface water bodies and associated riparian vegetation • Non-target plants, crops, which are sensitive to agrichemicals • Organically certified properties, e.g., Bio-Gro • Natural wetlands, outstanding waterbodies, and ecosystems with significant values listed in Schedule F
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Reason: amend consistent with the RPS and the WRC Biodiversity Strategy.

Significant natural wetland	A natural wetland that <u>has been assessed against</u> meets one or more of criteria a) to d) listed in Policy 23 of the RPS being representativeness; rarity; diversity; ecological context and where GWRC has engaged directly with landowners to identify areas, undertake field evaluations and assess significance in accordance with that policy and method 32 of the Regional Policy Statement Identified significant wetlands greater than 0.4 <u>1.0</u> ha from which livestock should be included are listed in schedule F3
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Reason: amend for accuracy.

Silage	A fermented, high-moisture stored fodder which can be fed to ruminants. <u>Excludes baleage.</u>
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Reason: amend for clarity

Stabilised	The processing of having made an area of disturbed soil resistant to erosion. This may be achieved by using indurated rock or through the application of base course, or grassing a surface that is not otherwise resistant to erosion. Where seeding or grassing is used on a surface that is not otherwise resistant to erosion, the surface is considered stabilised once 80% vegetative ground cover has been established over the entire area. <u>For the avoidance of doubt, does not apply to farm earthworks.</u>
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Reason: amend for practical application, particularly in the hill country.

Stock crossing point	<u>For the purpose of the livestock access rule, means</u> A location where livestock cross a surface water body from one bank to the other. The locations on each bank are directly opposite or adjacent to each other and are not more than 20 metres wide.
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Reason: add definition to support practical application of livestock exclusion rules.

<u>Stock drinking point</u>	<u>For the purpose of the livestock access rule, means a location where provision is made for livestock access to a surface water body for drinking water</u>
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Reason: amend consistent with the RMA

Surface water body / bodies	A river, lake, wetland, estuary, drain or water race , and its bed. For the purpose of this plan, surface water body does not include drains, water races, ephemeral flow paths and bodies of water designed, installed and maintained for any of the following purposes: (y) water storage ponds <u>including but not limited</u> for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) fire fighting or (ii) irrigation, or (iii) stock watering or (z) water treatment ponds <u>including but not limited</u> for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) wastewater, or (ii) stormwater, or (iii) nutrient attenuation, or (iv) sediment control, or (v) animal effluent.
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Reason: amend for clarity and practical, prioritised application.

Vegetation clearance	The clearance or destruction of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means, including felling vegetation, spraying of vegetation by hand or aerial means, hand-clearance and the burning of <u>standing</u> vegetation. Excludes roller-crushing. <u>For the purposes of rule R100, does not include clearance of gorse or regenerating scrub including manuka/kanuka/tauhini</u>
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3 OBJECTIVES

3.1 KI UTA KI TAI: MOUNTAINS TO THE SEA

Amend

Reason: consistency of title with 4.1 Policies, Ki uta ki tai and integrated catchment management

Relief Sought: amend 3.1: Ki uta ki tai: ~~mountains to the sea~~ integrated catchment management

01 - integrated catchment management

Support with amendments

Reason: add the integrated catchment management concept which is central to the pNRP

Relief Sought: amend as follows or to similar effect: "land, freshwater bodies and the coast are managed as integrated and connected resources using the catchment as the management unit"

02 – community well-being

Support

Reason: consistent with RMA and NPS

Retain as written: The importance and contribution of land and water to the social, economic and cultural well-being of the community are recognised.

05 - balancing objectives

Amend

Reason: amend consistent with RPS objective 12: "*the quantity and quality of freshwater meet the range of uses and values for which water is required*".

We agree that – as a minimum – waterbodies should provide for the values nominated. We make the point that - as a minimum – waterbodies should provide for the other values as well.

The real point is arriving at a balance across values and uses.

Relief Sought: amend as follows or to similar effect: "freshwater bodies and the coastal marine area, ~~as a minimum,~~ are managed to a) ~~safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai;~~ and b) ~~provide for contact recreation and maori customary use;~~ and c) ~~provide for the health needs of people~~ provide an appropriate balance across values and uses in a catchment

3.2 BENEFICIAL USE AND DEVELOPMENT

06 – human drinking water

Amend

Reason: Expand to give better effect to the intent. Our recommendations below are consistent with recommendations made on schedule M.

Relief Sought: amend as follows or to similar effect: Sufficient water of a suitable quality is available for the health needs of people.

The quality of drinking water sourced from rivers or groundwater is maintained or improved by:

- a) Maintaining the quality of community drinking water supplies to meet or exceed MoH maximum acceptable values (MAV)
 - Prioritising improvements to substantive non-compliance with primary health determinands
 - Secondary priority to assessing options for improvements against aesthetic determinands and/or procedural non-compliance

- b) Maintaining the quality of rural supplies
 - Prioritising improvements where bacteriological standards are not met E.coli MAV: less than one in 100ml

- c) Maintaining the quality of groundwater more generally for domestic drinking supplies
 - Prioritising improvements where groundwater nitrate standards are not met Nitrate MAV: not greater than 11.3mg/L
 - Indicative priorities for whaitua attention include Te Ore Ore, Taratahi, Tauherenikau, Martinborough, Te Horo and Otaki supported by WRC examination of reasons for elevated groundwater nitrate in these locations

07 - stock water

Amend

Reason: Quantity is not the same as reliability. Reliable access is critical, not least for animal welfare, not least in summer dry areas of the region.

Relief Sought: amend to the following or similar effect:

Freshwater is available in quantities and is of a suitable quality (e. coli not > 1000/100ml) for the reasonable needs of livestock

The importance of reliable access to drinking water for livestock is recognised and provided for.

08 – benefits of take and use of water

Amend

Reason: water allocation is only one aspect – amend for wider application.

Relief Sought: amend to the following or similar effect: “The take, storage and use of water for social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits is recognised and provided for ~~within the allocation regime set out in this Plan.~~”

09 – recreation

Amend

Reason: many or most natural wetlands are on private land.

Relief Sought: amend to the following or similar effect: The recreational values of the coastal marine area, rivers and lakes and their margins ~~and natural wetlands~~ are maintained and or enhanced in (named) priority areas in partnership with landowners and community

010 – public access

Amend

Reason: consistency with RPS

Relief Sought: amend to the following or similar effect: Public access to and along the coastal marine area and rivers and lakes is maintained ~~and or enhanced~~ in (named) priority areas in partnership with landowners and community

011 – Māori customary use

Amend

Reason: many or most natural wetlands are on private land.

Relief Sought: amend to the following or similar effect: Opportunities for Māori customary use of the coastal marine area, rivers and lakes and their margins ~~and natural wetlands~~ for cultural purposes are recognised, maintained and improved.

012 – regionally significant infrastructure

Support

Reason: small amendment for clarity

Relief Sought: The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities are recognised and provided for

013 – protection of regionally significant infrastructure

Amend

Reason: amend for wider application

Relief Sought: amend to the following or similar effect: The use and ongoing operation of regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities ~~in the coastal marine area~~ are protected from new incompatible use and development occurring under, over, or adjacent to the infrastructure or activity.

New Objective – primary production

Add

Reason: each of the values, including primary production, merits a corresponding objective.

Relief Sought: amend to the following or similar effect: The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of primary production, manufacturing and processing activities are recognised and provided for.

New Objective – incompatible activities

Add

Reason: Consistent with the RPS and similar provisions for infrastructure and energy

Relief Sought: amend to the following or similar effect: The use and ongoing operation of primary production, manufacturing and processing activities is protected from new or inappropriate development located alongside.

3.3 MAORI RELATIONSHIPS

O16 – nga taonga nui a kiwa

Amend

Reason: amend for clarity, consistent with intent expressed in WRC reports

Relief Sought: amend as follows or to similar effect: the relationship of mana whenua with nga taonga nui a kiwa is recognised and provided for by identifying the most significant waterbodies and the most significant relationships in schedule B to assist whaitua by reflecting iwi values in decision-making, and to support prioritising these sites for actions to restore their status by improving their condition over time

3.4 NATURAL CHARACTER, FORM AND FUNCTION

O17 – natural character

Amend

Reason: natural character is only one of the values of natural wetlands and should not be elevated here above those other values. Practically, many natural wetlands are on farmland and their “natural character” has often been significantly modified.

Likewise rivers and lakes and the CMA have been substantially modified over the centuries since human settlement. Aspirations to “protection and preservation” sit uncomfortably with the broader intent to engage with the community in constructive partnerships for enhancement or restoration in identified areas.

Relief Sought: amend as follows: the natural character of the coastal marine area, beds of rivers, and beds of lakes and their margins, and natural significant wetlands is preserved and protected from inappropriate use and development is maintained or enhanced and restored in partnership with landowners and community

O18 – estuaries

Support with amendments

Reason: support the recognition of time needed. Small amendment consistent with the RPS.

Relief Sought: The ecological, recreational, mana whenua, and amenity values of estuaries including their sensitivity as low energy receiving environments are recognised, and their health and function is restored over time in partnership with landowners and community

O19 – interference with natural processes

Oppose

Reason: this objective is too generic to be useful.

Relief sought: delete O19: ~~The interference from use and development on natural processes is minimised.~~

O20 – natural risks

Support

Reason: this objective seeks to achieve an appropriate risk-based balance across values.

Retain as written: The risk, residual risk, and adverse effects from natural hazards and climate change on people, the community and infrastructure are acceptable

O22 – flood control

Oppose

Reason: this is not an objective. The choice of hard or soft engineering methods is a policy and operational choice to give effect to a reasonable balance between objectives such as protecting from flood risks, maintaining natural character and affordability for the community

Relief sought: delete O22: ~~Hard engineering mitigation and protection methods are only used as a last practicable option~~

3.5 WATER QUALITY

O23 – maintain or improve

Support with amendments

Reason: consistency with the NPS-FM

Relief Sought: amend as follows: the overall quality of water... is maintained or improved

O24 – contact recreation

Support with amendments

Reason: this objective is well-structured and prioritised, with both narrative and numeric objectives expressed.

It establishes an appropriate relationship between the pNRP and whitua committees, ie, the pNRP establishes the framework of maintenance, while identifying priorities for improvement for whitua attention (identified in schedule H2).

Amend time periods consistent with schedule H2, ie, November to March. We note that monitoring of swimming sites requires weekly monitoring through the five months of the bathing season: extending this for another three months would represent a significant additional cost which has not been quantified relative to the benefits.

The reasons for, and practicalities of, monitoring natural wetlands for e. coli are not at all obvious. We observe that, the more natural a wetland, the more likely it is to attract wildfowl populations with consequent e. coli loadings.

Relief Sought: amend O24 as follows: Rivers, lakes, ~~natural wetlands~~ and coastal water are suitable for contact recreation and Māori customary use, ~~including~~ by:

- a. maintaining overall water quality, or
- b. improving water quality in:
 - i. significant contact recreation fresh water bodies to meet, as a minimum, the primary contact recreation objectives in Table 3.1, and
 - ii. coastal water to meet, as a minimum, the primary contact recreation objectives in Table 3.3, and
 - iii. all other rivers and lakes ~~and natural wetlands~~ to meet, as a minimum, the secondary contact recreation objectives in Table 3.2.

Amend Table 3.1 monitoring period: ~~September to April~~ November to March

3.6 BIODIVERSITY, AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM HEALTH AND MAHINGA KAI

Amend

Reason: amend title consistent with the NPS-FM and pNRP values – indigenous species are a value set distinct from introduced species

Relief Sought: amend as follows: Indigenous biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai

O25 – aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai

Support with amendments

Reason: consistency with the approach in O23 and O24 for contact recreation.

Relief Sought: amend O25 as follows or to similar effect:

To safeguard indigenous aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:

- a) Water quality, flows, water levels and aquatic and coastal habitats are managed to maintain aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai
- ~~b) Restoration of aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai is encouraged~~
- c) Where an objective in Tables 3.4-3.8 is not met, a fresh water body is less than chlorophyll 200 or MCI 80, it will be improved over time to meet that objective
- d) Indicative priorities for whaitua attention include (named waterbodies)

Aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai objectives

Amend

- **Reason:** We note that Tables 3.4 – 3.6 present a mix of narrative and numeric objectives:
- most are relatively generic , unlike the clear prioritised approach for contact recreation
- the relationship between these regional objectives and the whaitua is not well explained
- the relationship between these tables and other objectives is not clear (some are duplicates)
- the s32 report is sketchy at best; and, most surprising
- the “interpretation” of these regional objectives is apparently buried deep in various supporting “technical” reports.

It is our very strong submission that the “interpretation” of regional objectives is a public policy matter for discussion with stakeholders, not a technical matter for decision by bureaucrats.

The pNRP should state clear objectives which are measurable over the life of the plan, and amenable to robust cost-benefit analysis. We make the point that objectives in fact cannot be landed without that analysis.

Relief Sought: amend title to read: Indigenous Aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai objectives

Add explanation as follows or to similar effect: regional objectives for safeguarding indigenous species and mahinga kai start from the basis of current water quality and indicate priorities for whaitua attention where waterbodies are currently below national bottomlines.

Whaitua objectives and supporting attributes will be developed in the context of economic, environmental, social and cultural considerations, and with a full set of relevant catchment evidence. Where the relevant whaitua sections contain an objective on the same subject matter, the more specific whaitua objective will take precedence

Table 3.4 Rivers and Streams

Amend

Reason: consistent with intent to broadly maintain current state, while prioritising 'hotspots' for improvement.

The column titled "significant" rivers should be deleted for reasons consistent with the WRC Biodiversity Strategy and as set out in our recommendations on Schedule F1, ie, prioritise high value systems for active management in partnership with the community.

The column titled "mahinga kai" is a repetition of O26 and should be deleted.

The column titled "fish" should also be deleted: we make recommendations below for amendments to O26 to give effect to those aspirations.

The column titled "macrophytes" does not seem to be adding much and could be deleted.

The real point of table 3.4 appears to be two things:

- First, it categorises river types: we support this approach but recommend minor restructuring for improved readability (change the order of 3 and 4). We seek clarification that the river types include consideration of accrual periods. Additionally, Table 3.4 should be dis-aggregated and located in the whaitua chapters with rivers specifically named to support community understanding - merely showing the rivers in Map 21 is unhelpfully obtuse
- Second, it presents indicative regional numeric outcomes for biological attributes – chlorophyll and MCI: we support this approach but make recommendations for changes to broadly maintain current state within national bands pending more detailed whaitua consideration.

Currently, the table 3.4 numerics have been proposed with no analysis whatsoever in the s32 report; some of the proposed numbers diverge markedly from current state without benefit of any supporting explanation or analysis of implications; and some of the proposed numbers seem to be arbitrary selections, un-informed by accepted national bands.

It is our submission that reporting to date into the rationale for proposing Chl-a and MCI numerics has been academically and empirically weak. It appears to rely heavily on predicted or modelled reference state, notwithstanding the lack of reference state information from monitored sites.

This “reference state” approach apparently derives from theories of “ecological integrity”. We note that the concept of “ecological integrity” can be distinguished from the concept of “ecosystem health”: importantly, it is the latter approach which informs the NPS and National Objectives Framework.

We support the use of rolling medians based on a minimum of three years data, consistent with the National Objectives Framework.

Relief Sought: amend Table 3.4 as follows:

- Change the order of river classes 3 and 4
- Clarify that the river classes include consideration of accrual periods
- Delete the following columns: macrophytes, fish, mahinga kai, significant rivers
- Amend the numeric outcomes as follows (all numbers equal to or greater than):
 - River class 1 (excellent) : chlorophyll 50, MCI 120
 - River class 2 (good) : chlorophyll 120, MCI ~~405~~100
 - River class 4 (good) : chlorophyll 120, MCI ~~440~~ 100
 - River class 3 (fair) : chlorophyll ~~420~~ 200, MCI ~~405~~ 80
 - River class 5 (fair) : chlorophyll ~~420~~ 200, MCI ~~400~~ 80
 - River class 6 (fair) : chlorophyll ~~420~~ 200, MCI ~~400~~ 80

Restructure and locate in the whaitua chapters with the names of rivers in each class.

Table 3.5 Lakes

Amend

Reason: this table is too generic to be useful.

For example, it proposes that all lakes should have macrophytes covering at least a third of the bed, notwithstanding that Lake Wairarapa has none and there is no obvious plan for achieving this objective, be it in the lifetime of the pNRP or beyond.

The focus here should be to establish the status of the region's lakes relative to NOF, including identifying those which are below NOF bottomlines as priorities for whaitua attention.

Relief Sought: amend as follows or to similar effect:

Delete the following columns: macrophytes, fish, mahinga kai

Amend the phytoplankton and nutrient columns consistent with the NOF banded framework; and identify any below national bottomlines on specific attributes

Restructure and locate in whaitua chapters.

Table 3.6 Groundwater

Amend

Reason: this table is too generic to be useful and ill-supported by any evidence or analysis in the supporting reports.

The nitrate objective is more appropriately addressed in relation to human drinking water.

We suggest the quantity objective is also mis-placed.

Relief Sought: amend as follows:

Delete the following columns: nitrate, quantity

Retain the objective guarding against saltwater intrusion: to the extent any aquifers are currently at risk, they should be noted here as priorities for whaitua attention.

Table 3.7 Natural Wetlands

Oppose

Reason: this table is too generic to be useful. It seems to duplicate O28; and has no obvious relationship to other sections of the pNRP which seek to prioritise significant wetlands for community restoration efforts; or to encourage enhancement or construction of wetlands for multiple values.

We suggest deletion.

Alternatively, this table could be re-structured to prioritise certain wetlands by type for whaitua attention. Indicative priorities could include:

- Fen: the 5ha Maymorn site which contains 40% of fen habitat in the region
- Swamp: J K Donald
- Marsh: J K Donald
- Bog:?

Relief Sought: delete table 3.7 or re-structure to highlight priorities for whaitua attention

Table 3.8 Coastal Waters

Amend

Reason: this table is too generic to be useful.

It should be re-structured to include key attributes, expressed numerically where possible.

The numeric objectives should start from current state, and should identify priority estuaries, harbours or open coast areas for whaitua attention.

Relief Sought: restructure to express objectives as numerics where possible, and to indicate priorities for whaitua attention.

O26 – Mahinga kai

Amend

Reason: as currently phrased, this objective is too generic to be useful.

We note that there is no matching objective for indigenous fish - a surprising omission.

O26 should be amended consistent with the intent to prioritise catchments or waterbodies for the restoration of these values. Consistent with the approach for contact recreation, it would usefully indicate priorities for whaitua attention.

Some of these priorities are in fact indicated in "other methods" but they should first be stated as a clear strategic intent within the objectives.

Relief sought: amend as follows or to similar effect:

~~The availability of mahinga kai species, to support maori customary harvest is increased in quantity, quality and diversity.~~

Restoration of indigenous aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai is encouraged in high value systems prioritised for active management in partnership with landowners, iwi and community

Indicative priorities for whaitua attention – removing barriers to fish passage, restoring riparian margins or wetlands and reducing adverse impacts of introduced aquatic fauna and flora - include:

- Wairarapa Moana, Porirua Harbour, Lake Waitawa: wetland restoration, managing impacts of introduced species
- Mangatarere, Parkvale, Taueru, Kopuaranga, Huangarua and Whareama rivers: riparian planting
- Lamprey and short-jaw kokopu populations in locations x and y
- High value migration pathways in locations x and y
- Mahinga kai and/or taonga species a and b in locations x and y

O27 – riparian plantings

Delete

Reason: covered by our recommendations on O26.

Relief Sought: delete: ~~vegetated riparian margins are established and maintained~~

O28 – natural wetlands

Amend

Reason: keep the focus on priority catchments, as for above

Keep the focus on the values of wetlands.

Relief Sought: amend as follows or to similar effect: the extent and functioning of natural or constructed wetlands is maintained or increased ~~and their condition is restored~~ in (named) priority catchments in partnership with landowners and community

O29 – fish passage

Amend

Reason: amend consistent with the WRC Biodiversity Strategy and Method M21

Relief Sought: Use and development provides for the passage of indigenous fish and koura, and the passage of indigenous fish and koura is restored in (named) priority areas in partnership with landowners.

RECREATIONAL FISHING

Add title

Reason: new value set, new heading

O30 – trout habitat

Amend

Reason: trout fishing opportunities across the region are regularly described by anglers and Fish & Game in positive terms. A recent story (Wairarapa Times Age, 17/10/2015) is illustrative:

- *“The 2015/16 trout fishing season has kicked off to a solid start in Wairarapa with anglers ecstatic about the number of fish around, and also the excellent condition they are in.*
- *Mr Teal says Wairarapa has a world-class fishery”*

These testimonies suggest maintenance is in order. No evidence is presented in the pNRP or supporting reports to indicate where or when improvements are required.

Relief Sought: The habitat of trout identified in Schedule I (trout habitat) is maintained and improved

3.7 SITES WITH SIGNIFICANT VALUES

O31 – outstanding waterbodies

Amend

Reason: for consistency with the NPS and RPS

Relief sought: amend to read: the significant values of Outstanding water bodies to be identified in accordance with M7 and their significant values are protected from inappropriate use and development.

O32 – outstanding natural features and landscapes

Amend

Reason: consistent with the RPS and method 24

Relief sought: amend to read: The values of Outstanding natural features and landscapes to be identified in accordance with M24 are protected from inappropriate use and development.

O33 – mana whenua values

Amend

Reason: to give better effect to the intent to foster positive partnerships

Relief sought: amend to read:

The values of Sites with significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C are protected managed to respect the values while respecting landowner use and enjoyment of their land and or restored in partnership with landowners and community.

O34 – historic heritage

Amend

Reason: consistency with other objectives

Relief sought: amend to read: Significant historic heritage values are protected from inappropriate modification, use and development or restored in partnership with landowners and community

O35 – significant indigenous biodiversity

Amend

Reason: consistent with the RPS and WRC Biodiversity Strategy

Relief sought: amend to read: Ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values are ~~protected~~ maintained and ~~or~~ restored in partnership with landowners and community.

Priorities for whaitua attention are (named ecosystems and habitats)

O38 – special amenity landscapes

Oppose

Reason: this objective is redundant. It is covered by the RPS (O18, P27, P28, M32) and is a matter for District Council plans.

Relief sought: delete O38: ~~Identified special amenity landscape values are maintained or enhanced~~

3.8 AIR

O39 – air quality

Support

Reason: support objectives being pitched at acceptable or better.

Suggest any airsheds below this level be prioritised for attention.

Retain: Ambient air quality is maintained or improved to the acceptable category or better in Schedule L1 (ambient air).

O41 – amenity values

Amend

Reason: small amendment for clarity

Relief sought: amend as follows: The significant adverse effects of odour, smoke and dust on amenity values and people's well-being are reduced.

New objective - reverse sensitivity

Add

Reason: consistent with RPS

Relief sought: add new objective: New sensitive activities should not locate near landuses or activities that emit odour, smoke or dust

3.9 SOIL

O42 – soil health and productivity

Amend

Reason: consistency with other objectives

Relief sought: Soils are healthy and productive, and accelerated soil erosion in (named) priority catchments is reduced over time in partnership with landowners, industry and community

3.10 LAND USE

O44 – land use activities

Amend

Reason: consistency with WRC intent

Relief sought: The adverse effects on soil and water indigenous ecosystem and human health values from land use activities are minimised will be managed principally through an expanded non-regulatory programme in priority catchments, supported by rules prioritised to manage significant adverse effects from significant activities.

O45 – livestock access to waterbodies

Amend

Reason: consistent with striking an appropriate balance between values and uses.

Relief sought: amend as follows: The adverse effects of livestock access on surface water bodies indigenous ecosystem and human health values are reduced over time, while maintaining reliable access to drinking water for stock

3.11 DISCHARGES TO LAND

Amend title

Reason: for clarity and consistency with the structure of the rules

O46 – Discharges to land

Oppose

Reason: covered by O44

Relief sought: delete O46: Discharges to land are managed to reduce the runoff or leaching of contaminants to water

O47 – sediment run-off

Amend

Reason: consistent with prioritising significant activities

Relief sought: amend as follows: The amount of sediment-laden runoff entering water from major infrastructure and subdivision developments is reduced

3.11 DISCHARGES TO WATER

Amend title

Reason: for clarity and consistency with the structure of the rules

O48 – stormwater

Support

Reason: support intent to improve over time

Retain: Stormwater networks and urban land uses are managed so that the adverse quality and quantity effects of discharges from the networks are improved over time.

O49 – wastewater

Support

Reason: we note here that all farm effluent is applied to land.

Retain: Discharges of wastewater to land are promoted over discharges to fresh water and coastal water.

O50 – wastewater

Support

Reason: we support the commitment to progressive improvement.

The s32 report acknowledges that avoiding discharges altogether would incur extremely high costs, and it is appropriate to recognise that systems may fail at times. We endorse these statements and the preferred approach outlined in the s32 report, ie:

- Minimise adverse effects (we suggest particularly in summer low-flow periods)
- Maintain water quality
- Progressive improvement where outcomes are not met
- Progressively reduce discharges over the longer-term, recognising the significant costs.

This preferred approach is of course equally applicable to farm effluent systems.

Retain: Discharges of wastewater to fresh water are progressively reduced.

3.12 WATER ALLOCATION

O52 – water use

Amend

Reason: reliability is critical for all water users. Water storage should be enabled, fullstop.

We support improving efficient use but not at the expense of other values.

Consent durations should match the scale of investment in water infrastructure and the need for business certainty to support investments in more efficient use.

Relief Sought: amend as follows: The reliability and efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved ~~and maximised~~ through time, including by means of:

- a) efficient infrastructure, and
- b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic, municipal and industry practices, and
- c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and
- d) enabling water sharing and temporary transfers ~~to be transferred~~ between catchment users, and
- e) enabling water storage ~~outside river beds.~~
- f) providing consent durations of at least 25 years to support certainty of investment in water infrastructure

4 POLICIES

4.1 KI UTA KI TAI AND INTEGRATED CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT

P1 – integrated catchment management

Support with amendments

Reason: amendments proposed for clarity and to give better effect to pNRP intent

Relief Sought: amend to the following or similar effect: Land and water will be managed recognising ki uta ki tai by using principles of integrated catchment management, including

- a) decision-making using the catchment as the spatial unit and prioritising catchments over the short to medium term for coordinated community action
- b) applying an adaptive management approach to take into account the dynamic nature and process of catchments, with appropriate timeframes for monitoring progress and testing management approaches
- c) coordinated catchment management building forward from the existing river, lake and catchment schemes and coordinating with TAs and industry to support with science, resources and extension services; with decisions based on best available information and robust cost-benefit analysis of catchment options
- d) taking into account the connected nature of resources and natural processes and communities within a catchment
- e) recognising links between environmental, social, cultural and economic sustainability of the catchment

P2 – cross boundary matters

Amend

Reason: the pNRP and future whitua plan changes need to be mindful of existing district council provisions to avoid duplications, conflicts and un-necessary confusion for plan users.

Earthworks and wetlands are examples.

Relief Sought: amend as follows: the effects of use and development across jurisdictional boundaries shall be managed by having particular regard to relevant provisions in any bordering territorial authorities district plans when developing pNRP or WIP provisions and when assessing a resource consent

P3 - precautionary approach

Amend

Reason: this policy seems to be the only attempt to give guidance on balancing values at regional or whaitua scale. Helpfully, MfE have recently published guidance in this area and we incorporate it in amendments below.

The policy as currently expressed is a truncated and inaccurate summary of the fuller discussion in the s32 report, and in further papers (Simpson Grierson) referred to in that report: we propose amendments based on that fuller discussion.

Simpson-Grierson make the point plainly:

- *“the precautionary approach is not a substitute for good information about the resource*
- *Plans must signal where additional precaution is require - however decisions must be based on more than speculation”*

The s32 report references the Rio Declaration (our emphasis):

- *“Where there are threats of **serious or irreversible damage**, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing **cost-effective** measures to prevent environmental degradation”.*

The s32 report goes on to note:

- *“the use of the precautionary approach can result in considerable cost to the resource user”*
- The s32 however makes no attempt to quantify these costs

The s32 report usefully references RPS policies 29 and 51. These policies emphasise a risk-based approach based on:

- Minimising risks and consequences through sound investigation and planning
- Systematic assessment of risk, magnitude, frequency, vulnerability and impacts

WRC (Thompson, 2008) expanded on this risk-based approach, ie, the critical question is:

- How likely are the potential effects – low, medium or high probability?
- If it occurs, will it have low, medium or high impact?

WRC may wish to signal specific areas where additional precaution is required based on more than speculation about serious and irreversible damage and propose cost-effective measures to address them. As currently drafted however, P3 may have the unintended effect of:

- serving as an excuse for lazy policy - the over-reliance on “discretionary” activity status may be a manifestation; and/or
- prioritising one value set to the detriment of another without robust process, eg, as appears to be the case for drinking water protection zones

WRC have published a substantial body of scientific and technical work over the last 20 years: at no point have they signalled that serious and irreversible threats are imminent. To the contrary, the s32 assessment is that *“Overall water quality has been steady or improving over the past ten years, but some fresh and coastal water systems exhibit degraded ecosystem health, community, cultural or social values”.*

Returning to the first point above: the real point is establishing a framework to support arriving at an appropriate balance across values and uses.

Relief Sought: amend as follows or to similar effect:

P3: Precautionary Approach Balancing Values

The pNRP establishes a framework for whaitua communities, facilitated by WRC, to consider values and priorities locally. Where values conflict, whaitua will arrive at an agreed balance between the levels at which each value will be provided for, including where and when and to what level they apply across a catchment.

Use and development shall be managed with a precautionary proactive approach to research and monitoring where there is currently limited information regarding the receiving environment and the adverse effects the activity may have on this environment; within a coherent integrated framework including risk identification, probability/impact assessment, and cost benefit analysis of options

New policy - research and monitoring

Add

Reason: research and monitoring is fundamental to an adaptive management approach and to support arriving at an appropriate balance across values.

Recommendations are made in the methods for research and monitoring in key areas, but these should be framed within an explicit policy intent.

The commitment to expanded research and monitoring for water quality must be matched by a commitment to expanded research and monitoring for water quantity.

Relief Sought: add new policy to the following or similar effect:

The regional research programme will prioritise:

- a) water quality investigations in priority catchments and waterbodies, as set out in M10
- b) validation and calibration of catchment water balance models, including validation/calibration of sub-catchment and seasonal water balances (priority Ruamahanga)
- c) critical analysis of key data gaps, assumptions and uncertainties in the current conjunctive water framework, including ground-truthing Category A, B, C connections and boundaries
- d) expanded sites for improved measurement and monitoring of minimum flows (eg, more low flow monitoring in the lower Ruamahanga, south of Waihenga)

The regional research programme may be extended on the recommendation of whaitua committees to address key areas where there is limited information, including:

- (a) monitoring of indigenous fish populations, including threatened or taonga species to assist in prioritising initiatives to safeguard indigenous species and mahinga kai (eg, kakahi, longfin eels)
- (b) analysis of sources to help identify and prioritise catchment works (eg, forensic testing of e. coli sources, sediment fingerprinting)
- (c) mapping of surface and sub-surface flowpaths and attenuation processes to help identify and prioritise catchment opportunities for interception and mitigation

The regional SOE monitoring network may be extended on the recommendation of whaitua committees to include:

- (d) up-catchment sites to help identify and prioritise catchment works (eg, Taueru/50,000ha with just one site at the top and one at the bottom)
- (e) expanded landowner, iwi and community involvement in using property-scale and catchment-scale tools for understanding and monitoring their own water quality

P4 - minimising managing adverse effects

Amend

Reason: as currently drafted, P4 is not well-linked to the integrated catchment management theme, nor are effects linked to community values and objectives agreed through the whaitua processes.

We have separately made recommendations to delete schedule A.

Relief Sought: Where ~~minimisation-management~~ of adverse effects is required by policies in the plan, ~~minimisation-management~~ means progressively reducing adverse effects to ~~the-smallest amount-practicable~~ support achievement of pNRP and WIP objectives and shall include consideration of:

- a) the nature, objectives and functional requirements of the activity
- b) ~~Consideration of~~ practicability of alternative locations and methods
- c) practicability of Locating away from areas identified in ~~schedule A~~, schedule C, schedule E, schedule F
- d) Timing of the activity
- e) Using good management practices and best practicable options for reducing effects
- f) Designing the activity so the scale or footprint is as small as practicable
- g) Developing strategies for priority catchments to support prioritising effective and cost-effective interventions

P6 - Synchronised ~~expiry and~~ review dates

Amend

Reason: the intent can be achieved through review provisions, without requiring artificial constraints on consent durations

Relief Sought: Resource consents may be granted with a common ~~expiry or~~ review date within a whaitua or sub-catchment, if:

- (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or
- (b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that whaitua or sub-catchment.

New Policy - Consents, Compliance and Enforcement

Add

Reason: Alongside methods and rules, consents, compliance and enforcement activities are a key element in the WRC framework for delivering on sustainable management.

A policy indicating high-level fit and intent would appropriately be included in the pNRP for feedback in the public process.

We note that WRC have separately indicated their intent to develop a strategic compliance framework. This should be undertaken in consultation with TAs and industry to minimise overlaps and duplication.

We take this opportunity to record that consents, compliance and enforcement activities in the region have been vexed and contentious in recent years, not least because the operative plan framework has contained gaps, and WRC staff have granted themselves considerable discretion to address them.

The practical effect is that policies and rules are being made and enforced outside the public plan process, at considerable cost to the goodwill of the farming community.

Acknowledging that there have been gaps in the operative framework, the pNRP is an opportunity to develop a strong framework of policies, not least to guide the discretion of WRC staff, and to ensure both staff and plan users know what the ground rules are, and the bounds within which discretion will be exercised.

It is in fact our understanding that a key driver for the pNRP has been a concern from WRC to set policy in the plan, not one by one in consents. We strongly endorse this.

Relief Sought: add new policy to the following or similar effect:

WRC consent administration will adhere to the provisions of operative plans. To the extent consent applications are discretionary, strong policy direction will be provided within the pNRP to guide WRC staff and plan users.

WRC Compliance programmes will be prioritised to identified risk areas and to support early corrective actions, and will minimise duplication of industry led programmes

Prosecutions will generally be employed as a last option, where there is unambiguous evidence of a knowing breach of an operative rule and/or unambiguous evidence of a significant and actual adverse effect, and/or when other compliance/enforcement steps have been exhausted

4.2 BENEFICIAL USE AND DEVELOPMENT

P7 - uses of land and water

Support with amendments

Reason: many or most of these uses also deliver environmental benefits.

We observe that this is a long list. Some have been pulled out for further elaboration, while others have not.

Relief Sought: The cultural, social environmental and economic benefits of using land and water for:

- a) aquaculture, and
- b) treatment, dilution attenuation and disposal of wastewater and stormwater and animal effluent, and diffuse contaminants and
- c) industrial processes and commercial uses associated with the potable water supply network, and
- d) community and domestic water supply, and
- e) electricity generation, and
- f) ~~food~~ primary production, and harvesting, and processing
- g) gravel extraction from rivers for flood protection and control purposes, and
- h) irrigation and stock water, and
- i) firefighting, and
- J) contact recreation and Māori customary use, and
- K) transport along, and access to, water bodies

shall be recognised

P8 – beneficial activities

Support with amendments

Reason: amend to include other activities as least as beneficial as public artworks.

Relief Sought: The following activities are recognised as beneficial and generally appropriate and shall generally be enabled:

- A) activities for the purpose of restoring and/or enhancing natural character, aquatic ecosystem health, mahinga kai, sites with significant mana whenua values, and sites with significant indigenous biodiversity values, and
- B) activities that restore natural features such as beaches, dunes or wetlands that can buffer development from natural hazards, and
- C) day-lighting of piped streams, and
- D) removal of aquatic weeds or pest plants, and invasive fauna

- E) the establishment of river crossings (culverts, fords and bridges) or fences and fence structures that will result in the exclusion of regular stock access from a water body, and
- F) the planting, fencing and retirement of riparian margins, and
- G) the retirement or planting of erosion prone land ~~from stock access~~, and
- H) maintenance and use of existing structures in the coastal marine area, natural wetlands and the beds of rivers and lakes, and
- I) removal of dangerous or derelict structures in the coastal marine area, natural wetlands and beds of lakes and rivers, and
- J) structures necessary to provide for monitoring resource use or the state of the environment in the coastal marine area, natural wetlands and beds of lakes and rivers, and
- K) activities necessary to maintain safe navigation, and
- L) artworks that support and enhance public open space, and
- M) construction of stock watering dams
- N) cleaning drains to maintain the water table and reduce flooding risks
- O) ground spreading and aerial topdressing of lime and fertiliser
- P) returning nutrients to the land including effluent, manure, bedding and compost
- Q) making and storing hay, baleage and silage
- R) maintenance and development of farm tracks for the safe and efficient movement of people and stock
- S) farm infrastructure and buildings for holding stock off paddocks
- T) clearance of annual or perennial weed species and clearance of regenerating scrub
- U) clearance of manuka/kanuka for the establishment of hive sites and access to them
- V) enhancement of natural wetlands or construction of new wetlands to support nutrient and sediment attenuation, including regular cleaning and harvest of plant material to support ongoing function

P10 – contact recreation and customary use

Amend

Reason: amend for consistency and clarity and to avoid duplication.

Use RMA terminology for all or none, but not just some.

Relief Sought: The management of natural resources shall have ~~particular~~ regard to the actual and potential adverse effects on contact recreation and Māori customary use in fresh and coastal water, including by:

- ~~a) providing water quality and flows suitable for the community's objectives for contact recreation and Māori customary use, and~~
- b) managing activities to maintain or enhance contact recreation values in the beds of lakes and rivers, including by retaining existing swimming holes and maintaining access to existing contact recreation locations, and
- c) encouraging improved access to suitable swimming locations identified by whaitua, and
- d) providing for the passive recreation and amenity values of fresh water bodies and the coastal marine area.

P11 – In-stream water storage

Amend

Reason: recognise the benefits of water storage in or out of the beds of rivers.

Relief Sought: The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water ~~within the bed of a river~~ are recognised including when:

- a) there are significant social and economic benefits for the enterprise, catchment or region, and
- b) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and
- c) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and
- d) the damming and storage of water contributes to the efficient allocation and use of water.

P11, P12, P13 – regional infrastructure

Support

Reason: consistent with objectives

Retain as written

P15 – existing flood protection

Support

Reason: important to maintain community investments and protect from risks

Retain: The use, maintenance and ongoing operation of existing catchment based flood and erosion risk management activities which manage the risk of flooding to people, property, infrastructure and communities are beneficial and generally appropriate.

P16 – new flood protection

Support

Reason: important to upgrade community investments as needed to protect from risks

Retain: The social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of new catchment-based flood and erosion risk management activities are recognised.

New Policy – primary production

Add

Reason: acknowledging swimming is an important beneficial use meriting an additional policy, primary production values are also of sufficient import to merit elaboration

Relief Sought: amend to the following or similar effect: The benefits of primary production, manufacturing, distribution and processing are recognised and provided for by:

- (a) Recognising existing land uses and investments, including capital and operational investments in sustainable farming practices and environmental stewardship
- (b) Supporting the ongoing use and development of land, recognising the need for flexibility to respond to seasonal fluctuations and changing markets
- (c) Providing for any requirements for significant new capital investments to be made only in the context of robust cost-benefit analysis
- (d) Providing transition times to meet new requirements or catchment limits
- (e) Working alongside industry and landowner/catchment groups to support the ongoing development of sustainable farming systems, and to enable collective or cross-catchment solutions to meet objectives

New Policy – irrigation

Add

Reason: as for primary production

Relief Sought: add new policy: The benefits of irrigation are recognised and provided for by:

- (a) Recognising existing uses, and existing capital investments in water takes, pumping, storage, reticulation and application systems
- (b) Providing for investment certainty with consent durations of at least 25 years
- (c) Providing for reliability of supply in determining minimum flow and allocation regimes
- (d) Providing for any changes to minimum flow or allocation regimes impacting reliability of water takes to be made only in the context of robust cost-benefit analysis
- (e) Providing transition times to meet new minimum flow or allocation limits, or to transition to more efficient systems
- (f) Providing for rootstock protection to be exempt from minimum flow restrictions
- (g) Working alongside industry and water user groups to promote water efficiency technologies, and to enable water sharing and temporary transfers between catchment users

P7 – water storage

Amend

Reason: amend to include out-of-stream storage

Relief Sought: amend as follows or to similar effect: the benefits associated with the damming and storing of water outside or within the bed of a river are recognised...

New Policy - drainage infrastructure

Add

Reason: essential to the maintenance of primary production and other values.

Requirements are mandated through other legislation.

Relief Sought: add as follows: The use and maintenance of drainage systems to provide the required outfall and water table levels for agricultural productivity and to protect from flooding are beneficial and shall generally be enabled

New policy – reverse sensitivity

Add

Reason: consistent with the RPS and other policies above

Relief Sought: amend as follows or to similar effect: Primary production activities shall be protected from new incompatible use and development occurring under, over or adjacent to it, by the location and design of any new use and development to avoid, remedy or mitigate any reverse sensitivity effects.

4.3 MAORI RELATIONSHIPS

P20 – exercise of kaitiakitanga

Amend

Reason: to give better effect to the intent to enable positive partnerships

Relief Sought: amend to following or similar effect: Kaitiakitanga shall be recognised and provided for by:

- a) ~~managing natural and physical resources~~ working with landowners in sites with significant mana whenua values listed in Schedule C (mana whenua) to identify opportunities to respect mana whenua values in accordance with tikanga and kaupapa Māori as exercised by mana whenua, alongside respecting landowners use and enjoyment of their land and
- b) the identification and inclusion of mana whenua attributes and values in the kaitiaki information and monitoring strategy in accordance with Method M2, and
- c) identification of mana whenua values and attributes and their application through tikanga and kaupapa Māori in the maintenance and enhancement of mana whenua relationships with Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa.

4.4 NATURAL CHARACTER, FORM AND FUNCTION

P22 – estuaries

Amend

Reason: amend consistent with P23

Relief Sought: amend as follows:

~~Significant adverse effects on the ecosystem values of estuaries... shall be avoided~~

The ecological health and significant values of estuaries will be restored over time in partnership with landowners and communities

P23 – restoring Porirua Harbour, Wellington Harbour, Lake Wairarapa

Support with amendments

Reason: restoration activities are appropriately undertaken within a framework of positive partnerships as is already underway, and consistent with methods M8 and M9.

Aspirations to restore ecological health will also need to take introduced species pressures into account, eg, the effects of perch and trout in Lake Wairarapa on native fish community structure including

Relief Sought: amend as follows:

The ecological health and significant values of Porirua Harbour, Wellington Harbour and Lake Wairarapa will be restored over time in partnership with landowners and communities by....

Add new condition d): undertaking research to assess and manage the effects of introduced species

P24 – outstanding natural character in coastal marine area

Oppose

Reason: repetition of P48 outstanding natural features and landscapes

Relief Sought: delete P24

P25 – natural character

Amend

Reason: consistency with relief sought on O17

Relief Sought: delete P25 as currently written: ~~Use and development shall avoid significant adverse effects on natural character in the coastal marine area (including high natural character in the coastal marine area) and in the beds of lakes and rivers, and avoid, remedy or mitigate other adverse effects of activities, taking into account...~~

Replace as follows or to similar effect: The natural character of the coastal marine area, and in the beds of lakes and rivers and their margins, is maintained or enhanced and restored in partnership with landowners and community, by identifying priorities for progressive improvement in whaitua implementation plans

P26 – natural processes

Oppose

Reason: too generic to be useful.

Relief Sought: delete P26: ~~Use and development will be managed to minimise effects on the integrity and functioning of natural processes.~~

P28 – hazard mitigation measures

Amend

Reason: as for O22.

Relief Sought: amend as follows or to similar effect: hard engineering mitigation and protection methods ~~shall be avoided except~~ may be appropriate where it is necessary to protect existing development from unacceptable risk, assessed using the risk-based approach and cost/benefit assessment of options, ~~and the works either form part of a hazard management strategy or the environmental effects are considered to be no more than minor~~

P30 – natural buffers

Amend

Reason: Intent not clear.

Relief Sought: amend as follows: The adverse effects of use and development on natural features such as beaches, dunes ~~or wetlands~~ that buffer development from natural hazards shall be minimised.

4.5 BIODIVERSITY, AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM HEALTH AND MAHINGA KAI

Amend

Reason: amend title consistent with the NPS-FM and pNRP values – indigenous species are a value set distinct from introduced species

Relief Sought: Indigenous Biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai

P31: Aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai

Amend

Reason: consistent with the RMA

Relief Sought: Aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai shall be maintained or restored by managing the effects of use and development on physical, chemical and biological processes to:

- a) ~~minimise-avoid, remedy or mitigate significant~~ adverse effects on natural flow characteristics and hydrodynamic processes, and the natural pattern and range of water level fluctuations in rivers, lakes and natural wetlands, and
- b) ~~minimise-avoid, remedy or mitigate significant~~ adverse effects on aquatic habitat diversity and quality, including the form, frequency and pattern of pools, runs, and riffles in rivers, and the natural form of rivers, lakes, natural wetlands and coastal habitats, and
- c) ~~minimise-avoid, remedy or mitigate significant~~ adverse effects on habitats that are important to the life cycle and survival of aquatic species, and
- d) ~~minimise-avoid, remedy or mitigate significant~~ adverse effects at times which will most affect the breeding, spawning, and dispersal or migration of aquatic species, and
- e) avoid ~~remedy or mitigate~~ ~~creating~~ barriers to the migration or movement of indigenous aquatic species, and restore the connections between fragmented aquatic habitats where appropriate, and
- f) ~~minimise-avoid, remedy or mitigate significant~~ adverse effects on riparian habitats ~~and or~~ restore them where practicable, and
- g) avoid the introduction, and restrict the spread, of aquatic pest plants and animals.

P32: Adverse effects on aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai

Amend

Reason: amendment for clarity

Relief Sought: Significant adverse effects on aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai shall be managed by:

- a) avoiding significant adverse effects, and
- b) where significant adverse effects cannot be avoided, remedying them and
- c) where significant adverse effects cannot be remedied, mitigating them, and

- d) where significant residual adverse effects remain, it is appropriate to consider the use of biodiversity offsets.

Proposals for mitigation and biodiversity offsetting will be assessed against the principles listed in Schedule G (biodiversity offsetting).

P33: Protecting indigenous fish habitat

Amend

Reason: consistency with RMA

Relief Sought: The more than minor adverse effects of activities on the resilience of species known to be present in any water body identified in Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes) as habitat for indigenous fish species, and Schedule F1b (inanga spawning habitats), particularly at the ~~relevant~~ peak spawning and migration times identified in Schedule F1a (fish spawning/migration) for those species, shall be avoided, remedied or mitigated. These activities include the following:

- a) discharges of contaminants, including sediment, and
- b) disturbance of the bed or banks that would significantly affect spawning habitat at peak times of the year, and
- c) damming, diversion or taking of water ~~which leads to significant loss of flow or which makes the river impassable to migrating indigenous fish.~~

P34: Fish passage

Amend

Reason: consistency with RMA

Relief Sought: The construction or creation of new barriers to the passage of fish and koura species shall be avoided, remedied or mitigated

P35: Restoring fish passage

Amend

Reason: consistency with WRC Biodiversity Strategy. Preferably name the priority areas.

Relief Sought: The passage of indigenous fish and koura shall be restored in partnership with landowners and community where this is appropriate identified as a priority for the management and protection of indigenous fish and koura populations.

P36: Effects on indigenous bird habitat

Amend

Reason: consistency with RMA

Relief Sought: The adverse effects of use and development on the habitats of indigenous birds in the coastal marine area, wetlands and beds of lakes and rivers and their margins for breeding, roosting, feeding, and migration particularly at peak breeding times shall be minimised avoided, remedied or mitigated.

P37: Values of wetlands

Amend

Reason: many or most natural wetlands are on private land.

Relief Sought: Activities in ~~and adjacent to~~ natural wetlands shall be managed to maintain or enhance their values including:

- a) as habitat for indigenous flora and fauna, ~~and~~
- b) ~~for their significance to mana whenua, and~~
- c) for their role in the hydrological cycle including flood protection, ~~and~~
- d) for sediment trapping and nutrient attenuation, ~~and~~
- e) as a fisheries resource, ~~and~~
- f) for recreation.

P38: Restoration of wetlands

Support

Reason: the programmes in Waimoana show the results that can be achieved by encouraging partnership and innovation.

Suggest this policy would usefully indicate catchment priorities.

Retain: The restoration of natural wetlands and the construction of artificial wetlands to provide habitat for indigenous flora and fauna, and to carry out the physical and ecological functions of natural wetlands, shall be encouraged.

4.6 SITES WITH SIGNIFICANT VALUES

Policy P39: Adverse effects on outstanding water bodies

Amend

Reason: consistent with NPS and RMA

Relief Sought: The adverse effects of use and development on the significant values of outstanding water bodies and their significant values to be identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies) in accordance with M7 shall be avoided, remedied or mitigated

P40: Ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values

Amend

Reason: consistent with WRC Biodiversity Strategy.

Our recommendations on Schedule F are to prioritise high value sites for active management.

Relief Sought: ~~Protect and~~ Maintain or restore the following ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values:

- a) the rivers and lakes with significant indigenous ecosystems identified in Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes), and
- b) the habitats for indigenous birds identified in Schedule F2 (bird habitats), and
- c) ~~significant natural wetlands, including~~ the significant natural wetlands identified in Schedule F3 (significant wetlands), and
- d) the ecosystems and habitat-types with significant indigenous biodiversity values in the coastal marine area identified in Schedule F4 (coastal sites) and Schedule F5 (coastal habitats).

P41: Managing adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values

Amend

Reason: as for P32

Relief Sought: In order to protect the ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in Policy P40, in the first instance activities, other than activities carried out in accordance with a restoration management plan, shall avoid these ecosystems and habitats.

If the ecosystem or habitat cannot be avoided, the adverse effects of activities shall be managed by:

- a) avoiding more than minor adverse effects, and
- b) where more than minor adverse effects cannot be avoided, remedying them, and
- c) where more than minor adverse effects cannot be remedied, mitigating them, and
- d) where significant residual adverse effects remain it is appropriate to consider the use of biodiversity offsets.

Proposals for mitigation and biodiversity offsets will be assessed against the principles listed in Schedule G (biodiversity offsetting). ~~A precautionary approach shall be used when assessing the potential for adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values.~~

~~Where more than minor~~ significant adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in Policy P40 cannot be avoided, remedied, mitigated or redressed through biodiversity offsets, the activity is inappropriate.

P42: ~~Protecting and~~ Maintaining or restoring ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values

Amend

Reason: arguably the most significant pressure on indigenous fish species and macro-invertebrates is introduced aquatic species.

At the least, they need to be specifically included in the policy framework for safeguarding significant indigenous species values, preliminary to catchment specific identification of pressures and priorities and options for achieving a working balance.

The Karori Reservoir work to eradicate trout to support indigenous fish populations is illustrative.

Relief Sought: In order to ~~protect~~ maintain or restore the ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in ~~Policy P40 Schedule F~~, particular regard shall be given to managing the adverse effects of introduced aquatic species and/or to managing the adverse effects of use and development in surrounding areas on physical, chemical and biological processes to:

- a) maintain ecological connections within and between these habitats, or
- b) provide for the enhancement of ecological connectivity between fragmented habitats including through biodiversity offsets, and
- c) work in partnership with landowners and community to provide adequate buffers around ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values, and
- d) avoid cumulative adverse effects on, and the incremental loss of the values of these ecosystems and habitats including as a result of competition and predation by introduced species.

P43: Restoration and management plans

Contingent Support

Reason: we support the intent, contingent on Restoration and Management plans being prepared within a non-regulatory framework

Retain: Restoration activities that have more than minor adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in Schedule F (indigenous biodiversity) are appropriate if they are undertaken as part of a restoration management plan.

P44: Protection and restoration of sites with significant mana whenua values

Amend

Reason: consistent with intent to enable positive partnerships

Relief Sought: Protection or restoration of Sites with significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C (mana whenua) shall be protected and/or restored encouraged in partnership with landowners.

P45: Managing adverse effects on sites with significant mana whenua values

Oppose

Reason: we make the point strongly that many or most of these sites are in private ownership.

The task for the pNRP is to provide a framework for enabling an appropriate balance between values, and for enabling positive partnerships.

We make the point here that we signalled our willingness to explore options for achieving this during the draft plan process.

Relief Sought: delete P45

~~In the first instance, activities in sites with significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C (mana whenua) shall be avoided.~~

~~If the site cannot be avoided, more than minor adverse effects on the significant mana whenua values must be evaluated through a cultural impact assessment undertaken by the relevant iwi authority or iwi authorities. The adverse effects of activities shall be managed in accordance with tikanga and kaupapa Māori as recommended in the cultural impact assessment by:~~

- ~~a) — avoiding more than minor adverse effects, and~~
- ~~b) — where more than minor adverse effects cannot be avoided, remedying them, and~~
- ~~c) — where more than minor adverse effects cannot be remedied, mitigating them, and~~
- ~~d) — receiving written consent of the iwi authority.~~

~~Where more than minor adverse effects on significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C (mana whenua) cannot be avoided, remedied or mitigated, the activity is inappropriate. Offsetting of effects in sites with significant mana whenua values is inappropriate.~~

P48: Protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes

Amend

Reason: consistent with RPS

Relief Sought: The values of outstanding natural features and landscapes (including seascapes) of the coastal marine area, beds of rivers, and beds of lakes and their margins and **natural wetlands** to be identified in accordance with M7, shall be protected from inappropriate use and development by:

- a) avoiding remedying or mitigating adverse effects of activities on the values of outstanding natural features and landscapes, and
- b) ~~avoiding significant adverse effects and avoiding, remedying or mitigating other adverse effects of activities on natural features and landscapes.~~

P49: Use and development adjacent to outstanding natural features and landscapes and special amenity landscapes

Oppose

Reason: inconsistent with RPS

Relief Sought: delete P49

~~Use and development in the coastal marine area on sites adjacent to an outstanding natural feature or landscape or special amenity landscape identified in a district plan shall be managed by:~~

- a) ~~protecting visual and biophysical linkages between the site and the outstanding natural feature or landscape, and~~
- b) ~~avoiding adverse cumulative effects on the values of an outstanding natural feature or landscape.~~

4.8 DISCHARGES TO LAND AND WATER

4.8.1 Land and Water

New Policy – Land and Water Management Framework

Add

Reason: consistent with WRC intent

Relief Sought: add new policy as follows or to similar effect:

WRC will work with territorial authorities and industry to address priorities identified in the pNRP and Whaitua Implementation Plans, including:

- a) prioritise catchments for coordinated community action
 - including indicative priorities in M8, M9 and M12
- b) prioritise key pressures and sources, including
 - supporting industry/landowner initiatives to reduce hill country erosion and sediment losses, particularly during high-flow events
 - supporting industry/landowner initiatives to reduce lowland nitrogen leaching losses to groundwater
 - supporting territorial authority initiatives to reduce phosphorous discharges to surface water, particularly during summer low-flows
- c) prioritise effective and cost-effective management interventions
 - informed by expanded research and monitoring, including through M2 and M10

4.7 AIR QUALITY

P55: Managing air amenity

Amend

Reason: include the FIDO framework (frequency, intensity, duration, offensiveness) for assessing offensive and objectionable emissions.

Relief Sought: include the FIDO framework (frequency, intensity, duration, offensiveness) for assessing offensive and objectionable emissions.

4.8.2A DISCHARGES TO WATER

Amend

Reason: re-title sub-sections for consistent structure across policies and rules

Relief Sought: re-title policies to more clearly distinguish discharges to water from discharges to land

P63: Improving water quality for contact recreation and Māori customary use

Support

Reason: good, prioritised, progressive approach.

Recommend this template be adopted in other policies.

We note the focus on wastewater and stormwater reflects that issues are mostly in recreational waters adjacent to urban areas (Wellington, Porirua).

Small amendment proposed for clarity.

Relief Sought: The water quality of water bodies identified as priorities for improvement for contact recreation and Māori customary use in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) shall be improved to meet, over time and as a minimum, the objectives in Table 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3, including by:

- a) improving water quality in all first priority water bodies for secondary contact with water in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) in accordance with Method M27, and
- b) Stormwater Management Strategies having particular regard to improving water quality in fresh water bodies and coastal water identified in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) that are adversely affected by discharges from stormwater networks, and
- c) having particular regard to improving water quality in fresh water bodies and coastal water identified in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) that are adversely affected by discharges from wastewater networks and wastewater treatment plants.

Note: Whaitua committees will identify methods and timeframes to improve water quality in indicative all first and second priority water bodies listed in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) within their whaitua. These may be incorporated into the Plan by a future plan change or variation.

Policy P65: ~~Minimising~~ Managing effects of nutrient discharges to land

Amend

Reason: shift to the discharge to land sub-section, before P95; and amend for wider application

Relief Sought: shift P65 to locate before P95, with amendments as below or to similar effect:

The effects of nutrient discharges to land from agricultural activities ~~that may enter water~~ shall be ~~minimised~~ prioritised to manage significant risks through the use of:

- A) good management practices, and catchment-scale infrastructure, eg, wetlands
- B) information gathering, monitoring, assessment and reporting, and

- C) integrated catchment management within the Wellington Regional Council and with the involvement of mana whenua, territorial authorities, water users, farmers, households, industry, environmental groups and technical experts, and
- D) regulatory and non-regulatory methods, and
- E) plan changes or variations resulting from catchment-specific recommendations from the whitua committee process.

P67: Minimising Managing effects of discharges to water

Amend

Reason: amend for clarity

Relief Sought: The adverse effects of discharges of contaminants to land ~~and~~ water will be ~~minimised~~ managed by:

- a) avoiding the production of the contaminant, and/or
- b) reusing, recovering or recycling the contaminant, and/or
- c) minimising the volume or amount of the discharge, and/or
- d) using land-based treatment, constructed wetlands or other systems to treat contaminants prior to discharge where appropriate, and
- e) irrespective of actions taken in accordance (a) to (d) above, where a discharge is a point source discharge to a river or stream, the discharge achieves the water quality standards in Policy P71 after reasonable mixing.

P68: Inappropriate discharges to water

Amend

Reason: amend for consistency

Relief Sought: Discharges to fresh and coastal water of:

- a) untreated wastewater, ~~except as a result of extreme weather-related overflows or wastewater system failures or from recreational boating activities, and~~
- b) untreated animal effluent from an animal effluent storage facility ~~or from an area where animals are confined, and~~
- c) untreated industrial or trade waste, and
- d) untreated organic waste or leachate from storage of organic material

shall be avoided except as a result of extreme weather-related overflows or system failures

Policy P69: Human drinking water supplies

Amend

Reason: amend for reasons consistent with recommendations on Schedule M

Relief Sought: The adverse effects from discharges to land and water on the quality of community drinking water supplies and group drinking water supplies shall be managed to avoided, remedy or mitigate to the extent practicable in accordance with the National Environmental Standards for Sources of Human Drinking Water 2007 and in consultation with the drinking water supply operator.

The quality of drinking water sourced from rivers or groundwater shall be maintained or improved by:

- a) Source control
 - bore or abstraction point security and restrictions in the immediate zone
- b) Catchment management
 - assessment and prioritisation of risks in the capture zone
 - Examination of reasons for elevated nitrate in Riversdale, Te Ore Ore, Taratahi, Tauherenikau, Martinborough, Te Horo and Otaki

~~Where adverse effects cannot be avoided, the adverse effects shall be managed having particular regard to:~~

- ~~A) water quality in relation to determinands, including aesthetic determinands, at the water supply abstraction point, and~~
- ~~B) the type and concentration of the contaminant(s) in the actual discharge, and~~
- ~~C) soil type, in the case of discharges to land, and~~
- ~~D) travel time and path of contaminants from source to water supply abstraction point, and~~
- ~~E) treatment, design and maintenance, and~~
- ~~F) the risk of accident or an unforeseen event causing significant adverse effects on water quality.~~

~~This shall be done in consultation with the drinking water supply operator and in accordance with the National Environmental Standards for Sources of Human Drinking Water 2007.~~

P70: Managing point source discharges for aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai

Contingent Support

Reason: support contingent on amendments to the tables and O25, iterative analysis of options and robust cost-benefit analysis prior to landing the objectives, as set out in the NPS-FW

Relief Sought: Where an objective in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 of Objective O25 is not met, point source discharges to water shall be managed in the following way:

- a) for an existing activity that contributes to the objective not being met, the discharge is only appropriate if:
 - i) the application for resource consent includes a defined programme of work for upgrading the activity, in accordance with good management practice or best practicable options, within the term of the resource consent, and

- ii) conditions on the resource consent require the reduction of adverse effects of the activity in order to improve water quality in relation to the objective ~~within the term of the consent~~, and
- b) for a new activity, the discharge is only appropriate if the activity would not cause the affected fresh water body or area of coastal water to become any worse in relation to the objective.

In assessing the appropriateness of a new or existing discharge, the ability to offset residual significant adverse effects may be considered.

P71: Quality of discharges

Amend

Reason: amendment for consistency

Relief Sought: The adverse effects of point source discharges to rivers shall be ~~minimised~~ managed by the use of measures that result in the discharge meeting the following water quality standards in the receiving water after the zone of reasonable mixing:

P76: Minimising wastewater and stormwater interactions

Support

Reason: provides for a prioritised, progressive approach for wastewater, as do policies P78, P80, P81

We support the distinction between existing and new infrastructure.

We make the point that a prioritised, progressive approach which distinguishes between existing and new infrastructure is relevant also for animal effluent.

Retain: The adverse effects of wastewater and stormwater interactions on fresh and coastal water shall be minimised by:

- A) avoiding wastewater contamination of stormwater from new wastewater networks or connections authorised after the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and
- B) reducing wastewater contamination of stormwater from the existing wastewater network, and
- C) progressively reducing stormwater and groundwater infiltration and inflow into the wastewater network so that untreated wastewater only overflows to water during heavy rainfall events.

4.8.8 DISCHARGES TO LAND

P65: Minimising Managing effects of nutrient discharges to land

Amend

Reason: Insert Policy 65 here and amend for wider application

Relief Sought: The effects of nutrient discharges to land from agricultural activities ~~that may enter water~~ shall be ~~minimised~~ prioritised to manage significant risks through the use of:

- F) good management practices, and catchment-scale infrastructure, eg, wetlands
- G) information gathering, monitoring, assessment and reporting, and
- H) integrated catchment management within the Wellington Regional Council and with the involvement of mana whenua, territorial authorities, water users, farmers, households, industry, environmental groups and technical experts, and
- I) regulatory and non-regulatory methods, and
- J) plan changes or variations resulting from catchment-specific recommendations from the whaitua committee process.

P95: Discharges to land

Oppose

Reason: P95 reads like a rule.

P65 as amended serves as a more appropriate policy direction.

Relief Sought: ~~delete P95: The discharge of contaminants to land shall be managed by:~~

- ~~1. ensuring the discharge does not result in more than minor adverse effects to soil health, and~~
- ~~2. avoiding discharges that would create contaminated land, and~~
- ~~3. not exceeding the natural capacity of the soil to treat, use or remove the contaminant, and~~
- ~~4. not exceeding the available capacity of the soil to absorb and infiltrate the discharge, and~~
- ~~5. minimising effects on public health and amenity, and~~
- ~~6. not resulting in a discharge that enters water.~~

P94: Discharge Application of collected animal effluent to land

Amend

Reason: shift P94 to locate in discharge to land section, rather than hydraulic fracturing section.

Distinguish between existing and new systems, consistent with progressive, prioritised approach proposed for human effluent.

Amend so it reads as a policy, rather than a rule.

Relief Sought: Any existing system to store, treat or dispose of collected animal effluent to return nutrients to the land shall be designed, constructed and maintained so that:

- ~~a) the collection, storage and distribution systems are sealed to avoid discharge of effluent outside the intended disposal area, and~~
- b) the discharge is to land, and:
 - ~~a. effluent is only discharged when the field capacity of the soil will not be exceeded, and~~
 - ~~b. effluent is discharged at a rate that can be absorbed and treated by the soil and plants without ponding or surface runoff and without directly discharging to groundwater or through tile drains, and~~
 - ~~c. sufficient storage is provided so that effluent can be stored when weather or soil conditions are unsuitable for irrigation, in order to meet the conditions (b)(i) and (b)(ii) above, and~~
 - d. discharges do not pond or flow to any surface water, and
 - e. discharges avoid adverse effects on **community drinking water supply protection areas** shown on Map 26, Map 27a, Map 27b and Map 27c.

Any new system to store, treat or dispose of collected animal effluent shall be designed so that sufficient storage is provided for deferred irrigation, except in extreme weather events.

4.8.9 LAND USE

P96: Managing land use

Support with amendments

Reason: consistent with WRC intent

Relief Sought:

Rural land use activities shall be managed through an expanded non-regulatory programme delivered in partnership with industry and prioritised to key catchments and key issues to support using good management practice.

Note: A limit, target and management or allocation framework will be established through the whitua committee process and incorporated into the Plan through a future plan change or variation.

P97: Managing sediment discharges

Amend

Reason: consistent with prioritising significant activities with significant effects

Relief Sought: The discharge of sediment to surface water bodies and coastal water from earthworks activities associated with major infrastructure and subdivision developments shall be ~~minimised~~ managed by using a source control approach.

Good management practices shall be used in site management, erosion and sediment control design operation and maintenance in order to minimise the adverse effects of sediment-laden stormwater discharges.

Effects that cannot be minimised may be appropriately offset.

P98: Accelerated soil erosion

Oppose

Reason: repetition of P97

Relief Sought: ~~delete P98: Earthworks, vegetation clearance and plantation forestry harvesting and activities that have the potential to result in significant accelerated soil erosion, or to lead to off-site discharges of silt and sediment to surface water bodies, shall use measures, including good management practice, to:~~

- ~~A) minimise the risk of accelerated soil erosion, and~~
- ~~B) control silt and sediment runoff, and~~
- ~~C) ensure the site is stabilised and vegetation cover is restored.~~

P99: Livestock access to surface water bodies

Amend

Reason: livestock drinking water needs to have priority alongside stock exclusion to support other values.

It is important to recognise that undercutting and bank erosion/sediment delivery processes may occur for several decades after stock exclusion.

It is important also to recognise the problematic legacy of crack willow in many of the region's rivers.

Relief Sought: Sedimentation, the direct discharge of contaminants and the disturbance to the banks and beds (including plants and habitats in, on or under the bed) of surface water bodies and the coastal marine area resulting from livestock access shall be managed to maintain reliable access to drinking water for livestock and to:

- a) ~~protect~~ maintain aquatic habitat and water quality, and
- b) protect the significant values of Category 1 surface water bodies.

Where livestock are not excluded from the bed (including the banks) of surface water bodies, the adverse effects of access are avoided, remedied or mitigated by methods, such as, but not limited to:

- c) ~~restricting the types of livestock, and~~
- d) ~~restricting the numbers of animals, and~~
- e) ~~limiting~~ managing the density, frequency and duration of access, and
- f) providing sufficient alternative sources of drinking water, shade and grazing outside of the banks and beds.

P100: Riparian margins for cultivation and break-feeding

Amend

Reason: research into the effectiveness of riparian setbacks is at best patchy and ambivalent.

Sediment/nutrient losses to water from cultivation and breakfeeding are likely to be a minor source at catchment or regional scale: a less prescriptive approach is appropriate to enable context-specific management.

Relief Sought: The overland flow of contaminants to surface water bodies from the use of land for cultivation and break-feeding shall be ~~minimised~~ managed through the use of ~~riparian set-backs~~ and good management practices.

4.8.12 ACTIVITIES IN BEDS OF LAKES AND RIVERS

P105: Protecting trout habitat

Amend

Reason: RMA terminology should be used for all or none, but not just some.

Water quality, flow and habitat parameters are already addressed for indigenous fish and should provide adequate conditions for trout, particularly in the context that the regional trout fishery is apparently in good shape.

It may be appropriate to restrict fish passage for trout, where they are compromising indigenous fish populations.

It may be appropriate to signal here an intent to encourage partnerships between fishermen and landowners around riparian management and access in important fishing areas.

Relief Sought: Particular regard shall be given to the maintenance protection of trout habitat in rivers with important trout habitat identified in Schedule I (trout habitat). The effects of use and development in ~~and around~~ these rivers shall be managed to:

- a) ~~maintain or improve water quality in accordance with the objectives in Table 3.4 and Table 3.5 of Objective O25, and~~
- b) ~~minimise changes in flow regimes that would otherwise prevent trout from completing their life cycle, and~~
- e) ~~maintain the amount of pool, run and riffle habitat, and~~
- d) maintain fish passage for trout, where appropriate and
- e) ~~minimise~~ manage adverse effects on the beds of trout spawning waters identified in Schedule I (trout habitat) during spawning periods (31 May-31 August)

4.9 TAKING, USING, DAMMING AND DIVERTING WATER

P107: Framework for taking and using water

Amend

Reason: consistent with intent that the pNRP provides a “holding pattern”, pending more detailed whitua review of minimum flows and water allocation supported by catchment-specific evidence and cost-benefit analysis.

Relief Sought: The framework for the take and use of water recognises:

- a) expanded low flow monitoring and validation/calibration of the models for groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and are required to support whitua review of minimum flow and allocation regimes
- b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the current operative RFP Plan, and
- c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the current operative RFP Plan provisions.

P111: Water takes at minimum flows and water levels

Amend

Reason: as for P107

Relief Sought: The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the ~~whitua chapters (chapters 7-11)~~, current operative RFP with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:

- a) for firefighting, an individual's reasonable domestic needs and the reasonable needs of an individual's animals for drinking water as provided for by section 14(3)(b) and 14(3)(e) of the Resource Management Act 1991, or
- b) for the take and use of water permitted by rules in the Plan, or
- c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.

P112: Priorities in drought and serious water shortage

Amend

Reason: as for P107

Relief Sought: In times of drought and serious water shortage when flows or water levels fall below the minimum flows or water levels in the ~~whitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7-11)~~, current operative RFP, water takes shall be limited to that required for firefighting, human health, animal drinking water and rootstock protection.

P113: Core allocation for rivers

Amend

Reason: as for P107

Relief Sought: The maximum allocation amounts for rivers (and their tributaries) and directly connected groundwater ~~not listed in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10):~~

- (a) ~~for rivers with mean flows of greater than 5m³/sec, 50% of the mean annual low flow, or~~ is the current operative RFP allocations, or
 - (b) ~~for rivers with mean flows of less than or equal to 5m³/sec, 30% of the mean annual low flow.~~ consented allocation at the date of notification of the pNRP
- whichever is greater

P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow

Amend

Reason: for economy of policies

Relief Sought: In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow, including the taking of water for storage outside a river bed, provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.

P120: Taking water for storage

Delete

Reason: for economy of policies

Relief Sought: ~~The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.~~

P128: Transfer of resource consents

Amend

Reason: conditions a) creates bureaucratic hurdles, against the intent to facilitate water sharing and temporary transfers across catchment users.

Permanent transfers would suggest the water is not needed and should be relinquished under the reasonable and efficient use tests.

Relief Sought: The temporary ~~or permanent~~ transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:

- ~~a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and~~
- b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and
- c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and
- d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and
- e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, ~~including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).~~

5 RULES

Default Rules

Amend

Reason: WRC propose many rules are structured as permitted activities.

We support this.

Having said that, many default straight to discretionary.

We strongly oppose this.

It is significantly at odds with the WRC intent to make policy in the plan, not in the rules.

The practical effect may be to create an “open chequebook” industry for consents staff and consultants.

We seek a planning environment which supports business certainty, not the reverse.

Relief Sought: any and all default rules for rural activities currently classified discretionary, be amended to controlled or restricted discretionary status, with matters for control or discretion restricted to conditions breached and clearly specified.

5.1 AIR QUALITY

R36: Agrichemicals

Amend

Reason: amend notification requirements for practical application, and to prioritise spraying which is adjacent to sensitive neighbours, ie, as opposed to in the middle of the farm.

Relief Sought: The discharge of agrichemicals into air or onto or into land where it may enter water is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

For all applications excluding residential areas and hand-held/knapsack applications:

- a) the discharge shall not cause noxious, dangerous, offensive or objectionable odour, dust, particulate, smoke, vapours, droplets or ash beyond the boundary of the property, and
- b) the discharge shall be in accordance with the rate specified on the agrichemical product label or the manufacturer's instructions, and
- c) the agrichemical is in accordance with the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996, and
- d) there is no aerial spraying in residential areas, and
- e) there is no discharge into water ~~or within a community drinking water supply protection area, and~~
- f) the discharge shall be in accordance with NZS 8409:2004 Management of Agrichemicals, including:
 - a. Storage – Appendix L4, and
 - b. Use – Part 5.3, and
 - c. Disposal – Appendix S, and
 - d. Records – Appendix C9, and
- g) ~~the applicator, manager or owner of the property shall prepare a spray plan at least once per annum, and:~~
 - a. identify sensitive areas adjacent to where discharges of agrichemical shall occur in accordance with NZS 8409:2004 Management of Agrichemicals: Section 5.3 and Appendix M4, and
 - b. notify adjacent neighbours identified as sensitive that a spray plan is available on request at start of a spray season, and follow up with advice closer to planned spraying activities if requested
 - ~~c. gain written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required, and~~
 - ~~d. supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to the discharge of agrichemicals to the owner/occupier of a property identified as a sensitive area or likely to be directly affected by the discharge, or requests a copy, and~~
- h) for ground-based applications by a commercial applicator the principle applicator shall:
 - a. hold a current GROWSAFE® Registered Chemical Applicators Certificate, or
 - b. hold a current GROWSAFE® Introductory Certificate and be supervised by a person holding a current GROWSAFE® Registered Chemical Applicators Certificate, and
- i) for ground-based applications where the applicator is not a commercial applicator the applicator shall:
 - a. hold a GROWSAFE® Introductory Certificate, or Approved Handler
 - b. be supervised by a person holding a current GROWSAFE® Advanced Certificate, and
- j) for aerial applications the applicator shall:
 - a. hold a Pilots' Agrichemical Rating Certificate issued by the Civil Aviation Authority under Civil Aviation Rule 61, and
 - b. the company or operator holds a suitable accreditation for agrichemical application, and
- k) all agrichemicals shall be securely contained and stored in accordance with NZS 8409:2004: Management of Agrichemicals: Appendix L4, and

- l) all mixing and application of agrichemicals shall be conducted in accordance with NZS 8409:2004 Management of Agrichemicals: Appendix F, and
- m) records are kept in accordance with NZS 8409:2004: Management of Agrichemicals: Appendix C9 and shall be available to the Wellington Regional Council upon request, and
- n) in public amenity areas the applicator shall:
 - a. place signs in the immediate vicinity before spraying begins, and remain in place until the withholding or re-entry period, as specified on the product label, has expired, and
 - b. alongside roadways, vehicles associated with spraying agrichemicals shall display prominent signs (front and back) advising that spraying is in progress, and
- o) for aerial discharges adjacent to a sensitive area a risk assessment prior to the discharge shall be undertaken in accordance with NZS 8409:2004: Management of Agrichemicals.

R36: Agrichemicals into water

Amend

Reason: amend notification requirements for practical application

Relief Sought: amend condition e): each resource consent holder for taking water from a community drinking water supply protection area within 1km downstream of the discharge one week before.

5.2 DISCHARGES TO WATER

R42: Minor discharges to water

Amend

Reason: clarify discharges to water; and amend conditions, proportional to minor discharges

Quantify condition e) iv for clarity.

Relief Sought: The discharge of contaminants into water, ~~or onto or into land where it may enter water~~ that is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretion, non-complying or prohibited by any other rule in this Plan is a permitted activity provided the following conditions are met:

- a) ~~where the discharge may enter groundwater, the discharge is not located within 50m of a bore used for water abstraction for potable supply or stock water, and~~
- b) ~~where the discharge enters a surface water body or coastal water, the concentration of total suspended solids in the discharge shall not exceed:~~
 - i) ~~50g/m³ where the discharge enters a site or habitat identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies), Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes), Schedule F3 (significant wetlands), or Schedule F4 (coastal sites), except when the background total suspended solids concentration in the receiving water is greater than 50g/m³ in which case the decrease in water clarity after the zone of reasonable mixing shall not exceed 20%, or~~
 - ii) ~~100g/m³ where the discharge enters any other water, except when the background total suspended solids concentration in the receiving water is greater than 100g/m³ in which case the decrease in water clarity after the zone of reasonable mixing shall not exceed 33%, and~~
- c) if the discharge is from dewatering, the discharge is not from contaminated land, and
- d) the discharge shall not cause any erosion of the channel or banks of the receiving water body or the coastal marine area, and
- e) the discharge shall not give rise to the following effects after the zone of reasonable mixing:
 - i) a change in the pH of ± 0.5 pH unit, or
 - ii) the production of conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams, or floatable or suspended materials, or
 - ii) any conspicuous change in the colour or visual clarity, or
 - iii) any emission of objectionable odour, or
 - iv) the fresh water is unsuitable for consumption by farm animals, (e. coli > 1000/mg/L) or
 - v) any significant adverse effects on aquatic life.

R48: Stormwater from an individual property

Amend

Reason: amend proportionate to effects and for practical application.

Shift to discharge to water section to avoid confusion with R49, or alternatively delete.

Relief Sought: The discharge of stormwater into water, or onto or into land where it may enter a surface water body or coastal water, from an individual property is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- ~~(a) the discharge is not into a site identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies), and~~
- (b) the discharge is not from, onto or into contaminated land, and
- (c) the discharge is not from a local authority stormwater network, a port, airport or state highway, and
- (d) the discharge shall not contain wastewater, and
- ~~(e) the concentration of total suspended solids in the discharge shall not exceed:~~
 - ~~(i) 50g/m³ where the discharge enters a site or habitat identified in Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes), Schedule F3 (significant wetlands), or Schedule F4 (coastal sites), except when the background total suspended solids in the receiving water is greater than 50g/m³, in which case the decrease in water clarity after the zone of reasonable mixing shall not exceed 20%, or~~
 - ~~ii) 100g/m³ where the discharge enters any other fresh or coastal water, except when the background total suspended solids in the receiving water is greater than 100g/m³ in which case the decrease in water clarity after the zone of reasonable mixing shall not exceed 33%, and~~
- (f) the discharge shall not cause any erosion of the channel or banks of the receiving water body or the coastal marine area, and
- (g) the discharge shall not give rise to the following effects beyond the zone of reasonable mixing:
 - i. the production of any conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams, or floatable or suspended materials, or
 - ii. any conspicuous change in the colour or visual clarity, or
 - iii. any emission of objectionable odour, or
 - iv. the fresh water is unsuitable for consumption by farm animals, or
 - v. any significant adverse effects on aquatic life.

R49: Stormwater to land

Support

Reason: proportional to effects.

Retain: The discharge of stormwater onto or into land, including where contaminants may enter groundwater, from an individual property is a permitted activity provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) the discharge is not from, onto or into contaminated land, and
- (b) the discharge shall not cause or exacerbate the flooding of any other property.

R59: Existing pumped drainage schemes

Support

Reason: proportional to effects, and recognises existing infrastructure.

Retain: The discharge of water or contaminants into a surface water body, or coastal water from an existing pumped drainage scheme, established before the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), is a permitted activity provided the following conditions are met:

- a. erosion occurring as a result of the discharge shall be remedied, and
- b. the discharge shall not give rise the following effects after the zone of reasonable mixing:
 - i. the production of conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams, or floatable or suspended materials, or
 - ii. any conspicuous change in the colour or visual clarity, or
 - iii. any emission of objectionable odour, or
 - iv. fresh water is unsuitable for consumption by farm animals, or
 - v. any significant adverse effects on aquatic life.

5.3 DISCHARGES TO LAND

R70: Cleanfill material

Amend

Reason: amend conditions, proportionate with effects.

Suggest external documents should not be referenced in a rule.

Relief Sought: The discharge of cleanfill material onto or into land is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) the cleanfill material is not located within ~~20m~~ 5m of a surface water body, or bore used for water abstraction for potable supply, and
- (b) the cleanfill material is located to avoid being undermined or eroded by natural processes or being inundated from coastal or river flooding, and
- c) the cleanfill material shall be 0.6m above the seasonally highest water table, and
- ~~d) the cleanfill material shall be managed (siting, design and operation) in accordance with Sections 5-8 in *A Guide to the Management of Cleanfills (2002)*, and~~
- ~~e) the volume of cleanfill material deposited at a property shall not exceed 100m³, and~~
- ~~f) the volume and origin of the cleanfill material and the date the material has been deposited on this property, is recorded using GPS or mapped to an accuracy of at least 50m at a scale of 1:50,000; and a copy of this information is made available to the Wellington Regional Council upon request, and~~
- ~~g) the cleanfill material shall be stabilised and re-vegetated within six months of completion of the activity.~~

R71: Pit latrine

R72: Composting toilets

Amend

Reason: amend setback conditions proportional to effects and for consistency with other rules.

Relief Sought: amend conditions: not located within ~~50m~~ 20m of a surface water body, coastal marine area, gully or bore used for potable supply

R74: Existing on-site wastewater systems

Amend

Reason: amend condition d) consistent with R75

Relief Sought: the volume of domestic wastewater to be discharged from any one system shall not exceed ~~4,300L/day~~ 2000L/day (calculated as a weekly average)

R75: New or upgraded on-site wastewater systems

Amend

Reason: delete condition e) iv, for reasons set out in Schedule M.

Delete – or clarify reason for - setbacks from gullies.

Relief Sought: The discharge of domestic wastewater onto or into land and the associated discharge of odour from a new or upgraded on-site domestic wastewater treatment and discharge system is a permitted activity provided (*inter alia*) the discharge is not located within:

- i. 20m of a surface water body, coastal marine area, gully or bore used for water abstraction for potable supply, or
- ii. 20m of the boundary of the property unless the land application system consists of a pressure compensating drip irrigation system where the boundary set-back is 5m, or
- iii. 0.1m of the soil surface unless it is covered permanently with a minimum of 0.1m of mulch or similar cover material, or
- iv. ~~a community drinking water supply protection area as shown on Map 26, Map 27a, Map 27b or Map 27c, and~~

R76: New or upgraded on-site wastewater systems within community drinking water supply protection areas

Oppose

Reason: delete for reasons set out in Schedule M.

Relief Sought ~~delete R76: The discharge of domestic wastewater onto or into land and the associated discharge of odour from a new or upgraded on-site domestic wastewater treatment and discharge system within a community drinking water supply protection area that is not permitted by Rule R75 is a controlled activity~~

5.3.6 FERTILISER AND ANIMAL EFFLUENT

R82: Application of fertiliser from ground-based or aerial applications

Amend

Reason: amend condition a) for practicality.

Relief Sought: The discharge of fertiliser onto or into land or into air is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- a) the discharge is not directly onto or into a surface water body or beyond the boundary of the property ~~including as a result of wind drift~~, and

R83: ~~Discharge~~ Application of collected animal effluent onto or into land from existing premises

Amend

Reason: Amend title consistent with R82 and R85.

Distinguish between existing and new systems, consistent with the approach for urban wastewater infrastructure.

Requirements for “best practice” entailing major capital expenditure – routinely in the range \$100,000 to \$400,000 for farm storage ponds – may be applied to new premises, but should not be applied to existing premises without benefit of rigorous cost-benefit analysis. The key issue is whether expenditures of this magnitude deliver “bang for buck” for the environment.

Amend activity status and conditions for clarity and proportionate with effects.

Relief Sought: The ~~discharge~~ application of collected animal effluent, including sludge, onto or into land and the associated discharge of odour from:

- a. existing dairy farms,
- b. existing piggeries,
- c. existing poultry farms,
- d. other existing premises involving the ~~concentration of animals in a confined area~~ collection and storage of animal effluent for land application

is a ~~controlled~~ permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- e. the discharge is not located within:
 - i. 20m of a surface water body, the coastal marine area, or bore used for water abstraction for potable supply, or
 - ii. ~~20m~~ 5m of the boundary of the property, except by agreement with the adjoining neighbour or
 - iii. ~~a community drinking water supply protection area as shown on Map 26, Map 27a, Map 27b or Map 27c~~, and
- f. the discharge shall not ~~pond on the surface of the ground~~ result in significant ponding (areas of ponded effluent >10m² for >12 hours) or runoff from the discharge area into a surface water body, and cause a conspicuous change in colour or visual clarity beyond the zone of reasonable mixing

- g. the animal effluent collection, storage and treatment facilities (including, sumps and ponds) are sealed. ~~The permeability of the sealing layer shall not exceed 1×10^{-9} m/s, and~~
- h. ~~the capacity of the animal effluent storage and treatment facilities (including sumps and ponds) shall be sufficient to provide for deferred irrigation when the field capacity of the soil is exceeded, and~~
- i. the discharge of odour is not offensive or objectionable beyond the boundary of the property.

NEW RULE: Application of collected animal effluent onto or into land from new premises

Add

Reason: as for R83

Relief Sought: The application of collected animal effluent, including sludge, onto or into land and the associated discharge of odour from new premises collecting animal effluent for land application is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- a. the application is not located within:
 - i. 20m of a surface water body, the coastal marine area, or bore used for water abstraction for potable supply, or
 - ii. 5m of the boundary of the property, except by agreement with the adjoining neighbour,
- b. the application shall not result in significant ponding (areas of ponded effluent >10m² for >12 hours) or runoff into a surface water body, and cause a conspicuous change in colour or visual clarity beyond the zone of reasonable mixing
- c. the animal effluent collection, storage and treatment facilities (including, sumps and ponds) are sealed. The permeability of the sealing layer shall not exceed 1×10^{-9} m/s,
- d. the capacity of the animal effluent storage and treatment facilities (including sumps and ponds) shall be sufficient to provide for deferred irrigation when the field capacity of the soil is exceeded
- e. the discharge of odour is not offensive or objectionable beyond the boundary of the property.

Matters of control

1. Effluent application rates and volume, including in relation to the infiltration rate and water storage capacity of the soil
2. Nutrient loading rates
3. Design, volume, construction and maintenance of the collection, storage and discharge system
4. Effluent storage volume to allow for the deferred irrigation during periods of prolonged wet weather
5. Procedures for desludging the system and applying sludge to land
6. Odour mitigation methods
7. Contingency plans for prolonged wet weather, mechanical failure or other emergencies

R84: Discharge of collected animal effluent to water

Amend

Reason: shift this rule to locate in the discharge to water section.

Amend consistent with P68 and P76.

Relief Sought: The discharge of collected animal effluent into water is a non-complying activity except in extreme weather events.

R85: Application of compost to land

Amend

Reason: the conditions are inappropriate to the nature and use of the product.

Relief Sought: The ~~discharge~~ application of compost onto or into land, and the associated discharge of odour, is a permitted activity provided the following conditions are met:

- a. the discharge is not located within 5m of a surface water body, coastal marine area, or bore used for water abstraction for potable supply, and
- b. the discharge shall not ~~pond on the surface of the ground or run off from the discharge area into a surface water body,~~ and cause a conspicuous change in colour or visual clarity beyond the zone of reasonable mixing
- c. ~~nitrogen loading on the discharge area from all sources to is less than 150kg N/ha/year,~~
and
- d. the discharge of odour is not offensive or objectionable beyond the boundary of the property.

5.3.8 REFUSE, SILAGE AND COMPOST

R89: Farm refuse dumps

Amend

Reason: amend conditions for practical application and proportionate with effects

Relief Sought: The discharge of contaminants onto or into land, and the associated discharge of odour, from a new farm refuse dump is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- a. the contents of the farm refuse dump is from the property or under the same ownership where the farm dump is located, and
- b. the volume of a farm refuse dump shall not exceed ~~50m³~~ 100m³, excluding vegetation and clippings and
- c. the farm refuse dump is located:
 - i. on a property that is over 20ha, or
 - ii. ~~in silty or clay soils, or~~
 - iii. ~~where no kerbside community collection is available or the property is located more than 20km by road from a transfer station, and~~
- d. the farm refuse dump is not located within:
 - (i) an area prone to flooding or ponding, ~~or~~
 - (ii) ~~50m of a surface water body, coastal marine area, gully, bore used for water abstraction for potable supply, or boundary of the property, or~~
 - (iii) ~~a community drinking water supply protection area as shown on Map 26, Map 27a, Map 27b, or Map 27c, and~~
- e. the base of the farm refuse dump is 0.6m above the seasonally highest water table, and
- f. the discharge does not contain:
 - i. hazardous substances, or
 - ii. ~~wastewater, offal or dead animal matter, and~~
- ~~g. there is no burning of the contents of a farm refuse dump, and~~
- ~~h. the size and location is recorded, using GPS or mapped to an accuracy of at least 50m at a scale of 1:50,000; and a copy of this information made available to the Wellington Regional Council upon request, and~~
- ~~i. the farm refuse dump is re-contoured and re-vegetated to a condition that is compatible with the surrounding land within six months of completion, and~~
- j. the discharge of odour is not offensive or objectionable beyond the boundary of the property.

R90: Manufacture and storage of silage and compost

Amend

Reason: amend conditions for practical application and proportionate with effects

Relief Sought: The discharge of contaminants onto or into land, and the associated discharge of odour, from the manufacture and storage of silage or compost is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- a. the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within ~~20m~~ 5m of a surface water body, coastal marine area, or bore used for water abstraction for potable supply, and
- b. the discharge does not contain:
 - i. hazardous substances, ~~or~~
 - ii. ~~wastewater, offal or dead animal matter, and~~
- c. stormwater is prevented from entering into the manufacture or storage area, and
- d. ~~the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to a surface water body, and~~
- e. the discharge of odour is not offensive or objectionable beyond the boundary of the property.

R91: Offal pit

Amend

Reason: amend conditions for practical application and proportionate with effects

Relief Sought: The discharge of contaminants onto or into land, and the associated discharge of odour, from a new offal pit is a permitted activity, provided that the following conditions are met:

- a. the offal pit shall only contain dead animal matter from the property or under the same ownership where the offal pit is located, and
- b. the offal pit shall not be located within:
 - i. ~~50m~~ 20m of a surface water body, coastal marine area, gully, or bore used for water abstraction for potable supply, and
 - ii. an area prone to flooding or ponding, and
- c. ~~the offal pit shall be located in silty or clay soils, and~~
- d. the bottom of the offal pit is 0.6m above the seasonally highest water table, and
- f. stormwater is prevented from entering the offal pit, and
- g. ~~the location is recorded, by GPS or mapped to an accuracy of at least 50m at a scale of 1:50,000; and a copy of this information is made available to the Wellington Regional Council upon request, and~~
- h. ~~the offal pit is re-contoured and re-vegetated to a condition that is compatible with the surrounding land within six months of completion.~~
- i. the discharge of odour is not offensive or objectionable beyond the boundary of the property.

R92: All discharges to land within community drinking water supply protection areas

Oppose

Reason: for reasons set out on Schedule M.

Relief Sought: delete R92 : ~~The discharge of a contaminant onto or into land that occurs within a community drinking water supply protection area, and is not permitted under Rules R71, R75, R77, R78 or R89 is a restricted discretionary activity provided the following conditions are met:~~

5.4 LAND USE

R R94: Cultivation or tilling of land

Amend

Reason: amend conditions for practical application and proportionate with effects

Relief Sought: The use of land for cultivation is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- ~~a. cultivation shall not occur within 5m of a surface water body, and~~
- a. cultivation is undertaken along the contour of the land, where reasonably practicable, and
- b. ~~sediment-laden surface water resulting from cultivation does not flow~~ any run-off to a surface water body does not cause conspicuous change in colour or clarity beyond the zone of reasonable mixing

R95: Break-feeding

Amend

Reason: amend conditions for practical application and proportionate with effects

Relief Sought: The use of land for break-feeding is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- ~~a. break-feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface water body, and~~
- b. ~~sediment-laden surface water resulting from cultivation does not flow~~ any run-off to a surface water body does not cause conspicuous change in colour or clarity beyond the zone of reasonable mixing

R97: Access to the beds of surface water bodies by livestock

Amend

Reason: we support the intent to provide a proportional and effects-based framework.

We support the note, clarifying that stock exclusion does not assume fencing is required; and clarifying that fencing may be temporary or permanent.

We recommend amendments to provide for the importance of reliable stock access to drinking water, recognising that some areas do not have reliable alternatives; and recognising the inevitability of floods and other events compromising fences or water supplies.

Our support for livestock exclusion from Category One and Two waterbodies is contingent on relief sought in the definitions, Schedule C and Schedule I.

We seek extended timeframes for implementation, recognising the very significant costs involved; and recognising the practical challenges in some areas, eg, crack willow.

We oppose the condition requiring exclusion of dairy cows in hill country areas.

We welcome WRC intent to support riparian works in Category One waterbodies, and other priority catchments.

Relief Sought:

The use of land for access by livestock to the bed, including banks, and the disturbance of the bed and banks and the discharge of associated sediment and excreta to a surface water body is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met, except in the case of floods, power or water supply breakdowns or other emergencies:

- a. the access does not result in significant pugging of the bed (including the banks) of a lake or river other than at a stock crossing point or drinking point, and
- ~~b. the access does not cause a conspicuous change in colour or visual clarity within a site with significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C (mana whenua), and~~
- c. the access does not cause a conspicuous change in colour or visual clarity beyond the zone of reasonable mixing ~~in all other locations, and~~
- d. from seven years after the date of ~~public notification~~ of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), being made operative, access by cattle (including dairy cows), farmed deer and farmed pigs within Category 2 surface water bodies, ~~and dairy cows within rivers that have an active bed width of 4m or wider~~ can occur where:
 - i. there is no flowing or ponded water within the bed at the time and location of the access, and
 - ii. other than at a stock crossing point or drinking point the access does not result in significant pugging of the bed (including the banks) of a lake or river, ~~or~~
 - ~~iii. there is flowing or ponded water within the bed, and the access is only for the purpose of crossing at a stock crossing point, and or~~
 - ~~iv. the stock crossing point is associated with a maintained access track, and~~
 - ~~v. the access for the purpose of crossing at a stock crossing point occurs no more than twice in any month, and~~
 - ~~vi. the livestock are actively crossing,~~
 - vii. there is no reasonably practicable alternate water source
- e. from three years after the date of ~~public notification~~ of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), being made operative:
 - ~~i. within a significant natural wetland listed in Schedule F3 (significant wetlands) livestock access is limited to sheep, and~~
 - ii. ~~with the exception of (vii) above,~~ there is no livestock access within Category 1 surface water bodies.

Note: Fencing is one method of managing livestock access and fencing can be either permanent or temporary as long as it achieves the conditions of the rule.

R98: Livestock access to the beds of surface water bodies

Amend

Reason: we have already made recommendations that default rules should provide for controlled or restricted discretionary status for all rural activities.

For clarity, we recommend that R98 be controlled activity status.

Relief Sought: The use of land for access by any livestock to the bed (including the banks), and the disturbance of the bed and discharge of sediment and excreta to a surface water body that is not permitted by Rule R97, is a discretionary controlled activity.

Matters for control are restricted to the conditions breached in R97.

5.4.4 EARTHWORKS AND VEGETATION CLEARANCE

R99: Earthworks

Contingent support

Reason: support contingent on changes to definitions

Retain subject to changes to definitions: The use of land, and the discharge of stormwater into water or onto or into land where it may enter water from earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3,000m² per property per 12 month period is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- a. soil or debris from earthworks is not placed where it can enter a surface water body or the coastal marine area, and
- b. earthworks will not create or contribute to instability or subsidence of a slope or another land surface at or beyond the boundary of the property where the earthworks occurs, and
- c. work areas are stabilised within six months after the completion of the earthworks
- d. any earthworks shall not, after the zone of reasonable mixing, result in any of the following effects in receiving waters:

R100: Vegetation clearance on erosion prone land

Contingent support

Reason: support contingent on changes to definitions

Retain subject to changes in definitions: The use of land, and the discharge of stormwater into water or onto or into land where it may enter water from vegetation clearance of a contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 month period on erosion prone land is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- a. any soil or debris from the vegetation clearance is not placed where it can enter a surface water body or the coastal marine area, and
- b. any soil disturbances associated with the vegetation clearance shall not after the zone of reasonable mixing, result in any of the following effects in receiving waters:

5.5 WETLANDS AND BEDS OF LAKES AND RIVERS

Wetlands general conditions

Amend

Reason: amend for practical application, proportionate to effects, and consistent with intent to encourage enhancement or restoration of wetland values.

We separately make recommendations for deleting outstanding waterbodies.

Relief Sought: Wetland general conditions for activities in natural wetlands, significant natural wetlands and outstanding natural wetlands are that:

- I) there shall be no discharge of contaminants (including but not limited to oil, petrol, diesel, paint, or solvent) to water or the bed, other than sediment and other materials inherent to the water or bed, but excluding any discharge of heavy metals or other toxicants, and
- J) no cleaning or refuelling of machinery or equipment shall take place on any area of a natural wetland, and fuel storage shall not occur at any location where fuel can enter a water body, and
- ~~K) all machinery, equipment and materials used for the activity shall be removed from the natural wetland every night and on completion of the activity. This includes any excess material from the construction operation, any materials used during construction of any structure but not part of that structure, and any material removed or demolished from any structure, and~~
- ~~L) structures are designed, installed and maintained, and activities are carried out in a manner to ensure that fish passage is maintained at all times, and~~
- M) in any part of the natural wetland inanga spawning habitat identified in Schedule F4 (coastal sites) and Schedule F5 (coastal habitats), no bed disturbance, diversions of water or sediment discharge shall occur between 1 March and 31 May, and
- N) the diversion of water shall not be for longer than the time required to undertake the activity, and any diversion of water required to undertake the activity must be for fewer than 14 consecutive days, and must occur prior to the disturbance of the bed of the natural wetland, and
- O) the vegetation and the bed of the natural wetland shall not be disturbed to a depth or an extent greater than that required to undertake the activity.

R104: Structures in natural wetlands and significant natural wetlands

Amend

Reason: amend for practical application, proportionate to effects, and consistent with intent to encourage enhancement or restoration of wetland values.

Relief Sought: The maintenance, repair, addition, alteration, or replacement (like for like) of an existing structure, and the placement of a new structure of an area less than 10m² for the purpose of hunting and recreation (including maimai and jetties), and the removal of an existing structure in a natural wetland or significant natural wetland, including any associated:

- (a) disturbance of a river or lake bed, or foreshore or seabed that forms part of a natural wetland, and
- (b) deposition in, on, or under a river or lake bed, or foreshore or seabed that forms part of a natural wetland, and

- (c) damage to a part of the foreshore or seabed that forms part of a natural wetland, and
- (d) diversion of water, and
- (e) discharge of sediment to water

is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- ~~(f) only hand-held machinery is used in any area of the natural wetland, and~~
- (g) the activity shall comply with the wetland general conditions for activities in natural wetlands, significant natural wetlands and ~~outstanding natural wetlands~~ specified above in Section 5.5.2.

R105: Planting and pest plant control in natural wetlands, significant natural wetlands and outstanding natural wetlands

Amend

Reason: as above

Relief Sought: The deliberate introduction or planting of a plant, and the removal or control of pest plants in the bed of a natural wetland, significant natural wetland, ~~or outstanding natural wetland~~ including any associated:

- (a) disturbance of a river or lake bed, or foreshore or seabed, that forms part of a natural wetland, and
- (b) deposition in, on, or under a river or lake bed, or foreshore or seabed, that forms part of a natural wetland, and
- (c) damage to part of the foreshore or seabed that forms part of a natural wetland, and
- (d) diversion of water, and
- (e) discharge of sediment to water

is a permitted activity provided the following conditions are met:

- (f) only appropriate indigenous wetland species are deliberately introduced or planted in significant wetlands and
- (g) only appropriate pest plant species are deliberately removed or controlled, and
- (h) only agrichemicals approved by the Environmental Protection Authority are used, and
- (i) agrichemicals are not applied by aerial spraying, and
- (j) only hand-held machinery is used in any area of the significant wetlands, and
- (k) the activity shall comply with the wetland general conditions for activities in natural wetlands, significant natural wetlands and outstanding natural wetlands specified above in Section 5.5.2.

R106: Restoration of natural wetlands, significant natural wetlands and outstanding natural wetlands

Oppose

Reason: inconsistency with RPS. Restoration activities should be undertaken within a non-regulatory partnership framework.

Relief Sought: delete R106: ~~Activities for the purpose of restoring the indigenous biodiversity of a natural wetland, significant natural wetland or outstanding natural wetland identified in Schedule F3 (outstanding wetlands), that are not permitted by rules R104 and R105, are controlled activities provided the following condition is met:~~

- ~~(a) the activities are stipulated in and carried out in accordance with an approved restoration management plan.~~

R107: Activities in natural wetlands and significant natural wetlands – discretionary activity

Amend

Reason: WRC has a very good track record developing wetland plans with landowners, and this work should continue under M20.

Relief Sought: The following activities in a natural wetland or significant natural wetland except for those stipulated in agreed and carried out in accordance with a restoration management plan under Rule R106 Method M20...are restricted discretionary activities.

R108: Activities in natural wetlands and significant natural wetlands

Amend

Reason: our mutual intent should be to encourage activities to enhance or restore wetland values.

Relief Sought: The following activities, in a ~~natural wetland~~ or significant natural wetland except for those stipulated agreed in and carried out in accordance with a restoration management plan under Rule R106 Method M20:

- (a) take, use, damming or diverting water into, within, or from the natural wetland,
- (b) land disturbance including excavation and deposition,
- (c) reclamation (including drainage or diverting of water to an extent that the area affected ceases to have the characteristics of a natural wetland),

are ~~non-complying~~ restricted discretionary activities.

R109: Activities in outstanding natural wetlands

Amend

Reason: recommendations made separately to delete outstanding wetlands

Relief Sought delete R109: ~~The following activities in an outstanding natural wetland identified in Schedule A3 (outstanding wetlands), except those stipulated in and carried out in accordance with a restoration management plan under Rule R106...are discretionary activities.~~

R110: Activities in outstanding natural wetlands

Oppose

Reason: recommendations made separately to delete outstanding wetlands

Relief Sought: delete R110: ~~The following activities, in an outstanding natural wetland identified in Schedule A3 (outstanding wetlands), except for those stipulated in and carried out in accordance with a restoration management plan under Rule R106...are non-complying activities.~~

R111: Reclamation of outstanding natural wetlands

Amend

Reason: recommendations made separately to delete outstanding wetlands.

Relief Sought: delete R111: ~~Reclamation (including drainage or diverting of water to an extent that the area affected ceases to have the characteristics of a wetland) of all or part of an outstanding natural wetland identified in Schedule A3 (outstanding wetlands) except stipulated in and carried out in accordance with a restoration management plan under Rule R106 is a prohibited activity.~~

5.5.4 ACTIVITIES IN BEDS OF LAKES AND RIVERS

General conditions for activities in the beds of lakes and rivers

Contingent Support

Reason: support contingent on changes to schedules.

Small amendment to provide for emergency works

Relief Sought: General conditions for activities in the beds of lakes and rivers that apply as specified in Rules R112 to R125 except in the case of emergency maintenance and repairs:

R112: Maintenance, repair, replacement, upgrade or use of existing structures (excluding the Barrage Gates)

Support

Reason: support with small amendment to provide for emergency works

Relief Sought: The maintenance, repair, replacement, upgrade or use of a structure or a part of a structure (excluding the Barrage Gates) that is fixed in, on, under, or over the bed of a river or lake, including any associated:

- a. disturbance of the river or lake bed, and
- b. deposition on the river or lake bed, and
- c. diversion of water, and
- d. discharge of sediment to water

is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met except in the case of emergency maintenance and repairs

R113: Diversion of flood water by existing structures

Support

Reason:

Retain: The diversion of flood water by a structure or stopbank outside the bed of a river or lake that was in existence on the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015) is a permitted activity, provided the following condition is met:

- (a) the structure or stopbank causing the diversion shall not increase by more than 5% of the plan or cross-sectional area from the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), provided the increased size does not cause flooding on any neighbouring property.

R114: River crossing structures

Amend

Reason: amend to enable river crossing structures, supported by Land Management advisory support as per M1 and M11

Delete catchment restrictions, consistent with approach taken for culverts.

Relief Sought: The placement or use of a river crossing structure, including, but not limited to, weirs, fords and small bridges, excluding culverts and a river crossing that dams a river, that is fixed in, on, under, or over the bed of a river including any associated:

- a) disturbance of the river or lake bed, and
- b) deposition on the river or lake bed, and
- c) diversion of water, and
- d) discharge of sediment to water

is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- e) the activity shall comply with the beds of lakes and rivers general conditions specified above in section 5.5.4, and
- ~~f) the river crossing that has any part of the structure fixed in or on the bed has a catchment area above the crossing of not more than:
 - i) 200ha in any catchment in the region on the eastern side of the Ruamāhanga River, or
 - ii) 50ha in any catchment in the region on the western side of the Ruamāhanga River, and~~
- g) the formed crossing shall be no wider than what is required for the purpose of the crossing and the total area of the structure in or on the bed of the river shall not exceed ~~20m²~~ 50m² for bridges and 100m² for fords and
- h) the activity does not occur within a site identified in Schedule C (mana whenua) which specifies site specific restrictions on river crossing structures

R115: Culverts

Amend

Reason: amend to enable river crossing structures, supported by Land Management advisory support as per M1 and M11

Relief Sought: The placement or use of a culvert that is fixed in, or on, the bed of a river including any associated:

- a) disturbance of the river or lake bed, and
- b) deposition on the river or lake bed, and
- c) diversion of water, and
- d) discharge of sediment to water

is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- e) the activity shall comply with the beds of lakes and rivers general conditions specified above in Section 5.5.4, except condition (i) (not altering the natural course of the river), and

- f) the activity does not occur within a site identified in Schedule C (mana whenua), which specifies site specific restrictions on culverts and
- g) where multiple culverts are placed side by side, the total cross-sectional area of the multiple culverts shall not be less than that of a single culvert which complies with this rule, and
- ~~h) the culvert, associated fill and culvert placement shall comply with the following dimensions:

 - ~~i) a maximum culvert length of 20m, and~~
 - ~~ii) for circular culverts a culvert diameter of 0.3m to 1.2m (inclusive), and~~
 - ~~iii) for non-circular culverts a width and height of 0.3m to 1.2m each (inclusive), and~~
 - ~~iv) a culvert diameter, or width that is at least as wide as the river bed at the point at which the culvert is installed (and which complies with (h)(ii) and (h)(iii) above)~~
 - ~~v) a maximum fill height of 2m above the top of the culvert unless a spillway is constructed to enable the passage of a 5% annual exceedence probability (20 year return period) flood event without the fill being overtopped, and~~~~
- l) a minimum culvert installation depth below the bed of 20% of the width of the culvert, and
- J) the culvert shall be positioned so that its alignment and gradient are the same as the river, and
- k) the culvert shall be constructed to allow:
 - a. the flow from a 5% annual exceedence probability (20 year return period) flood event without overtopping, unless the overtopping flows to a specifically designed spillway, or floodway and
 - b. the flow from a two year return period flood event without any flow impediment, and
- l) the culvert inlet and outlet shall be protected against erosion, and
- m) all practicable steps shall be taken to minimise the release of sediment during construction, and
- n) the culvert shall be constructed and maintained to avoid any aggradation or erosion of the bed, including any erosion at the inlet and outlet of the culvert, and
- o) the culvert shall be constructed and maintained to avoid causing any flooding on any neighbouring properties.

R116: Establishing a small dam and existing dams

Amend

Reason: amend to enable small dams.

Clarify which rule permits the taking of water from behind the dam structure.

Relief Sought: The placement of a new small dam, or use of a small dam, that is fixed in, on, or under the bed of a river including any associated:

- a. disturbance of the river or lake bed, and
- b. deposition on the river or lake bed, and
- c. diversion of water, and
- d. damming of water, and
- e. discharge of sediment to water, and

- f. reclamation associated with the dam structure, and
- g. the damming of water outside the bed of a lake or river by a dam structure

is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- h. where the small dam occurs in the bed of a lake or river, the activity shall comply with the beds of lakes and rivers general conditions specified above in Section 5.5.4, except condition (l) (not altering the natural course of the river), and, where the activity occurs in an ephemeral flow path, condition (d) (fish passage), and
- i. the activity does not occur within a site identified in Schedule C (mana whenua), which specifies site specific restrictions on dams and
- j. the small dam is not located in and does not cause water to pond in, a significant natural wetland identified in Schedule F3 (significant wetlands) ~~or an outstanding water body identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies)~~, and
- k. the small dam shall not impound more than 20,000m³ of water, above natural ground level and
- l. the small dam has a maximum water depth of less than 3m (measured from the natural ground level at the downstream toe of the dam structure), and
- ~~m. any new small dam does not have a catchment area above the dam of more than 20ha and~~
- n. the water impounded by the small dam does not encroach onto adjoining properties, and
- o. a spillway or overflow pipe is constructed to prevent the dam from overtopping in a 5% annual exceedence probability (20 year return period) flood event, and connects or discharges to the downstream watercourse, and
- p. any new small dam in a permanently flowing river shall maintain a flow out of the dam at all times including during filling of the dam.

R117: New structures

Amend

Reason: amend to enable sediment weirs and provide for emergency works

Relief Sought: The placement or use of a new structure, including but not limited to sediment retention weirs, pipes, ducts, cables, hydrological and water quality monitoring equipment, fences, and structures associated with vegetative bank edge protection except a structure permitted by Rules R114, R115, and R116 that is fixed in, on, under, or over the bed of any river or lake, including any associated:

- a. disturbance of the river or lake bed, and
- b. deposition on the river or lake bed, and
- c. diversion of water, and
- d. discharge of sediment to water

is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met except in the case of emergency works:

- e. the activity shall comply with the beds of lakes and rivers general conditions specified above in Section 5.5.4, and
- f. the activity does not occur within a site identified in Schedule C (mana whenua), which specifies site specific restrictions on new structures excluding adding pipes or cables to an existing structure and

- g. in any part of a river bed identified in Schedule F2a (birds-rivers) or Schedule F2b (birds-lakes) the structure shall not be constructed during the critical period identified in Schedule F2a (birds-rivers) or Schedule F2b (birds-lakes) if the named birds are identified at the construction site, and
- h. the structure does not occupy a bed area any greater than 10m², except for where the structure is associated with vegetative bank edge protection, or a pipe, duct, fence or cable which is located over or under the bed where no bed occupancy limits apply, and
- ~~i. the catchment upstream of any sediment retention weir is not greater than 200ha, and~~
- j. the height of any sediment retention weir from the upstream base to the crest of the weir shall be no more than 0.5m, and
- k. any water monitoring equipment may divert up to 30m³ of water per day for the purpose of measuring water quality or quantity provided the water is returned to the water body within 50m of the diversion point, and the quality of the water where it is returned to the water body is the same or better than the receiving water body.

R119: Clearing flood debris and beach recontouring

Amend

Reason: make provision for emergency works

Relief Sought: The clearing of flood debris on the bed of a river or lake, and beach recontouring of the bed of a river (including, but not limited to, beach ripping), including any associated:

- a. disturbance of the river or lake bed, and
 - 1. deposition on the river or lake bed, and
 - 2. discharge of sediment to water associated with the clearing of flood debris

is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met except in the case of emergency works:

Rule R120: Minor sand and gravel extraction

Amend

Reason: increase permitted takes

Relief Sought: The excavation or other disturbance of the bed of a river for the purpose of extracting gravel or other bed material, including any associated:

- a. deposition on the river or lake bed

is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- b. the activity shall comply with the beds of lakes and rivers general conditions specified above in Section 5.5.4, and
- c. extraction in any 12 month period shall be limited to whichever is the lesser of:
 - i. ~~45m³~~ 50m³ for an individual's needs, or
 - ii. ~~50m³~~ 150m³ for use on the property on which the river bed occurs or is adjacent to, or up to 300m³ with the agreement of the WRC river operations manager

R121: Maintenance of drains

Amend

Reason: Federated Farmers strongly recommend urgent attention to developing agreed practices for cleaning streams and drains within Method M14.

Acknowledging this is currently a vexed and contentious area, the conditions proposed serve only to exacerbate tensions.

It is our submission that the conditions must strike a better balance between operational practicalities and looking after fish populations in the stream and drainage network. For example: the condition requiring all fish be returned has perhaps been written by someone who hasn't tried finding and catching them. The same point applies to direction of cleaning.

Research in this area to date is helping inform emerging practice but cannot as yet be relied on for prescriptive conditions. For example, the condition requiring specified weed buckets neglects research indicating the re-suspension of anoxic sediments may be equally if not more problematic. The condition requiring that only part of the stream be cleared neglects research suggesting the more important consideration is that not all drains or streams across a network be cleared at once.

It is not clear why the conditions exclude the general condition g) for sediment: we recommend it be included.

We acknowledge the lowland stream and drain networks are home to indigenous fish populations. We make the point that these populations are apparently resilient, notwithstanding a century of drain cleaning.

We propose amendments below to make provision for enabling fish making their own way back, or for fish "bays". More importantly though, we reiterate the urgent need for agreed practices, not just in the pNRP but in the field.

Relief Sought: The removal of vegetation or bed material and-associated sediment to maintain the original grade and cross-section from any farm drain, or any highly modified river or stream, including any associated:

- a. disturbance of the drain bed, and
- b. deposition on the drain bed, and
- c. diversion of water in the drain, and
- d. discharge of sediment to water

is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- e. the activity shall comply with the beds of lakes and rivers general conditions specified above in Section 5.5.4, ~~except condition (g) (sediment condition)~~, with all reference to a river or lake being read to also include artificial farm drainage canal, and
- f. any works to alter the depth or width ~~of a drain~~ shall not excavate any deeper or wider than the original grade or cross section of the drain channel, unless the widening or deepening is for the purpose of constructing a sediment retention trap, or a fish refuge bay, or a livestock drinking bay, and
- ~~g. if mechanically clearing aquatic vegetation, the machinery must use a weed bucket with a curved flat base, and a slatted back that permits the easy drainage of water and fish back into the drain, and~~
- h. any fish (except identified pest species) and koura removed from the drain during maintenance works shall be returned to the drain as practicable and as soon as practicable

~~and no later than one hour after removal from the drain, or bed material placed where practicable to allow the fish to re-enter of their own accord~~

- i. any sediment or bed material removed from the drain be placed and spread on adjoining land in such a way that it cannot slump and be washed back into the drains, or other water bodies, including wetlands, and
- j. ~~two~~ one years after the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), where the activity involves the mechanical clearance of a drain, implement management practices as agreed in Method M14 either:
 - i. ~~only one side of the drain shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side of the drain may only be cleared three months following completion of the initial works, or~~
 - ii. ~~only the middle of the drain shall be cleared, and an uncleared margin of at least 30% of the width of the drain, but no less than 0.3m, shall be left uncleared on each side of the drain, and~~
- k. ~~where the activity involves the mechanical clearance of a drain, the activity shall commence at the most upstream point of the length of drain to be cleared and move downstream, and~~
- l. ~~any maintenance works in the bed of a drain shall not remove any woody debris with a diameter greater than 0.2m from the drain unless it is causing, or has the potential to cause a flood or erosion threat, or a threat to infrastructure.~~

R122: Removing vegetation

Amend

Reason: acknowledging an historic distinction between drains/highly modified channels and natural rivers for the purpose of clearing vegetation and sediment, we question whether this is still appropriate.

As noted above, attempts to clear only vegetation with "*associated sediment clinging to the roots*" may result in stirring up anoxic sediments, potentially with worse results for stream ecology.

Recent research into river restoration techniques (McKenzie Centre, Canterbury) also suggests that active removal of legacy sediment may be required to restore stream ecosystems.

Acknowledging this is still research in progress, we propose amendments below but recommend review of R122 should be considered alongside R121 as part of Method M14.

Relief Sought: ~~The trimming or removal of vegetation (including weeds) from the bed of any river or lake, and any associated sediment or bed material attached to the roots of the vegetation being removed, The removal of vegetation or bed material and associated sediment to maintain the original grade and cross-section including any associated:~~

- a. disturbance of the lake or river bed, and
- b. deposition on the lake or river bed, and
- c. diversion of water, and

- d. discharge of sediment to water

is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- e. the activity shall comply with the beds of lakes and rivers general conditions specified above in Section 5.5.4, and
- f. in any part of a river bed identified in Schedule F2a (birds-rivers) or Schedule F2b (birds-lakes) vegetation removal shall not occur during the critical period identified in Schedule F2a (birds-rivers) or Schedule F2b (birds-lakes) if the named birds are identified at the work site, and
- g. the activity shall not cause any increase in flooding on neighbouring properties, and
- ~~h. if mechanically clearing aquatic vegetation from an area of river or lake bed covered in water, the machinery must use a weed bucket with a curved flat base and a slatted back that permits the easy drainage of water and fish, and~~
- i. any fish (except pest species) and koura removed from the river or lake bed during works shall be returned to the river or lake as practicable and as soon as practicable, and no later than one hour after removal, and stream cleanings placed where practicable to allow the fish to re-enter of their own accord
- j. floating debris and plant material shall be prevented from drifting away and causing obstructions to the river or lake bed, or spreading pest plants (as listed in the Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002-2022), and
- ~~k. where the activity involves the removal of an area of contiguous woody vegetation from the banks of a river, that extends for a length of river bed of greater than 100m, either:
 - ~~i. a length of river bed of 10m shall be left with intact woody vegetation as a refuge area for every 200m of cleared river bed. The vegetation in the refuge area must be left for at least three months following completion of the main works, or~~
 - ~~ii. where there is contiguous woody vegetation on both sides of the banks of the river, vegetation is only removed from one side of the river, and the vegetation is not removed from the opposite for a period of 12 months,~~~~
- ~~l. where the activity involves the mechanical clearance of aquatic vegetation from a river, either:
 - ~~i. only one side of the river shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side may only be cleared three months following completion of the initial works, or~~
 - ~~ii. only the middle of the river shall be cleared, and an uncleared margin of at least 30% of the width, but no less than 0.3m, shall be left uncleared on each side, and~~~~
- ~~m. any clearance works in the bed of a river or lake shall not remove any woody debris with a diameter greater than 0.2m unless it is causing, or has the potential to cause a flood or erosion threat, or a threat to infrastructure, and~~
- n. no excavation of the bed, or widening or deepening of the bed beyond the original grade and cross-section is permitted by this rule.

Condition (k) does not apply to lopping and cabling of willows for vegetative bank edge protection works or clearing of crack willow

R123: Planting

Amend

Reason: include provision for erosion control plantings

Relief Sought: The deliberate introduction or planting of a plant in the bed of a river or lake, including any associated:

- a. disturbance of the lake or river bed, and
- b. deposition on the lake or river bed, and
- c. diversion of water, and
- d. discharge of sediment to water

but excluding the deliberate introduction or planting of:

- e. crack willow (*Salix fragilis*) and grey willow (*Salix cinerea*), other than where they are already predominant but excludes the following areas where they are predominant (to be developed), and
- f. an introduced, submersed aquatic plant, and
- g. a species listed in the *Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002-2022*.

is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- a. the activity shall comply with the beds of lakes and rivers general conditions specified above in Section 5.5.4, and
- b. only native plants shall be used in a site identified in ~~Schedule A (outstanding water bodies)~~, Schedule C (mana whenua) and Schedule F (indigenous biodiversity), except poles and willows for erosion control and
- c. no planting shall be undertaken in an identified river management scheme area, unless it is undertaken in accordance with the planting programme specified in the relevant river management plan.

R123: Structures within a site identified in Schedule C (mana whenua)

Amend

Reason: as set out in Schedule C

Relief Sought: The placement of a river crossing structure, a culvert, new small dam, or other small structure that that is fixed in, on or under the bed of a river within a site identified in Schedule C (mana whenua) which specified site specific restrictions on the placement of a river crossing structure, a culvert, new small dam, or other small structure

Matters for discretion

1. Effects on the values of sites with significant mana whenua values

R131: Damming or diverting water within or from rivers

Amend

Reason:

Relief Sought: The damming or diverting of water within or from a river that does not meet Rules R112, R114, R115, R116, R117, R118, R119, R121, R122 and R123 and R140 is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- a. the damming or diverting of water shall not result in river flows falling below current operative RFP minimum flows in chapters 7 to 11 of the Plan, and
- b. ~~the damming or diverting of water is not in any outstanding river identified in Schedule A1 (outstanding rivers).~~

5.6 WATER ALLOCATION

R136: Take and use of water

Amend

Reason: amendments to conditions for practical, prioritised application

Relief Sought: The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- a. the total take and use per property shall not exceed the following rates and volumes, and

Property size	Rate	Volume per day
Greater than 20ha	2.5L/s	20m ³
Less than 20ha	2.5L/s	10m ³

- b. the take of groundwater does not adversely affect reliability of supply from properly constructed, efficient and fully functioning nearby bores, and
- c. ~~fish are prevented from entering the water intake~~, fish screen to reduce risk of fish entering and
- d. the water is not taken from a natural wetland, or from within 50m of a natural wetland, and
- e. no water shall run to waste, and
- f. ~~at the written request of the Wellington Regional Council a water meter is installed and daily water use records are kept and provided to the Wellington Regional Council.~~

R137: Farm dairy washdown and milk-cooling water

Amend

Reason: amendments to conditions for practical, prioritised application

Relief Sought: The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) the take shall be for a single property, and
- (b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property ~~at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015)~~, and
- (c) the take of groundwater does not adversely affect reliability of supply from properly constructed, efficient and fully functioning nearby bores, and
- (d) fish screen to reduce risk of fish entering and
- (e) the water is not taken from a natural wetland, or from within 50m of a natural wetland, and

- (f) all practicable measures for recycling of uncontaminated washdown water are implemented, and
- (g) ~~at the written request of the Wellington Regional Council a water meter is installed and daily water use records are kept and provided to the Wellington Regional Council.~~

R143: Temporary water permit transfers

Amend

Reason: enable water sharing and temporary transfers

Relief Sought : The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a ~~controlled~~ permitted activity

R144: Transferring water permits

Support

Reason: consistent with objectives for optimising efficient and flexible use of water

Relief Sought: The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- a. the transfer is:
 - i. within the same catchment management sub-unit for takes within the Ruamāhanga Whaitua (chapter 7), or
 - ii. within the same catchment management unit for takes within any other whaitua (chapters 8-11), and
- b. the reliability of supply for existing lawfully established water takes is not reduced, and
- c. the take shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below the minimum flows or water levels in ~~chapters 7-11 of the Plan,~~ the current operative RFP and
- d. there is no increase in saline intrusion into the aquifer, or landward movement of the salt water/fresh water interface.

6 OTHER METHODS

OTHER METHODS

Support with amendments

Reason: We reiterate our support of the non-regulatory programmes delivered by the WRC Land Management team in partnership with landowners and industry.

We support prioritising and naming catchments for coordinated research and action.

We suggest that some of the timeframes for research may need accelerating, particularly in the case of the Ruamahanga Whaitua.

We support restoration activities being undertaken within a non-regulatory framework.

We welcome the explicit link to budget provision made in the Longterm Plan.

Relief Sought: amendments are recommended below consistent with relief sought on other provisions, and to improve focus and clarity.

Method M1: Regional plan implementation and integration

Wellington Regional Council will implement a work programme to support the use of the Natural Resources Plan, including the production of:

- a. user guides for Natural Resources Plan provisions, and
- b. guidance on permitted activities, such as the design and maintenance of on-site domestic wastewater treatment and discharge systems, earthworks, vegetation clearance and cleanfills, culverts and river crossing structures and
- c. information for the Plan users on the management of activities that have changed significantly from the first generation regional plans, eg, specified materials

Wellington Regional Council will prepare protocols and definitions to guide changes to district and regional plans to avoid gaps, uncertainty and unnecessary overlap in regional and territorial regulations for the management of natural resources, including for wetlands, earthworks and vegetation clearance

Method M7: Outstanding water bodies

Wellington Regional Council will:

- a. review criteria in the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region 2013 used to identify outstanding rivers and lakes for indigenous ecosystem values, based on national guidance, and
- b. use an expert panel to develop and apply criteria for outstanding recreational values of rivers and lakes in the region, based on national guidance and
- c. work with territorial authorities to develop and apply criteria for outstanding landscape values of rivers and lakes, and
- e. amend the Plan, after consultation with interested parties and affected landowners, through plan change or variation to include outstanding rivers and lakes identified in (a), (b) and (c) above.

Method M8: Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour restoration

Wellington Regional Council will work in partnership with Ngāti Toa Rangatira, Porirua City Council, Wellington City Council, landowners and stakeholders to address ecological restoration in Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour. The parties will work with ~~landowners~~ and catchment and community groups in order to:

- a. reduce the amount of sediment entering the harbour, and
- b. reduce the amount of pollutants entering the harbour, and
- c. restore estuarine and freshwater environments.

Method M9: Wairarapa Moana

Wellington Regional Council will work in partnership with Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa, landowners and the community to restore the ecological values and improve the water quality of Wairarapa Moana. Management activities will include, but are not limited to:

- d) monitoring, including kaitiaki and landowner information and monitoring, and
- e) protecting and restoring the habitats of indigenous plants and animals, and
- f) managing pest plants and animals, and introduced aquatic species impacting on indigenous biodiversity
- g) incorporating ecological, cultural and economic values into flood protection practices.

Method M10: Water quality investigations and remediation actions

Wellington Regional Council will further investigate effects, establish or confirm causality, and develop appropriate remediation and/or containment programmes in partnership with landowners and industry to address water quality issues in the catchments and/or groundwater zones for the following priority areas:

- (a) Parkvale Stream – examine reasons for elevated nitrate and periphyton levels, and the associated Taratahi groundwater zone for elevated nitrate levels, by 2017, and
- (b) Te Ore Ore, Tauherenikau and Martinborough groundwater – examine reasons for elevated nitrate levels, by 2017, and
- (c) Waipoua River and Ruamāhanga River – examine reasons for elevated toxic cyanobacteria events, by 2018, and
- (d) Te Awa Kairangi/Hutt River – examine reasons for elevated toxic cyanobacteria events, by 2018, and
- (e) Te Horo groundwater – examine reasons for elevated nitrate levels, by 2018, and
- (f) Ōtaki groundwater – examine reasons of elevated nitrate levels, by 2018, and
- (g) Mangaone Stream – examine reasons for poor macroinvertebrate community health and elevated macrophyte growth, by 2018, and
- (h) Mangapouri Stream – examine reasons for poor macroinvertebrate community health, elevated macrophyte growth and elevated faecal contamination, by 2018, and
- (i) Lake Waitawa – examine reasons for elevated nutrient, phytoplankton and planktonic cyanobacteria levels, by 2018, and

- (j) Waiwhetu Stream – examine reasons for poor macroinvertebrate community health, by 2019, and
- (k) Awhea River – examine reasons for poor macroinvertebrate community health, by 2019, and
- (l) Riversdale groundwater – examine reasons for elevated nitrate levels, by 2019, and
- (m) Whangaehu River – examine reasons for poor macroinvertebrate community health, by 2019.

Method M12: Sustainable land management practices

Wellington Regional Council will encourage sustainable rural land management by:

- (n) providing research, advice and promoting good management practices, and innovation developed in partnership with landowners and rural industries, and
- (o) working in partnership with affected landowners to identify Category 1 surface water bodies and Category 2 surface water bodies, and
- (p) developing catchment plans for coordinating or supporting catchment activities and catchment-scale mitigations and innovations, and assisting with the implementation of riparian management plans, critical source area management plans, farm plans and farm environment plans across a number of priority catchments, including:
 - (i) providing assistance with riparian planting, and erosion and sediment control for 50% of farms in the Taueru River, Kopuaranga River and Huangarua River catchments by 2025, and
 - (ii) providing assistance with riparian planting, nutrient and erosion and sediment control for 50% of properties in the Mangatarere River and Taratahi/Parkvale stream catchments by 2025 and Lake Wairarapa and Whareama River estuary catchments by 2023, and
 - (iii) providing assistance to willing landowners outside the designated priorities
- (d) collecting and providing biophysical information in collaboration with catchment landowners needed for prioritising effective and cost-effective catchment action plans and adaptive management, and
- (q) providing plants through the Akura Conservation Centre for erosion control and riparian and wetland management, and
- (r) providing incentives, such as assistance with costs and labour associated with riparian and wetland fencing, planting and pest control.

Method M13: Wairarapa water races

Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils, water race committees and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the economic, social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:

- a. identifying areas of management overlap and potential integration, (such as existing individual water race and district-wide by-laws, regional consents for the discharge of water to rivers from the races, and runoff and discharges to the races), and
- b. options for increasing efficiency including opportunities for transfer trading of water takes or providing alternatives to the use of water races, and
- c. options for retaining ecological values, and options for maintaining reliable access to water for stock

- d. options for improving water quality, and
- e. opportunities for shared services, such as consent monitoring, education, and best practice, and
- f. using a plan change or variation specific to rules for livestock access to water races.

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

Wellington Regional Council will develop agreed good practice guidelines with landowners and industry and implement an education programme including practices, procedures and tools in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders as soon as possible to support—prior to the implementation of Rule R121: Maintenance of drains and to support development of agreed practices for Rule 122: Removing Vegetation

Method M17: Reduce waste and use water and energy efficiently

Wellington Regional Council will work with city and district councils and industry to reduce waste and encourage the efficient use of water and energy by:

- a. providing information to support compliance with permitted activity conditions for land uses such as cleanfills, landfills, farm refuse dumps and offal pits, and
- b. identifying opportunities and priorities for discharging to land rather than water, and
- c. assisting the community to adopt sustainable practices and product-stewardship to:
 - i. reduce, reuse or recycle waste, and
 - ii. use water and energy efficiently, and
 - iii. conserve water and energy.

Method M18: Water use groups

Wellington Regional Council will:

- (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and
- (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and
- (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups.

Method M19: Water management

The Wellington Regional Council will work with city and district councils, water users and industry groups to encourage the efficient use of water, including by:

- a. establishing, operating, and making publicly available a freshwater accounting system for the region, and
- b. promoting and providing advice on measuring and reporting of water permits, including the use of real-time, telemetered water measuring systems compatible with Wellington Regional Council's water use data management system, and
- c. promoting and providing advice on suitable models ~~that consider~~ calibrated to Wairarapa land use, crop use and other site physical factors that will ~~meet~~ support the efficient use criteria in Schedule Q (efficient use) of the Plan, and

- d. ~~promoting~~ exploring alternatives to the use of water races, and
- e. exploring alternative management options for water races, and
- f. assisting landowners, communities and organisations to conserve water and use it efficiently, and
- g. promoting water storage outside river beds.

Method M20: Wetlands

Wellington Regional Council will work in partnership with mana whenua, landowners, territorial authorities, and the community to:

- a. promote the value of wetlands and advocate for their management, restoration and protection, and enhancement and construction
- b. provide guidance to landowners with wetlands on their property to assist with the management of those wetlands, and
- c. develop and implement Restoration Management Plans ~~for~~ in partnership with landowners with ~~outstanding wetlands~~ and significant wetlands as required, and
- d. provide incentives to landowners, such as assistance with the costs of riparian and wetland fencing, planting and pest control, and
- e. encourage and assist with the legal protection of wetlands through covenanting with the QEII National Trust, the Department of Conservation and Ngā Whenua Rahui.

Method M21: Fish passage

Wellington Regional Council will support the maintenance and restoration of fish passage in the region by:

- a. developing and providing information on fish passage, and
- b. providing training and guidance to landowners and managers including on design or retrofitting of culverts and river crossing structures, and
- c. restoring fish passage in (named) priority areas.

Method M24: Outstanding natural features and landscapes and high natural character

Wellington Regional Council will work with city and district councils and the community to:

- h) identify outstanding natural features and landscapes within the region, and
- ~~i) identify areas with outstanding/high natural character in the coastal environment, and~~
- j) produce a regional list of these features, landscapes ~~and areas~~ by 2017 for consultation with landowners prior to inclusion in the Plan by plan change or variation.

Method M25: Understanding and providing for mana whenua values and relationships

Wellington Regional Council will work with mana whenua and landowners to assist communities in understanding and providing for mana whenua values and, in particular, their relationships with air, land and water within Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa.

Method M27: Improving water quality in priority water bodies

Wellington Regional Council will support whaitua committees to develop and implement a programme to improve water quality for safeguarding indigenous species and contact recreation and Māori customary use in the indicative first priority fresh and coastal water bodies identified in Method M10 and Schedule H1.

Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines

Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental sustainable management outcomes.

7 RUAMAHANGA WHAITUA

RUAMAHANGA WHAITUA

Amend

Reason: The s32 and supporting technical reports state the intent to develop an enabling management framework, supported by minimum flows and core and supplementary allocations. We support this.

The reports acknowledge that WRC has not yet gone through a process of determining limits based on a balance of in-stream and out-of-stream values:

- *“such a process is not science-driven, but requires coordinated community and user input to determine the acceptability of trade-offs”*
- *“Whaitua will consider all values within a catchment or sub-catchment framework relevant to setting minimum flows, including economic values and security of supply, with a full set of catchment evidence”*

The reports acknowledge key gaps and uncertainties, including:

- Value judgements applied in estimating “naturalised MALF”
- Uncertainties in relation to surface water/groundwater connects and A/B/C boundaries
- The reliance on historic fish database information, rather than specific monitoring data:
 - *“the key point on which there is wide agreement is that robust assessments depend on good information about the longitudinal distribution of species and in-stream values*
 - *Unfortunately there is generally very little such information on native fish abundance in Wellington rivers”*

Acknowledging these gaps in key areas, it is our understanding that work is underway within the Ruamahanga Whaitua integrated modelling project to critically test key assumptions, commission research in key areas, declare uncertainties, and provide robust cost-benefit analysis of options for Whaitua committee consideration during 2016.

Acknowledging this work is currently underway, we support retaining the currently operative minimum flows for the reasons stated in the s32 report, ie:

- *“The option of revising minimum flows, knowing that they may be altered again in the short-term by whaitua committee processes, is not efficient or effective because it would provide little certainty to the community or water users.*
- *Rather than include new flows now based on partial information, it is more appropriate for minimum flows to remain as they are in the interim”*

We agree. Somewhat at odds with this clear position, WRC apparently propose new “default” allocations based on “partial information”, or more specifically based on value judgements and assumptions made in estimating “naturalised” MALF. No rationale is presented.

We oppose this approach and recommend the operative minimum flows and core allocation apply as in the Regional Freshwater Plan (RFP) pending more detailed whaitua consideration.

Relief Sought: amendments on this and other matters marked below. All recommendations for amendments made in respect of Ruamahanga apply also to other Whaitua chapters.

WHAITUA POLICIES

Policy R.P1: Minimum flows and water levels in the Ruamāhanga Whaitua

Minimum flows and minimum water levels in the Ruamāhanga Whaitua are:

- a) for rivers (including tributaries), the current operative RFP minimum flows shown in ~~Table 7.1, and~~
- b) ~~for rivers not in Table 7.1, 90% of the seven-day mean annual low flow, and~~
- c) for Lake Wairarapa, the minimum water level in ~~Table 7.2,~~ the current operative RFP and
- d) for natural lakes (other than Lake Wairarapa), existing minimum water levels.

Policy R.P2: Core allocation in the Ruamāhanga Whaitua

The maximum amount of water available for allocation from rivers (including tributaries), Lake Wairarapa (including tributaries), and groundwater in the Ruamāhanga River catchment, above the Lake Wairarapa outflow, and in the Lake Wairarapa catchment, at the time an application is made for resource consent to take and use water, shall not exceed whichever is the greater of:

- (a) the total amount allocated by resource consents, or
- (b) the current operative RFP allocation amounts ~~identified in Tables 7.3-7.5,~~

except for the taking and use of water identified in Policy P117 at flows above the median flow.

Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water

~~When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.~~

WHAITUA RULES

R.R1: Take and use of water in the Ruamāhanga Whaitua

The take and use of water from any river (including tributaries), Lake Wairarapa (including tributaries), and groundwater in the Ruamāhanga River catchment above the Lake Wairarapa outflow, and in the Lake Wairarapa catchment, but excluding the take and use of stored water is a restricted discretionary activity provided the following conditions are met:

- a) the take and use shall not occur below the current operative RFP minimum flows or water levels in ~~Table 7.1 or 7.2~~, except that this condition does not apply to:
 - i. water for the health needs of people as part of a group drinking water supply or community drinking water supply or water for rootstock protection, and
 - ii. water used by industry from a community drinking water supply for a period of seven years from the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and
 - iii. taking groundwater, and
- b) in any catchment management unit and catchment management sub-unit in ~~Tables 7.3-7.5~~, the amount of water taken and used, in addition to all existing resource consents, does not exceed whichever is the greater of:
 - i. the maximum amount allocated by resource consents at the date ~~the consent application is lodged~~, of notification of the pNRP (31/7/2015) or
 - ii. the current operative RFP allocation amounts in ~~Tables 7.3-7.5~~;

except that this condition does not apply to the take and use of water at river flows above the median flow, and

- c) at flows above median flow:
 - i. the frequency of summertime flushing flows that exceed three times the median flow of the river is not changed, and
 - ii. at least 50% of the river flow above the median flow remains in the river.

Matters for discretion

1. The reasonable and efficient use of water, including the criteria in Schedule Q (efficient use) which apply immediately to new takes. In the case of existing takes, this applies four years from renewal of consent or ten years from the date of the plan being made operative, whichever is sooner
2. The timing, amount, and rate of taking of water; including instantaneous (L/sec), daily (m³/day), and seasonal requirements and duration and timing of peak daily take rate
3. For group drinking water supplies or community drinking water supplies, the amount and rate of water taken and used for the health needs of people
4. Reduction in the rate of take from surface water and groundwater directly connected to surface water at times of low flow and restrictions when rivers approach or fall below the minimum flows, including the guideline for stepdown allocation and flows in Schedule R (stepdown guideline)
5. Effects due to local flow or water level depletion on wetlands, springs, or downstream river reaches in the same catchment management sub-unit
6. Interference effects on existing lawful water takes
7. Prevention of salt water intrusion into the aquifer, or landward movement of the salt water/fresh water interface

- ~~8. For a take and use in category B groundwater (directly connected) or category B groundwater (not directly connected)~~
9. Preventing managing risk from fish from entering water intakes
10. Measuring and reporting, including the guideline in Schedule S (measuring takes)

R.R3: Taking and use of water that exceeds minimum flows, lake levels or core allocation

The take and use of water from any river (including tributaries), Lake Wairarapa (including tributaries), or groundwater in ~~Tables 7.3-7.5~~ in the Ruamāhanga River catchment that does not meet conditions (a) or (b) of Rule R.R1 is a prohibited non-complying activity.

WHAITUA TABLES

Table 7.1: Minimum flows

Relief Sought: specify current operative RFP minimum flows

Table 7.2: Minimum lake levels

Relief Sought: retain and specify current operative RFP levels

Table 7.3: Surface water allocation amounts

Relief Sought: delete or specify current operative RFP allocation amounts

Table 7.4: Surface water and lake allocation amounts

Relief Sought: delete or specify current operative RFP allocation amounts

Table 7.5: Groundwater allocation amounts

Relief Sought: delete or specify current operative RFP allocation amounts

Figure 7.1: Minimum Flow Management points

Relief Sought: expanded low flow monitoring and management points

Figures 7.2-7.9: Catchment Groundwater

Relief Sought: calibration and validation of the conjunctive framework for water management, including seasonal water balances, including at sub-catchment scale

12 SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE A: Outstanding water bodies - rivers, lakes, wetlands

Oppose

Reason: WRC currently propose a disjointed process for the identification of outstanding waterbodies – some to be designated in the pNRP in the “interim” based on certain criteria, while other criteria are to be developed separately and implemented through a future plan change, ie, Method 7. No rationale is presented for this disjointed and inefficient approach.

The criteria and process are less than transparent:

- Schedule A presents simple lists without benefit of stating the criteria, be they interim or otherwise
- To find the qualifying criteria, we need to go to the s32 report

Even then, they are less than explicit and robust, eg:

- MCI >120: we note that MCI greater than 120 represents “excellent”, not “outstanding”
- a key criterion for lakes relates to aquatic plant species and communities present: “*Such a criterion has been used*”. No explanation is presented as to what “such a criterion” practically means

The outstanding values of the identified waterbodies are presented in the schedule with just brief, generic descriptors, eg:

- “*wildlife habitat*”
- “*representativeness and diversity*”

These descriptors are manifestly inadequate.

Multiple rules propose restrictions to protect “outstanding” waterbodies: we strongly recommend we get the schedules right first, then look at the range of options – regulatory and non-regulatory – for supporting their values.

We note that MfE are currently developing guidance for the identification of outstanding waterbodies and other regional councils are deferring identification, pending that guidance being available. We recommend WRC take the same approach.

Relief sought: delete Schedule A and delete all references to outstanding waterbodies in the rules pending a future plan change

SCHEDULE B: Nga taonga nui a kiwa

Amend

Reason: the s32 report suggests that kaitiaki see schedule B as:

- *“a list of priorities for restoration, the most significant waterbodies and the most significant relationships in the region.*
- *This is of particular importance for the development of the whitua chapters in the proposed plan...assisting whitua by reflecting iwi values in decision-making*
- *Key in this is that these sites should be the focus of actions to restore their status by improving their condition over time”*

We support this intent.

Relief sought: restructure Schedule B to locate relevant sites in the whitua chapters

SCHEDULE C: Sites with significant mana whenua values

Amend

Reason: Schedule C records sites of significance including waahi tapu, with consideration also of historic value, archaeological value, amenity value, contextual value, and significance of the site for customary resources and needs.

“Mana whenua” is defined as “*maori with ancestral claims to a particular area of land and resources; literally translated as “authority over the land”*”. A WRC report (2012) notes that “*the majority of sites are in areas no longer under the direct control or oversight of iwi*”: some may be in public ownership while others are owned by private individuals. We make the point that ancestral claims cannot be assumed to over-ride private property rights.

We note that the s32 reports clarify that the intent to provide positive recognition of iwi values does not over-ride the primary purpose of the RMA. The critical point is developing an enabling framework in the pNRP for supporting understanding and positive recognition of both landowner rights to use and enjoyment of their land, alongside respecting sites of particular significance for iwi.

A key step is identification. We note that, in at least some cases, where landowners are aware of particular sites, efforts are made to respect and protect them; and that these efforts are appreciated by iwi.

We acknowledge that formal identification in the pNRP is a significant step: in the past, maori may have preferred to guard their knowledge of sacred and significant sites.

The specific identification of sites is intended in part to provide certainty for landowners. As noted in the s32 report: “*this should contribute to a no-surprise culture:*

- *The provision of detailed information to plan users is also intended to reduce costs to applicants by reducing the requirement for, and complexity of, cultural impact assessments.*
- *The best approach to reducing costs of CIAs to both applicants and iwi is the provision of more information, education and awareness to the regional community.*
- *Taken together with a robust kaitiaki engagement process, the provision should ensure that the impact of this approach on landowners is minimal, whilst values are protected”.*

We support this intent.

It is further our understanding that the intent of the pNRP is to protect sites from direct threats of detrimental use, while enabling use that is not detrimental to continue. We note that the process of determining sites of significance included description of site specific values, and assessment of site-specific threats and pressures.

As currently presented, Schedule C does not provide this detailed information, or describe direct threats. Instead the pNRP relies on designating a wide range of activities as “discretionary” if located in a Schedule C site. There is no analysis of the extent to which the values of those sites will be adversely affected by the activities captured in those rules. WRC propose instead that that analysis will be conducted case-by-case within a discretionary consent application.

The s32 report notes that “*Cultural impact assessments create additional costs for applicants in terms of time, money and commitment to relationship building:*

- *Where activities cannot be avoided, a CIA is required in which mana whenua will determine the effects of the proposed activity on the values at the site*
- *Costs will be resource consent fees, possibly public notification fees and hearing fees; commissioning expert cultural and other necessary advice; engagement and relationship building with mana whenua stakeholders.*
- *Additional development costs may be attracted in designing, or amending designs, to avoid, remedy or mitigate sites of significance to mana whenua*
- *There are direct benefits to mana whenua in researching and responding to resource consent applications. These processes will add to mana whenua knowledge and capability pertaining to how they manage their values through the regulatory process*
- *It is appropriate that users accept that there are both higher thresholds and higher costs for activities that impact those places”*

The appropriateness of the costs to “users” of course cannot be assessed when these costs are unquantified and open-ended.

The net effect of the pNRP provisions is that the relationship between iwi and landowners would be arms length through the consent process. The commitment to “*relationship building*” and indeed “*adding to mana whenua knowledge*” will be paid for by landowners.

This proposition is significantly at odds with the broader intent to foster positive partnerships.

It is our strong submission that the process of arriving at an appropriate balance between iwi and other values must be undertaken firstly in the plan itself, secondly through the whitua processes, and only lastly in the consent process. To the extent activities require consent, matters for control or discretion should be clearly described with reference to more clearly articulated pNRP policies and schedules, not least to support the intent to provide a “*no surprise*” culture.

Relief Sought: restructure Schedule C to locate relevant sites in the whitua chapters

Amend schedule C to include additional site-specific columns to enable proper debate of proposed restrictions within the public plan process, including:

- Site held in public or private ownership
- Site specific threats and pressures impacting on values; and
- Proposed site specific restrictions (eg, culverts, fords, bridges or other activities)

SCHEDULE F: Ecosystems and Habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values

Amend

Reason: amend the preamble for consistency with the RPS

Relief Sought: amend the preamble to the schedule to read: "Ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values are those that ~~meet~~ have been assessed against the criteria set down in Policy 23 of the Regional Policy Statement for representativeness, rarity, diversity, and ecological context; and where GWRC has engaged directly with landowners to identify areas, undertake field evaluations and assess significance in accordance with Policy 23 and Method 32

SCHEDULE F1 Rivers & Lakes (& Maps 13a, b, c)

Amend

Reason: The criteria for significance are described only in very general terms as being:

- High macro-invertebrate health
- Habitat for threatened/at risk indigenous fish
- Habitat for six or more migratory indigenous fish
- Inanga spawning habitat

The maps seem to indicate that a river may be significant based on just one of the criteria above, rather than an assessment based on all three, but there is no discussion to clarify this point.

The s32 report sheds little light on the criteria and process except to note that the schedule is derived from Table 16 of the RPS.

To find the criteria used in the RPS, we need to trawl further back to a report prepared in 2009. This report clarifies the intent (our emphasis): *“river systems at or close to their natural state have been significantly reduced from their former extent and consequently those that remain should be identified as significant river systems”*. We support this intent.

Acknowledging the intent, the indicators used as proxies for “natural state” were less than rigorous:

- Macro-invertebrates: MCI > 115 was deemed to be “significant” – curiously this is less than “excellent”
- Fish: sightings of fish recorded in the NZ Freshwater Fish Database over the last half-century or more (1960-2008) were used. Practically this means regular sightings of widely distributed species (eg, inanga, bullies) and occasional sightings of less common species (eg, lamprey, short-jaw kokopu)
- Having sighted fish at a certain point, the entire river reaches downstream were then identified as significant *“in order to protect migratory pathways”*

The net result is that the original intent to identify rivers at or close to their natural state seems to have been waived; and every second river now seems to qualify as “significant”.

It is our submission:

- Firstly, that the criteria are indicative principally of *healthy* river systems, rather than *significant* ones
- More importantly, the real significance of Schedule F1 is to highlight that there are in fact so many of them - notwithstanding human modifications and the deprivations of introduced aquatic species.

In response to RPS submissions challenging the table, the criteria, the failure to prioritise and the failure to notify affected landowners, WRC (Staff Report, 2009) noted that: *“it is recognised that modifications have occurred and the values do not necessarily occur in all reaches at any point in time. It will be up to the regional plan to determine the most effective way to protect the values of the rivers and lakes identified”*.

It is our strong submission that the primary task for the pNRP is now to:

- prioritise rivers at or close to their natural state, consistent with the original RPS intent; and/or
- prioritise populations of nationally vulnerable species, ie, lamprey and short-jaw kokopu; and/or
- prioritise removal of barriers to indigenous fish passage in important migratory pathways; and then
- prioritise key issues impacting on priority species/habitats for coordinated community action

It is in fact our understanding that WRC have exactly this task underway:

- the WRC Biodiversity Strategy states a clear intent to “*protect existing areas of high value*”
- work is currently in train to prioritise high value systems for active management
- this work is to be supported by funding recently approved in the LTP for partnership programmes with landowners and others
- the intention is to discuss proposed priorities and partnership packages with stakeholders early-mid 2016

It is our very strong submission that this task should be integrated within the Regional Plan, rather than proceed separately and in parallel.

Relief Sought:

- re-prioritise Schedule F1 to identify high value systems for active management; and
- restructure Schedule F1 to locate relevant sites and maps in the whitua chapters

SCHEDULE F2: Habitats for indigenous birds in rivers

Amend

Reason: the schedule proposes the “critical periods” for breeding as August-February.

Appreciating the importance of these birds, six months seems a long time.

By contrast, Schedule F1a presents two time bands for indigenous fish spawning – a range and a peak.

Relief Sought: identify the range and peak periods for breeding birds

SCHEDULE F3: Identified significant natural wetlands

Amend

Reason: Schedule F3 presents nearly 200 sites, unsupported by any statements as to criteria and process for selection.

The s32 report is not much more helpful. It notes a number of approaches to identifying significant wetlands were considered and trialled. A key piece of work was undertaken by Boffa-Miskell in 2010 – a desktop assessment which reviewed a dataset of 292 wetlands, and found:

- 37 sites very high or high value, proposed as regionally significant
- 62 sites of moderate value, some meriting further investigation
- 116 sites of low value, not warranting further investigation
- 77 sites of very low value, also not warranting further investigation

Importantly, this was a desktop exercise. Subsequently, a selected number of landowners were approached for permission to undertake field surveys in selected wetlands: 80% agreed and 25 wetlands around Wairarapa Moana plus 42 others were surveyed by Wildlands Consultants, who assessed all surveyed sites as significant.

At this point, WRC apparently determined that – if the ones they had looked at were significant - then the rest probably were too. No further explanation or rationale for the balance of the 197 wetlands is presented.

We note that this somewhat cursory approach is significantly at odds with the Boffa Miskell prioritisation and with other authors in this field. For example, Ausseil et al undertook work (part-funded by WRC) proposing a national ranking system for wetlands:

- Highest ranked sites in each bio-geographic region were usually the largest remaining wetlands that contained multiple wetland classes
 - eg, the 400ha JK Donald reserve containing 12% of swamp habitat and 13% of marsh habitat in the Wairarapa-Manawatu biogeographic region
- Smaller wetlands were ranked highly if they contained rare hydro-classes and/or had high condition value
 - eg, the 5ha Maymorn site contains 40% of fen habitat by area in the Wellington biogeographic region, coupled with high ecological integrity
- In Palliser-Kidnapper and Wellington regions, Ausseil et al determined that 70% conservation effectiveness is achieved by protecting less than half the remaining wetland area
 - reflecting the minimal contribution the remaining degraded wetlands can make to protecting biodiversity

We note again the clear intent in the WRC Biodiversity Strategy to:

- Identify the highest biodiversity value systems
- Protect existing areas of high value
- Focus effort where positive biodiversity outcomes can be achieved effectively and efficiently: *"It is a well established ecological tenet that it is better to protect an existing ecosystem than to try and restore a degraded one"*.

Relief Sought: that WRC furnish a complete dataset of proposed significant wetlands supported by:

- the Boffa-Miskell desktop assessments (where available), the Wildlands field assessments (where available) and analysis of any differences between the two; and
- desktop or field evidence to support other wetlands on the schedule,

preliminary to

- deleting wetlands < 1.0 ha unless they are rare hydro-classes and/or high condition
- re-prioritising Schedule C to include the highest value sites for biodiversity.

Then restructure the schedule to locate relevant sites in the whitua chapters.

SCHEDULE F3a: Contents of Restoration Management Plans

Oppose

Reason: WRC rightly take considerable pride in the longstanding and successful hill country programme – a team of land management officers working alongside landowners to develop farm erosion plans to prioritise works and implement actions supported by cost-sharing arrangements.

The same model has more recently been rolled out in lowland catchments with similar success.

Over these recent years, WRC has also been working pro-actively with landowners around Wairarapa Moana to restore – or construct – wetlands with support from the Clean-Up Fund.

All these programmes have proceeded without requiring the format of “The Plan” to be embedded in a statutory document, and subject to the approval of a General Manager of WRC.

The s32 report sheds no light on the reason for this unusual requirement.

Rather it emphasises that: “*WRCs preferred approach is to engage directly and work collaboratively with landowners*”. We wholeheartedly endorse this preferred approach.

Relief Sought: delete Schedule F3a

SCHEDULE G: Principles for biodiversity offsets

Amend

Reason: the term “highly vulnerable’ is not clear. We suggest delete; alternatively specify the criteria

Relief sought: amend 2 (b) as follows: offsetting in inappropriate where... the values of that area are ~~highly vulnerable~~ or irreplaceable

SCHEDULE H: Contact Recreation and Maori Customary Use (& Map 20)

H1 Regionally significant primary contact recreation water bodies

H2 Priorities for improvement for contact recreation and maori customary use

Support with amendments

Reason: Federated Farmers commend the clear and prioritised approach taken in Schedule H.

Rivers and beaches are prioritised against stated criteria; and – very importantly – named to support community understanding and follow-on consideration by the whaitua.

This schedule sets the benchmark for others: we recommend this template be adopted more consistently though the pNRP.

We support the first priorities for improvement.

We query whether the rivers nominated as second order priorities are in fact priorities for whaitua attention or community investment – efforts may be better spent elsewhere. At minimum, we suggest the criteria for second priorities be amended to the “median”, consistent with the NOF framework (and acknowledging that spikes are most often associated with high flow events during winter months less suitable for contact recreation).

The descriptor for primary contact rivers should specify the bathing season, consistent with the coastal descriptor.

Map 20 would be improved by marking the monitoring points.

Relief Sought: amend Schedule H2 as follows:

- Fresh water bodies for primary contact: regionally significant primary contact recreation rivers at or below the NOF minimum acceptable state at flows below 3x median flow, and at one or more sites during the bathing season (November –March)
- Fresh water bodies for secondary contact: fresh water bodies with water quality assessed in the NOF C band, based on five year monitoring records.

Amend Map 20 to mark the monitoring points.

SCHEDULE I: Important trout fishery rivers and spawning waters (& Map 22)

Amend

Reason: Schedule I lists rivers un-supported by any criteria of “importance” and ill-supported by evidence in the supporting papers.

WRC supporting papers (based on National Angler Survey data from 2001/2 and 2007/8) show:

- Two rivers attract around 5000 or more “angler days” pa and account for 64% of regional fishing activity:
 - Ruamahanga River 6700; Hutt River just under 5000
- Three rivers attract just under or over 1000 “angler days” pa and account for 16% of fishing:
 - Wainuiomata 1500, Waikanae 900, Waiohine 900
- 30 other rivers and lakes account for the remaining 20% of annual fishing activity
 - Of these, WRC propose another 13 rivers which collectively add up to 2000 “angler days” or 11% of the total as “important”
 - We question the rationale

It is worth noting that Jordan has previously described the Hutt River as “*the principal trout fishery river in the Wellington Fish & Game region*”. Indeed, the 1994/5 NAS showed 19,000 angler days on the Hutt, before a subsequent steep decline in both trout numbers and fishing activity. Research assessing reasons for this decline (Jordan, part funded by WRC) found the key issue to be floods:

- *“Results show that overall variation in year to year discharge during the trout spawning period was the major determinate of population dynamics of brown trout in the Hutt River, with a significant correlation between discharge events greater than 200m³/s during the trout spawning period, and declines in the adult brown trout fishery*
- *Extremes in high flow results in suppressed recruitment or survivorship, as reflected in decreases in the adult trout fishery two or three years later*
- *Similar relationships between adult trout populations and flood events during spawning have been identified in the Motueka catchment*
- *Extremes of low flow were not shown to significantly drive population changes in the current study*
- *Changes in mainstem habitat, while significant, are not strongly correlated with changes in the adult fishery*
- *Changes in water quality are at best marginally correlated, though this could be due to the relationship between declines in water quality which are associated with increased high discharge events*
- *The cyclic pattern to the brown trout fishery population and hydrological events could be a consequence of southern oscillation weather patterns”.*

More recently, we note that the Fish & Game website routinely describes fishing on the popular rivers in terms such as “ holding healthy numbers of fish”, “most of the fish in good condition”, “highly productive rivers on the doorstep of urban centres” – acknowledging however that conditions will vary from year to year depending on the vagaries of floods and other events.

The F&G website describes access as one of the key barriers to fishing activity: sometimes due to steep or heavily vegetated streambanks, and often relying on landowner goodwill for permission.

We note that an “angler day” is an estimate:

- The National Angler Survey (NAS) invites anglers to recall fishing trips for the preceding year
- Any visits to a river are recorded as an “angler day” – if more than one river is visited on one day, this is recorded as multiple days
- The NAS surveys around 20% of licence holders, then extrapolates the results to national:
 - In 2007/8, 18,000 survey respondents recorded 70,000 angler days, ie, an average of just under 4 days each
 - This was extrapolated to the national angling population of 100,000, arriving at 1.2 million angler days, ie, an average of 12 days each
 - The reason for the difference is not obvious
- The 2007/8 NAS noted: *“When reporting on the 2001/2 survey, we noted the desirability of initiating some form of cross-validation to test the underlying assumptions that non-response and recall bias may be ignored, and hence to validate the survey methodology:

 - designing and implementing such a programme would be a considerable challenge and it is perhaps no surprise that little progress has been made”*

WRC supporting papers relating to spawning rivers (spawning survey data) show patterns similar to the fishing rivers (broadly the 80/20 game):

- a small number of streams which are consistently surveyed, consistently show evidence of multiple redds, and are consistently reported as important to that catchment system, eg:
 - Collins, Whakatikei, Wainui, Rahui, Catchpool, Blakes, Mangatarere
- WRC propose 43 other rivers or streams as “important” trout spawning waters
 - Some may merit closer inspection, eg, Maungakotukutuku, Te Mara
 - Some are recorded as having next to no redds, eg, Kopuaranga
 - Others appear to have been incorrectly recorded as having been surveyed, but apparently were not, eg, Taueru
 - We understand that research is underway analysing otoliths (ear bones) to assist in determining spawning sites, but this work is not yet in the arena and has not been relied on by WRC in making the determination of importance

We record our surprise that long tracts of lowland and hillcountry rivers which at face value are not prime trout habitat, have been deemed to be “important trout spawning habitat”. Either optimum conditions for trout are more “plastic” than has previously been supposed; or current land and water management practices provide conditions sufficient for trout to survive and apparently prosper.

In conclusion: WRC clearly need to analyse the supporting evidence for both fishing rivers and trout spawning and assess it against specified criteria of importance.

Pending that analysis we make recommendations below distinguishing indicative first and second order priorities for whaitua consideration.

Acknowledging that the whaitua processes create an opportunity for more detailed catchment-specific evidence and discussion, we suggest that the whaitua process also presents an opportunity to explore scope for partnerships between landowners and fishermen to help manage riparian areas and access to important rivers.

Relief Sought: that WRC be required to undertake a more rigorous analysis of evidence against specified criteria preliminary to re-drafting schedule I and Map 22

Pending that analysis, we suggest Schedule I could be restructured to show indicative priorities, and relevant rivers/reaches located in whitua chapters for whitua consideration :

- Indicative regionally important trout fishery rivers:
 - Hutt, Ruamahanga
- Indicative locally important trout fishery rivers:
 - Wainuiomata, Waikanae, Waiohine
- Indicative first priority spawning reaches:
 - Collins, Whakatikei, Wainui, Rahui, Catchpool, Mangatarere
- Indicative second priority spawning reaches:
 - Maungakotukutuku, Blakes and perhaps others based on clear evidence from spawning surveys

SCHEDULE M: Community Drinking Water Supply Abstraction Points

M1: Surface Water Community Supply (& Map 26)

M2: Ground Water Community Supply (& Map 27)

Amend

Reason: Schedule M currently lists community drinking water abstraction points. Readers are referred to Maps 26 and 27, which in fact show “protection zones” around these points.

The supporting papers are less than transparent on the links between the two:

- There is no explicit s32 discussion relating to drinking water quality
- In the body of the plan, there are no objectives for drinking water quality but multiple rules for the “protection zones”
- Among the technical papers are reports commissioned by WRC to map hydrological travel times, but there appears to be no analysis to date of actual drinking water quality, or assessment of risks from activities either immediately around the abstraction points or in the wider protection zone.

The link between the technical reports and maps 26 and 27 is also not transparent: specifically, were the proposed protection zones adopted as received from the authors, or modified for the pNRP. In this context we note that the GNS groundwater report advised (our emphasis):

- *“The maximum capture zones in this report are determined on pathline frequency raster based on a zero probability threshold, which delineates zones for all sensitivity analysis, **regardless if they are realistic or not**”*
- *By running and analysing more sensitivity simulations, unrealistic simulation results could be statistically removed from the capture zone analyses*
- *For example, the bottom 1% of simulations could be removed, or where only one in 100 simulations suggests flow occurs to a well”*
- Our question is: have the “unrealistic” simulations been removed?

Turning now to drinking water quality: we have reviewed the latest Annual Report on Drinking Water Quality (MoH, 2013/14). In relation to source protection, the report notes that drinking water suppliers (most often territorial authorities) are required to take “*reasonable steps to protect their water sources from contamination and pollution*”. These steps may include contributing to catchment management.

The results for community supplies in the Wairarapa show no significant water quality issues. Where non-compliance is noted, it is our understanding that these are principally “technical” rather than substantive breaches. Against the MoH compliance categories:

- Chemical (eg, nitrate): all supplies pass (except Featherston/one parameter)
- Micro-biological (e. coli): five larger supplies pass, four smaller supplies are marked as fails due to insufficient monitoring
- Protozoa (cryptosporidium): two supplies pass (Masterton/Fernridge), seven other supplies are marked as fails due to insufficient “log credits” (treatment barriers).

Re the last, the MoH report clarifies that:

- *“Protozoal non-achievement does not necessarily mean that pathogens (cryptosporidium, giardia) were present in the water.*
- *Water suppliers are not required to monitor for protozoa. Instead, achievement is based on the likelihood that treatment processes are in place to adequately protect the community, if protozoa are present.*
- *The trend of decreasing protozoal achievement against decreasing population size is possibly a reflection of the high cost of protozoal treatment”*

We recommend that more careful risk analysis and mapping is required to fine-tune the protection zones; and especially to fine-tune the proposed rules, noting the pNRP currently proposes multiple routine activities in protection zones be deemed “discretionary”. We have separately recommended that references to these protection zones in the rules be deleted, pending that analysis.

As above, it is currently a surprising omission that the pNRP does not describe or quantify objectives for drinking water quality: we make recommendations below, prioritised by MoH supply categories.

We note that other Regional Councils have used MoH guidelines, eg, nitrate, more widely as objectives for groundwater quality: we support this approach and make recommendations in the body of the submission to this effect.

Our recommendations are framed for consistency with the Contact Recreation template; and – as with other schedules – catchment-specific provisions should be located in the whitua chapters.

Relief Sought: that WRC undertake more detailed mapping and risk analysis alongside cost-benefit analysis of options for source/ treatment/zone controls, in consultation with Federated Farmers and territorial authorities, prior to the hearing to provide additional guidance to the hearing panel.

That Schedule M be amended as follows, or to similar effect:

- Schedule M: Community Drinking Water Supply ~~Abstraction Points~~
- Regionally important drinking water supplies:
 - community supplies as currently listed; and
 - identify priority supplies with substantive non-compliance with primary health determinands
- Locally important drinking water supplies:
 - list smaller rural supplies and
 - identify priority supplies where bacteriological standards are not met
- Groundwater drinking water quality
 - map domestic drinking water takes
 - identify priority areas with elevated groundwater nitrate relative to the standard

SCHEDULE P: Classifying and managing groundwater and surface water connectivity

Amend

Reason: the immediate application of this schedule is categorisation of groundwater takes.

Currently the schedule suggests that Category A and B takes will be subject to the same restrictions as surface water takes. This is incorrect: groundwater takes are subject to restrictions, whereas surface water takes can be subject to cease takes.

More broadly, the classification of ground and surface water connectivity relies on work by Gyopari et al undertaken in 2010. The various Gyopari reports describe data gaps, assumptions and key areas of uncertainty associated with the models, including identifying lag times for stream depletion effects.

It is our understanding that the Ruamahanga Whaitua modelling project is re-visiting the data used and testing key assumptions in the Gyopari model; we note this work may necessitate review of Schedule P as part of the Whaitua Plan Change.

Relief Sought: amend Schedule P as follows, or to similar effect: Category A and B groundwater takes that are directly connected to surface water are subject to the same core allocation and restrictions as surface water takes, and may be subject to restrictions in low-flows.

More importantly, it is our very strong recommendation that additional work is required to inform Schedule P, other pNRP water take provisions and whaitua review of minimum flow and allocation regimes – urgently in the case of the Ruamahanga whaitua. Specifically:

- Expanded low flow monitoring (including in the lower Ruamahanga below Waihenga)
- Critical analysis and groundtruthing of key information gaps, assumptions and uncertainties in WRC groundwater/surface water models
- Calibration and validation of sub-catchment (not just global) seasonal water balances
- Critical analysis and groundtruthing of Category A/B/C ground and surface water connects

SCHEDULE Q: Reasonable and efficient use criteria

Amend

Reason: reasonable and efficient use is a broader assessment than simply a model number. Among other things, it needs to take account of efficiency of use of existing investment; and potential unanticipated consequences (eg, clearing trees for pivots).

The water race proposal has turned up for the first time in the pNRP: it requires amendment to sit more sensibly alongside Method M13.

Other uses are generally minor takes and should not need independent audit.

Relief Sought: amend Schedule Q as follows, or to similar effect:

Irrigation:

- a resource consent to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a daily water balance field-validated model calibrated and validated to Wairarapa conditions (through to) within an accuracy of 15%
- Reasonable and efficient use shall be assessed taking into account
 - a) Irrigation efficiency of 70%; and
 - b) Efficiency of use of existing investment; and
 - c) Demand conditions that occur nine years out of ten; and
 - d) The needs of all users for reliability of supply, and the needs of some crops for higher reliability; and
 - e) Industry benchmarks for reasonable and efficient use

Water Races: ~~Ahead of~~ Consequent to the implementation of Method M13, information shall be submitted with resource consent applications from the controlling District Councils to take and use water for water races that identifies sections and/or properties where water use efficiency within the network could be improved.

Other uses: The amount of water applied for should be calculated in accordance with good management practices in relation to that use, or by demonstrating that water is not being wasted, ~~such as by means of a water use audit by an independent party to identify any wastage and any opportunities for re-use or conservation.~~

SCHEDULE S: Guideline for stepdown allocations

Amend

Reason: Clarify that stepdowns don't apply to stored water.

The allocation status across the region is not such that WRC need to require metering of small takes

Relief Sought: amend Schedule S to specify that stepdowns don't apply to stored water

Delete the following: ~~measuring and reporting for small takes may be required for small takes less than 5L/sec~~

After health needs, add stock drinking water and rootstock protection.

13 MAPS

Recommendations for amendments and additions to maps are made in the body of the submission.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

**Royal Forest and Bird Protection
Society**

Submitter Number:

S353

**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991
SUBMISSION ON WELLINGTON NATURAL RESOURCES PLAN**

To: Greater Wellington Regional Council

From: Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc (Forest & Bird)

Address for service:

Forest and Bird
P O Box 631
Wellington 6140
Attention: Amelia Geary

Hearing

Forest & Bird wishes to be heard in support of our submission.

INTRODUCTION

1. Forest & Bird is New Zealand's largest non-governmental conservation organisation with 70,000 members and supporters. Forest & Bird originally set out to protect New Zealand's unique flora and fauna, the tasks of Forest and Bird in more recent years have extended to protecting and maintaining the environment surrounding the flora and fauna. Establishing wildlife reserves, initiating protection campaigns and promoting general public awareness around what is happening in and around New Zealand is all central to Forest & Bird's establishing principle of flora and fauna protection.
2. The key matters of concern to Forest & Bird relate to the protection of ecological values, particularly those associated with freshwater, wetlands and the coastal environment. It is also important to Forest & Bird that the plan contain provisions that provide for the protection of the habitat of seabirds and migratory birds.
3. This submission commences with some general comments about the plan. A discussion of some matters which are relevant to different parts of the plan follows. This includes the manner in which offsetting and then a discussion of the provisions relating to freshwater and the coastal environment. The submission concludes with some comments on specific provisions.

4. For the purpose of this submission, the relief sought includes changes to the plan that are consequential on the relief sought or necessary to achieve the relief sought.

Freshwater

5. Forest & Bird generally supports objectives in O24 and O25. However, Forest & Bird considers that the policies, rules and other methods do not provide the basis for achieving these objectives.
- a. There are no rules that are linked to achieving the objectives.
 - b. The failure to include limits/targets in the plan and a policy and rule framework to support those limits means that there is no mechanism to ensure that the objectives in Table 3.4-3.8 will be achieved. There are also no rules to provide the ability to manage activities if the freshwater objectives are not being achieved. This is particularly the case in relation to agriculture and other activities that generate diffuse nutrient sediment or faecal contaminants, all of which can have significant adverse effects on water quality.
6. The effect of this is that the provisions relating to freshwater do not achieve Part 2 or section 31 of the Act.
7. While the plan anticipates the development of catchment wide plans, in the meantime there are no methods that require the achievement of the freshwater objectives. The plan should be amended to include methods that ensure that the freshwater objectives are achieved. This should be in the form of objectives and policies which provide for limits and targets including, soluble inorganic nitrogen (SIN = nitrate + nitrite + ammoniacal N) and dissolved reactive phosphorus (DRP). These targets and limits should be supported by rules which ensure that the limits/targets are achieved. These would be set at a level which achieves the limits/targets and ultimately the objectives.

8. Relief sought:

a. Add the following to Table 3.4 and 3.5:

- (i) SIN, which should not exceed 0.444 mg/L in any water body across the Region (bottom line) along with advice to decision makers that lower limits should be looked at where values are significant, high or outstanding at the site or in the downstream receiving environment, including effects on coastal waters and lakes and where concentrations would exceed MCI objectives in Table 3.4 for each river type.

- (ii) DRP, which should not exceed 0.01 mg/L in any water body (bottom line) along with advice to decision makers that lower limits should be looked at where values are significant, high or outstanding at the site or in the downstream receiving environment, including effects on coastal waters and lakes and where concentrations would exceed MCI objectives in Table 3.4 for each river type.
- b. Add provisions (objectives, policies and rules) that will ensure that the freshwater objectives are met, over time if necessary.

Significant sites

9. The plan contains a number of provisions regarding sites with significant values. The objectives relating to significant sites are generally supported. However, the policies are uncertain and will not achieve the objectives and the policy and rule framework does not differentiate between significant sites and other sites in most cases. Without specific policies and rules little guidance is provided to decision makers and, with limited exceptions, the Plan effectively allows any effects on these sites. The specific relief sought is as set out below.

Coastal

10. The provisions regarding the coastal environment are generally supported. The key areas of concern relate to the:

- a. incorporation of coastal provisions into general parts of the plan, for example, section 4.6. This has resulted in the specific provisions relating to the coastal environment not being given effect to. For example, Policy 11 of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS) contains provisions regarding the protection of significant sites that contain identified values. These are not carried through into the policies regarding significant sites.
 - b. the apparent mismatch between the plan, section 6(b) and the NZCPS. The plan provisions refer to the coastal marine area, when section 6(b) and the NZCPS refer to the coastal environment. This includes the schedules, which provide protection within the coastal marine area but not the coastal environment.
11. This could be corrected by including more specific provisions in the policies regarding the coastal environment in section 4.6 and ensuring that protection includes significant sites in the coastal environment, not just the coastal marine area.

Chapter 1 Introduction

Proposed New Provision	Support/Oppose	Reasons	Decision Sought
Chapter 1	Oppose in part, support in part	Our submission may result in changes to the Plan which need to be reflected in the Introduction	Amend to ensure Introduction reflects Plan contents

Chapter 2 Interpretation

Proposed New Provision	Support/Oppose	Reasons	Decision Sought

"dairy cows"	Support	This definition is appropriate.	Retain
"efficient allocation"	Oppose	The language used in the definition is vague and uncertain. The link between "economic, technical and dynamic efficiency" and allocation is tenuous.	Delete
"good management practice"	Oppose	The language is subjective.	Delete
"climate change"		A definition of climate change would greatly improve the plan	<p>Include a definition of climate change:</p> <p>A change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.</p> <p>Source: UN Framework Convention on Climate Change 1992</p>

Chapter 3 Objectives

Proposed New Provision	Support/Oppose	Reasons	Decision Sought

3.1 Ki uta ki tai: mountains to the sea			
Objective O1, O3-O5	Support	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
Objective O4	Support in part, oppose in part	The use of the word recognise is inappropriate as it provides little guidance.	Replace "recognised" with "safeguarded"
3.2 Beneficial use and development			
Objectives O6-O7, 10, 12	Retain	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
Objective 8	Oppose	This objective is unbalanced, failing to recognise the significance adverse effects that can arise from the take and use of water.	Delete
3.4 Natural character form and function			
Objective O17	Support in part, oppose in part	This objective is supposed to implement section 6(a) and Policy 11 of the NZCPS. However, the reference to the coastal marine area (CMA) is inappropriate. Section 6(a) refers to the coastal environment (including the CMA). This objective is limited to the coastal marine area and does not implement section 6(a) or Policy 11 of the NZCPS.	Replace coastal marine area with coastal environment
Objective O18-19	Support in part, oppose in part	These objectives are generally supported but use of the words "recognised" and "minimised" is opposed as they are uncertain	Replace "recognised" with "safeguarded" in O18 Replace O19 with "Natural processes are safeguarded"

		and inappropriate for inclusion in objectives and policies.	from use and development”.
Objective O20	Oppose	This policy is meaningless. An objective that relies on effects being acceptable effects is not an objective at all.	Replace with “The adverse effects from natural hazards and climate change on people, the community, ecological values and infrastructure are anticipated and provided for in a proactive and environmentally sensitive manner.”
Objectives O21, O22	Support	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
3.5 Water quality			
Objective O23	Support in part, oppose in part	This objective is generally consistent with Part 2 and section 30 but could be improved as set out in the relief sought.	Replace “maintained or improved” with “maintained where it is good and improved where it is degraded”
Objective O24	Support in part, oppose in part	This objective is generally consistent with Part 2 and section 30 but improvement in water quality should not be limited to significant water bodies.	Retain
3.6 Biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai			
Objective O25	Support in part, oppose in part	This objective is generally supported. The matters in (a)-(c) are appropriate. The note after objective is superfluous. The Council can notify a plan change at any time to give effect to the outcome of the whaitua committee process.	Retain policy but delete note.

<p>Tables 3.4-3.8 (general submission)</p>	<p>Support in part, oppose in part</p>	<p>Tables 3.4-3.8 are generally supported. However, there is an overreliance on narrative in some instances. The issue that arises is that this includes subjective words such as “balanced” and “appropriate”. These should be avoided where possible in favour of objective measures or numerical objectives.</p>	<p>Remove subjective references in tables and replace with objective measures.</p>
<p>Tables 3.4</p>	<p>Support in part, oppose in part</p>	<p>Table 3.4 is generally supported, except as set out below.</p> <p>The failure in the balance of the plan to provide any mechanism to achieve these objectives is significant.</p> <p>The reference to balanced indigenous macrophyte and indigenous fish communities is inappropriate and should be replaced with measurable parameters such as macrophyte cover for indigenous macrophyte communities and the index of biotic integrity for indigenous fish communities.</p> <p>It would be helpful if the mahinga kai species were identified, to provide greater certainty.</p> <p>Table 3.4 should include objectives for nitrate and ammonia toxicity as well as deposited sediment. For significant rivers with high macroinvertebrate community health, the Band ‘A’ thresholds for toxicity from the National Objectives Framework should be adopted to avoid toxic effects.</p> <p>Limits on nitrogen and phosphorus losses (both diffuse and point-sourced) will assist in meeting these objectives, along with riparian management, stock fencing and sediment reduction.</p>	<p>Identify mahinga kai species;</p> <p>Add objectives relating to:</p> <p>(a) Soluble inorganic nitrogen (SIN = nitrate + nitrite + ammoniacal N): should not exceed 0.444 mg/L in any water body across the Region (bottom line) along with advice to decision makers that lower limits should be looked at where values are significant, high or outstanding at the site or in the downstream receiving environment, including effects on the water quality of coastal waters and lakes and where concentrations would exceed MCI objectives in Table 3.4 for each river type.</p> <p>(b) Dissolved reactive phosphorus (DRP): should not exceed 0.01 mg/L in any water body (bottom line) along with advice to decision makers that lower limits should be looked at where values are significant, high or outstanding at the site or in the downstream receiving environment, including effects on the water quality of coastal waters and lakes and where concentrations would exceed MCI objectives in Table 3.4 for each river type.</p>

			<p>objectives in Table 3.4 for each river type.</p> <p>(c) Deposited sediment (fine silt or sand <2mm in diameter in naturally hard bottomed rivers and streams): should not exceed 20% cover of the bed or 10% of reference condition (based on the recommendations of Clapcott et al. 2011) OR alternatively deposited sediment objectives could be aligned with the Horizons One Plan numeric objectives in Schedule E which are between 15 and 25% deposited sediment cover depending on the significance of the values in a particular water body.</p> <p>(d) Non-indigenous macrophytes should not exceed 50% of channel water surface area (based on the recommendations of Matheson et al. 2012).</p>
<p>Tables 3.5</p>	<p>Support in part, oppose in part</p>	<p>The objectives are narrative and greater certainty could be provided by including measurable objectives where possible. For example, references to “balanced” and “low” import a degree of uncertainty which is undesirable and could be avoided through measurable objectives.</p> <p>The NPS-FW currently contains objectives in relation to trophic state of lakes which provide numeric objectives that could be immediately added to the Plan. Table 3.5 would benefit greatly from the addition of the NOF lake attributes and objectives.</p>	<p>(a) Soluble inorganic nitrogen (SIN = nitrate + nitrite + ammoniacal N): should not exceed 0.444 mg/L in any water body across the Region (bottom line) along with advice to decision makers that lower limits should be looked at where values are significant, high or outstanding at the site or in the downstream receiving environment, including coastal waters and lakes and where concentrations would exceed MCI objectives in Table 3.4 for each river type.</p> <p>(b) Dissolved reactive phosphorus (DRP): should not</p>

			<p>exceed 0.01 mg/L in any water body (bottom line) along with advice to decision makers that lower limits should be looked at where values are significant, high or outstanding at the site or in the downstream receiving environment, including coastal waters and lakes and where concentrations would exceed MCI objectives in Table 3.4 for each river type.</p> <p>Amend Table 3.5 to include the NOF lake attributes as well as the following additions:*</p> <p>(a) measurable parameters for macrophytes (defining dominance as a % cover);</p> <p>(b) and mahinga kai (identifying mahinga kai species).</p>
Tables 3.6	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>The objectives are narrative and greater certainty could be provided by removing reference to “unacceptable” which imports a degree of uncertainty which is undesirable and could and should be avoided through measurable objectives.</p> <p>The definition of unacceptable effects on stygofauna communities should be defined.</p>	<p>Amend Table 3.6 as follows:</p> <p>(a) Include provision that groundwater nitrate does not cause surface water nitrate to exceed objectives;</p> <p>(b) Include numeric measure of unacceptable effects on stygofauna communities.</p>
Tables 3.7	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>The objectives are narrative and greater certainty could be provided by including measurable objectives where possible. For example, references to “appropriate” and “balanced” import a degree of uncertainty which is undesirable and could and should be avoided through measurable objectives.</p>	<p>Amend Table 3.7 so it includes measurable objectives for plants and fish and identifies mahinga kai species</p>

Tables 3.8	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>The objectives are narrative and greater certainty could be provided by including measurable objectives where possible. For example, references to “low frequency”, “balanced” and “appropriate” impart a degree of uncertainty which is undesirable and could be avoided through measurable objectives.</p> <p>There is adequate information about some significant coastal waters such as Pauatahanui Inlet and Porirua Harbour to allow for specific objectives to be developed, particularly in relation to the effects of sediment.</p>	<p>Amend Table 3.8 as follows:</p> <p>(a) Include provision that defines “low frequency” of algal blooms;</p> <p>(b) Include measurable objectives for “seagrass and saltmarsh” and “invertebrates”</p> <p>(c) Identify mahinga kai species;</p> <p>(d) Develop specific objectives for Pauatahanui Inlet and Porirua Harbour</p>
Objective O26-29	Support	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
<i>3.6 Biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai</i>			
Objectives O31-O38	Support	These objectives are appropriate.	Retain
<i>3.10 Land use</i>			
Objective O44	Oppose	This policy is uncertain and ambiguous.	<p>Replace with:</p> <p>The adverse effects on soil and water from land use activities is managed to achieve the freshwater objectives in Table 3.4 –3.8.</p>

Objective O45	Oppose	This objective simply requires the reduction of effects. Stock access can have significant adverse effects, and it is inadequate that their effects simply be reduced, as they may remain significant. The policy is therefore inconsistent with the RMA, including Part 2 and section 30.	Replace "reduced" with "avoided".
3.11 Discharges			
Objective O46	Oppose	This objective simply requires the reduction of effects. Discharges to land can have significant adverse effects, particularly where they reach water, and it is inadequate that there effects simply be reduced, as they may remain significant. The policy is therefore inconsistent with the RMA, including Part 2 and section 30.	Replace with: Discharges to land are managed in a manner that achieves the freshwater objectives in Table 3.4 -3.8.
Objective O47	Oppose	This objective simply requires the reduction of effects. Sediment-laden run-off can have significant adverse effects, and it is inadequate that there effects simply be reduced, as they may remain significant. This is particularly relevant where sediment may reach the coastal environment.	Replace with "The adverse effects related to sediment laden water are avoided remedied or mitigated."
Objectives O49-O50	Support	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
3.12 Water allocation			
Objective O52	Oppose	The key issues relating to the taking, using, damming and diverting of water is to ensure that the effects of the take of	Replace title with 3.12 Taking, using, damming and diverting water

		water are avoided remedied or mitigated. The efficiency of allocation is secondary to this and is appropriately addressed in policies.	Replace objective with: Taking, using, damming and diverting water is undertaken in such a way that: (a) adverse effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated; (b) allocation amounts and minimum flows or water levels are complied with.
<i>3.13 Coastal environment</i>			
Objective O53	Oppose	The objectives fail to give effect to section 6(a) the NZCPS.	Replace reference to coastal marine area with coastal environment. Add the following at the end of the objective: and avoids adverse effects on significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitat of indigenous fauna and outstanding landscapes and features in the coastal environment.
Objective O54-O58	Support	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
New Objective		The use of soft engineering solutions should be promoted in the coastal environment.	New objective inserted: Soft engineering solutions to coastal hazards are preferred over hard engineering solutions.

Chapter 4 Policies			
Policy P3	Support		Retain
Policy P4	Oppose	Minimising adverse effects is not a RMA concept. Adverse effects need to be avoided, remedied or mitigated. The use of minimisation removes “avoid” from the way in which adverse effects are to be addressed. That is, there is no requirement to avoid effects if they are minimised.	Delete policy P4 and replace all references to “minimise” in the plan with appropriate language consistent with the RMA, e.g. avoiding, remedying or mitigating
Policies P5 and P6	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
<i>4.2 Beneficial use and development</i>			
Policy P7	Oppose	<p>This policy is uncertain as it does not specify how the benefits are recognised. There is particularly an issue where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil or ecosystems will not be safeguarded; the adverse effects have not been avoided, remedied or mitigated; and where freshwater objectives and/or targets and limits are being met. 	Delete

		For these reasons, this policy is therefore contrary to Part 2 and the NPS for Freshwater Management.		
Policy P8	Support in part, oppose in part	Many of these activities are beneficial and generally appropriate. However, the maintenance and use of beneficial structures in the CMA, natural wetlands or the beds of rivers and lakes may not be beneficial or appropriate.	Delete (h)	
Policy P9	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain	
Policy P11	Oppose	This policy is uncertain and inconsistent with Part 2 particularly where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil or ecosystems will not be safeguarded; the adverse effects have not been avoided, remedied or mitigated; and where freshwater objectives and/or targets and limits are being met. 	Delete	
Policy P13	Support in part, oppose in part	While it is accepted that regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation facilities are generally appropriate, it is important that adverse effects are avoided remedied and mitigated.	Add the words, "provided the adverse effects are avoided remedied".	
Policy P15 and 16	Oppose	While it is accepted that flood protection activities are generally appropriate, it is important that adverse effects	Add the words, "provided the adverse effects are avoided remedied".	

		are avoided remedied and mitigated.	
<i>4.4 Natural function and form</i>			
Policy P22	Support in part, oppose in part	This policy does not give effect to Policy 11 of the NZCPS.	<p>Replace with:</p> <p>The following effects shall be avoided:</p> <p>(a) significant adverse effects on the ecosystem values of estuaries, including their importance as habitat for indigenous plants, birds and fish including diadromous species, and as nursery for important fish stocks</p> <p>(b) Adverse effects on:</p> <p>(i) Threatened or at risk indigenous taxa ;</p> <p>(ii) indigenous ecosystems and vegetation types that are threatened in the coastal environment, or are naturally rare;</p> <p>(iii) habitats of indigenous species where the species are at the limit of their natural range, or are naturally rare;</p> <p>(iv) areas containing nationally significant examples of indigenous community types; and</p> <p>(v) areas set aside for full or partial protection of indigenous biological diversity under other legislation</p>

Policy P23	Support in part, oppose in part	The intention of this policy is supported but the language used, particularly the reference to “reduce” and “manage” is inappropriate.	Retain (c) but replace (a) and (b) (a) Managing activities that involve discharges of sediment and other pollutants in their catchments to achieve the Objectives in Tables 3.4 -3.8; (b) Managing erosion prone land and riparian margins in their achieve the Objectives in Tables 3.4 -3.8;
Policies P24 and P25	Support	These policies are supposed to implement section 6(a) and Policy 11 of the NZCPS. However, the reference to the coastal marine area is inappropriate. Section 6(a) refers to the coastal environment (including the coastal marine area). These policies are limited to the coastal marine area and do not implement section 6(a) or Policy 11 of the NZCPS.	Replace coastal marine area with coastal environment.
Policy P26	Support in part, oppose in part	The reference to minimise is inappropriate.	Replace P26 with: Use and development will avoid significant adverse effects on natural processes. In relation to adverse effects on natural processes that are not significant: (a) these are avoided in the first instance; (b) where they cannot be avoided, they are remedied; (c) where they cannot be remedied they are mitigated; and (d) residual adverse effects that cannot be mitigated, are offset.

Policy P29	Support in part, oppose in part	The policies do not adequately address the effects of climate change.	<p>Rename P29 Effects of climate change</p> <p>Add a new policy</p> <p>Managing the Effects of climate change</p> <p>The effects of climate changes are addressed in a proactive way by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) retaining existing indigenous vegetation in the coastal environment; (b) using environmentally sensitive options when addressing the effects of climate change, including soft engineering options.
Policy P30	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
<i>4.5 Biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai</i>			
Policy P31	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>Some aspects of this policy are supported but there are significant deficiencies.</p> <p>The policy makes no reference to the adverse effects associated with declining water quality, which can have significant adverse effects on aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai. The policy should include a provision requiring that water quality is maintained.</p> <p>The use of the word “minimise” is not appropriate. This adds uncertainty as it is not clear the extent to which effects must be “minimised”. Effects can be minimised by</p>	<p>Replace “minimise adverse effects on” with “maintain”</p> <p>Add new provisions:</p> <p>Maintain water quality in rivers, lakes and wetlands.</p> <p>Improve water quality in rivers, lakes and wetlands which are degraded.</p>

		<p>preventing activities which would cause the effects occurring. However, this is not the intention, as if it was the word "avoid" would be used. The appropriate language is that found in the RMA, which refers to avoiding, remedying and mitigating adverse effects and maintaining water quality.</p>	
<p>Policy P32</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>The policy provides no guidance on the management of effects and provides that any activity can proceed, regardless of effects, if the effects are offset. This is inconsistent with the Freshwater NPS, Part 2 and section 30.</p> <p>There are two improvements that could be made to the plan in this regard.</p> <p>Firstly, the plan should include limits and targets that ensure that the freshwater objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 are met. At a minimum this should include SIN and DRP. Forest & Bird has recommended a new policy to this effect. As discussed below, rules are also necessary to ensure that the targets/limits are achieved. These freshwater objectives are meaningless without these mechanisms to ensure they are met.</p> <p>Secondly, the approach in Policy 32 as notified should be discontinued in favour of an approach that provides for the avoidance of significant adverse effects and the hierarchical approach of avoiding, remedying, mitigating and offsetting of residual adverse effects.</p>	<p>Replace this policy with policies that provide:</p> <p>Policy P32 Adverse effects on aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai</p> <p>In order to maintain water quality, and meet the freshwater objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8, activities that have significant adverse effects on aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai are avoided.</p> <p>In relation to adverse effects that are not significant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (c) these are avoided in the first instance; (d) where they cannot be avoided, they are remedied; (e) where they cannot be remedied they are mitigated; and (f) residual adverse effects that cannot be mitigated, are offset. <p>Insert new policy P32A Managing to limits and targets</p> <p>Activities that impact on aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai shall be managed to ensure that the freshwater</p>

		<p>A further issue is that the plan considers that mitigation has to be provided in favour of offsetting. This is the appropriate approach. However, when assessing adverse effects, mitigation and offsetting are conflated in the last paragraph of Policy P32 and Schedule G.</p> <p>The matters in Schedule G relate only to offsetting and not mitigation.</p>	<p>Objectives in Tables 3.4 – 3.8 and limits/targets in Table 4.5 are achieved.</p> <p>Insert new Table 4.5 which includes at a minimum the targets/limits for SIN and DRP that need to be achieved to ensure that the freshwater objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 are met.</p>
Policy P33	Support	<p>The policy appropriately provides for significant adverse effects on significant sites are avoided.</p>	Retain
Policy P34,35	Support	<p>These policies are appropriate.</p>	Retain
Policy P36	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>This policy contains the word minimised which, for reasons set out above, is uncertain and should not be used. In addition, the policy is contrary to Policy 11 of the NZCPS in that it provides for adverse effects on matters that where adverse effects should be avoided.</p> <p>The policy should provide for the avoidance of significant adverse effects and avoiding, remedying or mitigating of other adverse effects in the same way that Policy 42 addresses effects on sites with significant indigenous biodiversity values.</p>	<p>Replace policy with:</p> <p>Significant adverse effects of use and development on the habitats of indigenous birds in the coastal marine area, wetlands, and beds of rivers and lakes and their margins for breeding, roosting, feeding, and migration are avoided and other effects are avoided remedied or mitigated.</p>

Policy P37	Support in part, oppose in part	The intent of Policy 37 is supported but the wording could be improved. In particular "their values" is ambiguous.	Replace the words "their values" with "the values of the natural wetland"
Policy P38-40	Support	These policies are appropriate.	Retain
Policy 41	Oppose	<p>The policy provides that any activity can proceed, regardless of effects on the sites identified in Policy P40, if the effects are offset. This is inconsistent with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Part 2, particularly section 6(c) in that it does not recognise and provide for the protection of the sites identified in Policy 40; (b) Section 30(1); (c) Policy 11 of the NZCPS; and (d) Policy 40, which provides for the protection of these sites. <p>The policy should provide for the avoidance of significant adverse effects on the sites identified in P40 and avoiding remedying, mitigating and offsetting other effects in accordance with the mitigation hierarchy.</p> <p>In the coastal environment Policy 11 the NZCPS requires adverse effects on some matters be avoided and significant adverse effects on other matters are avoided. A new policy needs to be added with respect to sites within the coastal environment which gives effect to Policy 11 of the NZCPS</p>	<p>The first paragraph should only apply to the matters in P40(a)-(c) so the words (a)-(c) should be added after P40.</p> <p>Replace second paragraph with:</p> <p>If the ecosystem or habitat cannot be avoided, adverse effects are managed by avoiding significant adverse effects. Where adverse effects are not significant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) they are avoided in the first instance; (b) where they cannot be avoided, they are remedied; (c) where they cannot be remedied they are mitigated; and (d) residual adverse effects that cannot be mitigated, are offset. <p>Delete "mitigation and" for the last paragraph of the policy.</p> <p>New policy</p> <p>P41A Managing adverse effects on significant sites within the coastal environment</p> <p>In order to protect the ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values in the coastal</p>

		<p>and should be included in 4.10.</p>	<p>environment avoid:</p> <p>(a) significant adverse effects on the sites Schedule F4 (coastal sites) and F5 (coastal habitats); and</p> <p>(b) adverse effects on any of the matters referred to in Policy 11(a) of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement.</p> <p>In relation to other effects on indigenous biodiversity in the coastal environment</p> <p>(c) they are avoided in the first instance;</p> <p>(d) where they cannot be avoided, they are remedied;</p> <p>(e) where they cannot be remedied they are mitigated; and</p> <p>(f) residual adverse effects that cannot be mitigated, are offset.</p> <p>A cross reference in the coastal policies should also be included immediately below heading 4.10.</p> <p>Policy 41A applies to where there are adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity in the coastal environment.</p>
<p>4.6 Sites with significant values</p>			
<p>Policy P42, P43, P48-51</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>These policies are appropriate.</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>4.8 Discharges to land and water</p>			

General comment	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>The provisions of Section 4.8 make some reference to the freshwater objectives in Table 3.4-3.8 with respect to point source discharges. However, diffuse discharges, particularly from agricultural activities, which can have significant adverse effects, are not addressed.</p> <p>The effect of this is that there are no controls on agricultural activities that will ensure that the objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 are achieved. This is a significant flaw as it effectively renders the objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 meaningless if there are no supporting provisions (including rules) to ensure that the objectives are met.</p> <p>Policy 62 is supported</p>	Amendments are required to ensure that the freshwater objectives are achieved.
Policy P62	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
Policy P65	Oppose	<p>Nutrient discharges from agriculture are a significant issue that can cause significant adverse effects. This policy is the key provision for these nutrient discharges and it makes no reference to the freshwater objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8. There is no rule that gives effect to this policy. Despite Policy 65(d) providing for regulatory methods none are specified in the Plan.</p> <p>It is critical that this policy refer to the objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 and that other areas of the plan specify methods to achieve these objectives.</p> <p>There is reference to the objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 in</p>	<p>Replace with:</p> <p>Where an objective in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 of Objective O25 is not met, discharges from agricultural activities which involve contaminants entering water shall be managed in the following way:</p> <p>(a) for an existing discharge that contributes to the objective not being met, the discharge is only appropriate if:</p> <p>(vi) the application for resource consent, at a minimum includes a defined programme of work for upgrading the activity, in accordance with good</p>

		<p>Policy 70 which relates to discharges to water. However, agricultural discharges are usually discharges to land in circumstances where it may enter water.</p> <p>The reference to minimisation is inappropriate.</p> <p>Adverse effects are not changed through information gathering, monitoring, assessment or reporting, although it is acknowledged that this information is required to be collected to enable more robust management of the effects in future.</p>	<p>management practice, within the term of the resource consent, and</p> <p>(vii) conditions on the resource consent which require the reduction of adverse effects that will ensure that, along with other measures in the catchment, the objectives in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 are achieved.</p> <p>(b) for a change of agricultural activity, the discharge is only appropriate if the activity would not cause the affected fresh water body or area of coastal water to become any worse in relation to the objective.</p>
Policy 66	Oppose	<p>This policy does not give effect to the NPS for Freshwater Management 2014</p> <p>The transition provision is inappropriate. The NPSFM2014 has no transitional provision.</p>	<p>Replace second paragraph with:</p> <p>This policy applies to all discharges (including diffuse discharges by any person or animal) of contaminants to water and all discharges of contaminants onto or into land that may result in that contaminant or, as the result of natural processes from the discharge of that contaminant, any other contaminant enter water.</p> <p>Delete last paragraph (starting Sections (a)...).</p>
Policy P67	Oppose	<p>The use of minimising effects is inappropriate.</p> <p>This policy relates to both discharge to land and water but is in the section relating to discharges to water.</p>	<p>The adverse effects of discharges of contaminants to land and water are managed so that significant adverse effects are avoided. Where adverse effects are not significant they are managed by:</p>

			<p>(a) these are avoided in the first instance;</p> <p>(b) where they cannot be avoided, they are remedied;</p> <p>(c) where they cannot be remedied they are mitigated; and</p> <p>(d) residual adverse effects that cannot be mitigated, are offset.</p> <p>Move heading 4.8.2 below Policy P67.</p>
Policy P68	Support	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
Policy P70	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>This policy does not go far enough. It relates to discharge to water. It does provide any assurance that the objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 will be met.</p> <p>The reference to offsetting residual adverse effects is not appropriate in circumstances where the objectives are not being met. Schedule G is not aimed at offsetting adverse effects on water quality.</p>	<p>Replace with:</p> <p>Where an objective in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 of Objective O25 is not met, point source discharges to water shall be managed in the following way:</p> <p>(a) for an existing discharge that contributes to the objective not being met, the discharge is only appropriate if:</p> <p>(i) the application for resource consent, at a minimum includes a defined programme of work for upgrading the activity, in accordance with good management practice, within the term of the resource consent, and</p> <p>(ii) conditions on the resource consent which require the reduction of adverse effects that will ensure that, along with other measures, the objectives in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 of</p>

			Objective O25 are achieved. (b) for a new activity, the discharge is only appropriate if the activity would not cause the affected fresh water body or area of coastal water to become any worse in relation to the objective. (c) Remove reference to “good management practice” – this is undefined
Policy P71	Support in part, oppose in part	Policy 71 should only apply where the freshwater objectives are being met. Where freshwater objectives are not being met, this policy is inadequate. The reference to minimise is inappropriate.	Add the following to the start of the policy Where all of the objectives in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 of Objective O25 are met Replace “minimised” with “managed” Replace “minimise” with “mitigate”
Policy P76, 78, 81	Support in part, oppose in part	The reference to minimise is inappropriate	Replace “minimise” with “mitigate”
Policy P92-94	Support	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
Policy P95	Support in part, oppose in part	The issue with these is that it does not address diffuse discharges from stock. Policy P95(f) was not developed with this in mind, as there will usually be a diffuse discharge from stock that can effect water.	Amend to ensure provisions properly address diffuse discharges from stock.
Policy P96	Oppose	There should be an explicit link between activities and the objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8. The reference to good management practice is oblique and will not ensure that	Rural land use activities are undertaken in a manner consistent with Policy P65 (as recommended by Forest and Bird above) and good management practice.

		the objectives are achieved. New activities should not contribute to the objectives not being met and existing activities should need to improve environmental performance (alongside equivalent improvements by other existing activities to ensure that the objectives are achieved).	
Policy 97 and 98	Oppose	<p>These policies are confusing.</p> <p>It is not clear how adverse effects on water quality are to be offset. The principles in Schedule G are addressed to habitat loss and are not readily applied to water quality, especially in the context of a one-off discharge. . .</p>	<p>Replace references to minimised with mitigated.</p> <p>Delete last paragraph of Policy 97.</p>
Policy 99	Oppose	This policy is not appropriate as it allows significant adverse effects.	<p>Replace with the following policy:</p> <p>Stock shall be excluded from waterbodies except where the adverse effects, including cumulative adverse effects, can be demonstrated as being no more than minor.</p>
Policy 100	Support in part, oppose in part	The reference to minimisation is inappropriate	Riparian set-backs and good management practises shall be used to avoid remedy and mitigate the adverse effects of the overland flow of contaminants to surface water bodies from the use of land for cultivation and break-feeding.
Policy 101 - 109	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain

Policy 110	Oppose	The NPSFM2014 does not have any transitional provisions. This means that the everything after (b) does not give effect to the NPS for Freshwater Management 2014	Delete everything after the end of (b)
Policy 111-112, 115, 119, 120, 129	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
Policy 113	Oppose	The core allocations are too high and do not give effect to the NPSFM.	The maximum allocation amount should be set at a level which provides for ecological health (a significantly lower allocation than in this policy)
Policy 128	Support in part, oppose in part	In overallocated catchments, provision should be made for a reduction in the take when transferred Any transfer should allow for the imposition of up to date conditions. Outdated conditions should not be able to persist through a transfer	Amend (b) by adding the words "except in overallocated catchments, where a maximum of 50% of the water should be transferred" Measuring and reporting the use of transferred water shall be subject to appropriate conditions at the time of transfer
Policy 148	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
<i>4.10 Coastal management</i>			
Policy P132	Support in part, oppose in part	This policy does not give effect to the NZCPS.	Add new provision (h) (h) adverse effects are managed in accordance with [new] Policy 41A

Policy P138	Support in part, oppose in part	This policy does not give effect to the NZCPS.	Add new provision (e) (e) adverse effects are managed in accordance with [new] Policy 41A
Policy P139	Support in part, oppose in part	Policy P139(e) is a good start but does not go far enough in supporting soft engineering options.	In (e) replace "appropriate" with "possible"
Policy P143	Support in part, oppose in part	It is uncertain why activities by territorial authorities which are not covered by the others provisions should be allowed.	Delete (e)
Policy 147-149	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain

Chapter 5 Rules

Proposed New Provision	Support/Oppose	Reasons	Decision Sought

<i>5.2 Discharges to water</i>				
Rules 42-68	Support	These rules are generally appropriate.	Retain subject to any consequential amendments necessary to give effect to submissions on the objectives and policies above.	
<i>5.3 Discharges to land</i>				
Rules 42-93	Support	Subject to the submission points below, these rules are generally appropriate.	Retain subject to any consequential amendments necessary to give effect to submissions on the objectives and policies above.	
Rule R84		This rule is incorrectly located. It is a rule that relates to discharges to water but is in the part of the plan that relates to discharges to land.	Move rule to correct location.	
New rule(s) for diffuse discharge from stock		<p>These rules are confusing and circular.</p> <p>Policy 65 and 66 relate to nutrient discharges from agricultural activities that enter water. Policy P66 includes express reference to diffuse discharges from animals, which are governed by section 15(1) as a discharge to land in circumstances where it may enter water.</p> <p>Policy 65 provides for the minimisation of the effects of nutrient discharges from agricultural activities that enter water and refers to this occurring through regulatory and non-regulatory methods.</p> <p>However there is no rule to give effect to this. The</p>	Retain subject to any consequential amendments necessary to give effect to submissions on the objectives and policies above.	<p>Insert new rule(s) relating to agricultural discharges which permit diffuse discharge of nutrients from agricultural activities onto land in circumstances where the nutrient may enter water is a permitted activity provided good management practises are adopted and the discharge is not contributing to a breach of the objectives in tables 3.4-3.8 or the limits and targets. If the freshwater objectives are not being met then consents would be required to ensure that the freshwater objectives are being met.</p>

		<p>freshwater objectives are only referred to in Policy P70, which relates to point source discharges.</p> <p>The effect of this is that agricultural activities involving a diffuse discharge from an animal resulting in a contaminant entering water are covered by Rule 93. The likely effect of this is that a large number of farmers will require resource consent under Rule 93. There are much more efficient ways of managing this issue. Resource consents are appropriate when freshwater objectives are not being met.</p>	
5.4 Land use			
New rule		<p>There is no rule to give effect to Policy 96. While the policy refers to setting the limits through the whaitua process, the absence of any rules relating to land use and/or diffuse discharge from stock associated with agricultural land use is a significant. If the freshwater objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 are not being met then there needs to be some mechanism available to monitor and enforce compliance with the freshwater objectives.</p>	<p>Add new rule for diffuse discharge from stock as above.</p>
Rule 97 and 98	Oppose	<p>These rules are inadequate to address the adverse effects associated with stock access to water bodies. They do not give effect to Policies 97-100.</p> <p>Stock access in accordance with this rule could have significant adverse effects on water quality and aquatic ecology and should not be permitted.</p>	<p>Amend Rule 97 so that stock access (cattle including dairy cows, farmed deer and farmed pigs) is not permitted in Category 1 or 2 surface water bodies or rivers with an active bed wider than 1 m.</p> <p>Amend Rule 98 so that stock access to the bed of surface water bodies that is not permitted is non-complying.</p>

<i>5.5 Wetlands and beds of rivers and lakes</i>			
5.5.2 and Rules 104 - 106	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
Rule 107	Support in part, oppose in part	Clearance of vegetation from natural wetlands should be a non-complying activity.	Make (c) a non-complying activity by moving it to Rule 108
Rule 108	Support in part, oppose in part	The definition of reclamation is too wide. Drainage and diversion can have significant effects before the wetland is no longer a wetland	Replace (c) with (c) Draining that effects the natural characteristics of a natural wetland
Rule 110 and 111	Support in part, oppose in part	The definition of reclamation includes drainage and diversion that makes the outstanding natural wetland not a wetland. However, the use of the word "includes" indicates reclamation includes other things but it is not clear what they are	Amend Rule 111 and follows Rule 111 – Diversion of outstanding natural wetlands Reclamation, which involves activities which change the characteristics of the wetland or part of it within an outstanding natural wetland in Schedule 3 is a prohibited activity unless stipulated and carried out in accordance with a restoration management plan under Rule 106 is a prohibited activity.
5.5.2, Rules 112-116	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain

Rules 126-128	Support in part, oppose in part	The damming or reclamation of outstanding water bodies should be prohibited. There is no justification for distinguishing between outstanding river and outstanding lakes.	Change activity status for Rules 126 and 127 to prohibited
Rule 128	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
Rules 130-134	Support in part, oppose in part	Damming or diversion of water in outstanding rivers and lakes should be a non-complying activity	New rule providing that damming or diversion of water outstanding rivers and lakes is a non-complying activity
<i>5.7 Coastal management</i>			
General comment	Support in part, oppose in part	These rules are generally supported. The key issue is ensuring that the rules apply to activities in significant sites which are within the coastal environment but not the CMA.	Amend Schedules to ensure that apply to coastal environment not on CMA.
5.7.2 and Rules 149-200, 202-205	Support	These rules are generally appropriate	Retain subject to any consequential amendments necessary to give effect to submissions on the objectives and policies above.
Rule 200	Support in part, oppose in part	Discretionary activity status is not appropriate in sites of significance	Change activity status to non-complying
Rules 206 and 207	Support in part, oppose in part	The rule should not apply in significant sites, where the activity should be restricted discretionary.	Delete matter of control (5) and make the activity in sites identified in (5) a restricted discretionary activity with discretion reserved over whether the activity should be undertaken within that site.

Rule 211	Support in part, oppose in part	The rule should not apply in significant sites, where the activity should be non-complying.	Make the activity non-complying in significant sites
Rules 210, 212, 213, 218 and 219	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain subject to any consequential amendments necessary to give effect to submissions on the objectives and policies above.
Rule 217	Support in part	Only plants indigenous to the area should be able to be planted.	Delete (d) and replace with: The plant species planted shall be native species that naturally grow in the area planting occurs.

Chapter 12 Schedules

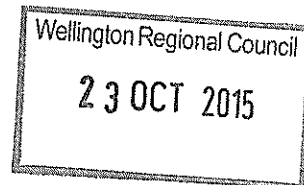
Proposed New Provision	Support/Oppose	Reasons	Decision Sought

Schedules A,E and F	Support	The schedules are generally appropriate and should be retained, although some minor amendment may be required..	Retain, subject to some minor amendments
Schedules F4 and F5	Support in part, oppose in part	This schedule only relates to the coastal marine area. This does not give effect to the NZCPS which references to indigenous biodiversity with in the coastal environment.	Extend Schedules F4 and F5 to include sites within the coastal environment
Schedule G	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>This schedule provides guidance about and seeks to attempt to distinguish mitigation from offsetting but fails to clearly distinguish between the two. This distinction is important as effects should be mitigated before they are offset.</p> <p>Mitigation is not about generating positive effects. It is about reducing the adverse effects from an activity. When this approach is adopted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principles 1 and 2 relate to both offsetting and mitigation. • Principle 3 is about positive effects and only relates to offsetting. • The application of Principle 4 requires a positive effect so relate to offsetting not mitigation. • Principle 5(a) is about positive effects and only relates to offsetting. • Principle 5(b)-(d) relate to both offsetting and mitigation • Principle 6 relates only to offsetting. <p>The second paragraph is superfluous.</p>	<p>Delete second paragraph</p> <p>Retain the first sentence of paragraph 3 but replace the remaining sentences with “Principles 1, 2 and 5(b)-(d) relate to proposals for offsetting and mitigation. Principles 3, 4, 5(a) and 6 apply solely to the consideration of biodiversity offsets.”</p>

#1530855

Mark Sutherland

From: Regional Plan
Sent: Tuesday, 27 October 2015 9:33 a.m.
To: Records
Subject: FW: Submission from Forest & Bird on pNRP
Attachments: Original Submission to Council on Wellington NRP.docx



Kind Regards,

Erin Campbell | Hearings Officer, Environmental Policy
GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL
Te Pane Matua Taiao
Shed 39, 2 Fryatt Quay, Pipitea, Wellington 6011

PO Box 11646, Manners St, Wellington 6142
T: 04 830 4318 | www.gw.govt.nz

From: Amelia Geary [<mailto:A.Geary@forestandbird.org.nz>]
Sent: Friday, 23 October 2015 3:27 p.m.
To: Regional Plan
Cc: Peter Anderson
Subject: Submission from Forest & Bird on pNRP

Hi Sam

Please find attached our submission on behalf of the Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington region.

Regards,
Amelia

Amelia Geary
Regional Conservation and Volunteer Manager (Lower North Island)

Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc.
PO Box 631, Wellington 6140, New Zealand
Tel 04 385 7374 DDI 04 803 1010 Cell 022 183 2729

You can join or renew your Forest & Bird membership at www.forestandbird.org.nz

**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991
SUBMISSION ON WELLINGTON NATURAL RESOURCES PLAN**

To: Greater Wellington Regional Council

From: Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc (Forest & Bird)

Address for service:

Forest and Bird
P O Box 631
Wellington 6140
Attention: Amelia Geary

INTRODUCTION

1. Forest & Bird is New Zealand's largest non-governmental conservation organisation with 70,000 members and supporters. Forest & Bird originally set out to protect New Zealand's unique flora and fauna, the tasks of Forest and Bird in more recent years have extended to protecting and maintaining the environment surrounding the flora and fauna. Establishing wildlife reserves, initiating protection campaigns and promoting general public awareness around what is happening in and around New Zealand is all central to Forest & Bird's establishing principle of flora and fauna protection.
2. The key matters of concern to Forest & Bird relate to the protection of ecological values, particularly those associated with freshwater, wetlands and the coastal environment. It is also important to Forest & Bird that the plan contain provisions that provide for the protection of the habitat of seabirds and migratory birds.
3. This submission commences with some general comments about the plan. A discussion of some matters which are relevant to different parts of the plan follows. This includes the manner in which offsetting and then a discussion of the provisions relating to freshwater and the coastal environment. The submission concludes with some comments on specific provisions.
4. For the purpose of this submission, the relief sought includes changes to the plan that are consequential on the relief sought or necessary to achieve the relief sought.

Freshwater

5. Forest & Bird generally supports objectives in O24 and O25. However, Forest & Bird considers that the policies, rules and other methods do not provide the basis for achieving these objectives.
 - a. There are no rules that are linked to achieving the objectives.
 - b. The failure to include limits/targets in the plan and a policy and rule framework to support those limits means that there is no mechanism to ensure that the objectives in Table 3.4-3.8 will be achieved. There are also no rules to provide the ability to manage activities if the freshwater objectives are not being achieved. This is particularly the case in relation to agriculture and other activities that generate diffuse nutrient sediment or faecal contaminants, all of which can have significant adverse effects on water quality.
6. The effect of this is that the provisions relating to freshwater do not achieve Part 2 or section 31 of the Act.
7. While the plan anticipates the development of catchment wide plans, in the meantime there are no methods that require the achievement of the freshwater objectives. The plan should be amended to include methods that ensure that the freshwater objectives are achieved. This should be in the form of objectives and policies which provide for limits and targets including, soluble inorganic nitrogen (SIN = nitrate + nitrite + ammoniacal N) and dissolved reactive phosphorus (DRP). These targets and limits should be supported by rules which ensure that the limits/targets are achieved. These would be set at a level which achieves the limits/targets and ultimately the objectives.
8. **Relief sought:**
 - a. Add the following to Table 3.4 and 3.5:
 - (i) SIN, which should not exceed 0.444 mg/L in any water body across the Region (bottom line) along with advice to decision makers that lower limits should be looked at where values are significant, high or outstanding at the site or in the downstream receiving environment, including effects on coastal waters and lakes and where concentrations would exceed MCI objectives in Table 3.4 for each river type.
 - (ii) DRP, which should not exceed 0.01 mg/L in any water body (bottom line) along with advice to decision makers that lower limits should be looked at where values are significant, high or outstanding at the site or in the downstream receiving environment, including effects on coastal waters and lakes and where concentrations would exceed MCI objectives in Table 3.4 for each river type.
 - b. Add provisions (objectives, policies and rules) that will ensure that the freshwater objectives are met, over time if necessary.

Significant sites

9. The plan contains a number of provisions regarding sites with significant values. The objectives relating to significant sites are generally supported. However, the policies are uncertain and will not achieve the objectives and the policy and rule framework does not differentiate between significant sites and other sites in most cases. Without specific policies and rules little guidance is provided to decision makers and, with limited exceptions, the Plan effectively allows any effects on these sites. The specific relief sought is as set out below.

Coastal

10. The provisions regarding the coastal environment are generally supported. The key areas of concern relate to the:

- a. incorporation of coastal provisions into general parts of the plan, for example, section 4.6. This has resulted in the specific provisions relating to the coastal environment not being given effect to. For example, Policy 11 of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS) contains provisions regarding the protection of significant sites that contain identified values. These are not carried through into the policies regarding significant sites.
- b. the apparent mismatch between the plan, section 6(b) and the NZCPS. The plan provisions refer to the coastal marine area, when section 6(b) and the NZCPS refer to the coastal environment. This includes the schedules, which provide protection within the coastal marine area but not the coastal environment.

11. This could be corrected by including more specific provisions in the polices regarding the coastal environment in section 4.6 and ensuring that protection includes significant sites in the coastal environment, not just the coastal marine area.

Chapter 1 Introduction

Proposed New Provision	Support/Oppose	Reasons	Decision Sought
Chapter 1	Oppose in part, support in part	Our submission may result in changes to the Plan which need to be reflected in the Introduction	Amend to ensure Introduction reflects Plan contents

Chapter 2 Interpretation

Proposed New Provision	Support/Oppose	Reasons	Decision Sought
"dairy cows"	Support	This definition is appropriate.	Retain
"efficient allocation"	Oppose	The language used in the definition is vague and uncertain. The link between "economic, technical and dynamic efficiency" and allocation is tenuous.	Delete
"good management practice"	Oppose	The language is subjective.	Delete
"climate change"		A definition of climate change would greatly improve the plan	<p>Include a definition of climate change:</p> <p>A change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.</p> <p>Source: UN Framework Convention on Climate Change 1992</p>

Chapter 3 Objectives

Proposed New Provision	Support/Oppose	Reasons	Decision Sought
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3.1 Ki uta ki tai: mountains to the sea		
Objective O1, O3-O5	Support	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.
Objective O4	Support in part, oppose in part	The use of the word recognise is inappropriate as it provides little guidance.
3.2 Beneficial use and development		
Objectives O6-O7, 10, 12	Retain	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.
Objective 8	Oppose	This objective is unbalanced, failing to recognise the significance adverse effects that can arise from the take and use of water.
3.4 Natural character form and function		
Objective O17	Support in part, oppose in part	This objective is supposed to implement section 6(a) and Policy 11 of the NZCPS. However, the reference to the coastal marine area (CMA) is inappropriate. Section 6(a) refers to the coastal environment (including the CMA). This objective is limited to the coastal marine area and does not implement section 6(a) or Policy 11 of the NZCPS.
Objective O18-19	Support in part, oppose in part	These objectives are generally supported but use of the words “recognised” and “minimised” is opposed as they are uncertain
	Retain	Replace coastal marine area with coastal environment
	Replace “recognised” with “safeguarded”	Replace “recognised” with “safeguarded” in O18 Replace O19 with “Natural processes are safeguarded

			and inappropriate for inclusion in objectives and policies.	from use and development”.
Objective O20	Oppose		This policy is meaningless. An objective that relies on effects being acceptable effects is not an objective at all.	Replace with “The adverse effects from natural hazards and climate change on people, the community, ecological values and infrastructure are anticipated and provided for in a proactive and environmentally sensitive manner.”
Objectives O21, O22	Support		These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
<i>3.5 Water quality</i>				
Objective O23	Support in part, oppose in part		This objective is generally consistent with Part 2 and section 30 but could be improved as set out in the relief sought.	Replace “maintained or improved” with “maintained where it is good and improved where it is degraded”
Objective O24	Support in part, oppose in part		This objective is generally consistent with Part 2 and section 30 but improvement in water quality should not be limited to significant water bodies.	Retain
<i>3.6 Biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai</i>				
Objective O25	Support in part, oppose in part		This objective is generally supported. The matters in (a)-(c) are appropriate. The note after objective is superfluous. The Council can notify a plan change at any time to give effect to the outcome of the whaitua committee process.	Retain policy but delete note.

<p>Tables 3.4-3.8 (general submission)</p>	<p>Support in part, oppose in part</p>	<p>Tables 3.4-3.8 are generally supported. However, there is an overreliance on narrative in some instances. The issue that arises is that this includes subjective words such as “balanced” and “appropriate”. These should be avoided where possible in favour of objective measures or numerical objectives.</p>	<p>Remove subjective references in tables and replace with objective measures.</p>
<p>Tables 3.4</p>	<p>Support in part, oppose in part</p>	<p>Table 3.4 is generally supported, except as set out below.</p> <p>The failure in the balance of the plan to provide any mechanism to achieve these objectives is significant.</p> <p>The reference to balanced indigenous macrophyte and indigenous fish communities is inappropriate and should be replaced with measurable parameters such as macrophyte cover for indigenous macrophyte communities and the index of biotic integrity for indigenous fish communities.</p> <p>It would be helpful if the mahinga kai species were identified, to provide greater certainty.</p> <p>Table 3.4 should include objectives for nitrate and ammonia toxicity as well as deposited sediment. For significant rivers with high macroinvertebrate community health, the Band ‘A’ thresholds for toxicity from the National Objectives Framework should be adopted to avoid toxic effects.</p> <p>Limits on nitrogen and phosphorus losses (both diffuse and point-sourced) will assist in meeting these objectives, along with riparian management, stock fencing and sediment reduction.</p>	<p>Identify mahinga kai species;</p> <p>Add objectives relating to:</p> <p>(a) Soluble inorganic nitrogen (SIN = nitrate + nitrite + ammoniacal N): should not exceed 0.444 mg/L in any water body across the Region (bottom line) along with advice to decision makers that lower limits should be looked at where values are significant, high or outstanding at the site or in the downstream receiving environment, including effects on the water quality of coastal waters and lakes and where concentrations would exceed MCI objectives in Table 3.4 for each river type.</p> <p>(b) Dissolved reactive phosphorus (DRP): should not exceed 0.01 mg/L in any water body (bottom line) along with advice to decision makers that lower limits should be looked at where values are significant, high or outstanding at the site or in the downstream receiving environment, including effects on the water quality of coastal waters and lakes and where concentrations would exceed MCI objectives in Table 3.4 for each river type.</p>

			<p>objectives in Table 3.4 for each river type.</p> <p>(c) Deposited sediment (fine silt or sand <2mm in diameter in naturally hard bottomed rivers and streams): should not exceed 20% cover of the bed or 10% of reference condition (based on the recommendations of Clapcott et al. 2011) OR alternatively deposited sediment objectives could be aligned with the Horizons One Plan numeric objectives in Schedule E which are between 15 and 25% deposited sediment cover depending on the significance of the values in a particular water body.</p> <p>(d) Non-indigenous macrophytes should not exceed 50% of channel water surface area (based on the recommendations of Matheson et al. 2012).</p>
<p>Tables 3.5</p>	<p>Support in part, oppose in part</p>	<p>The objectives are narrative and greater certainty could be provided by including measurable objectives where possible. For example, references to “balanced” and “low” import a degree of uncertainty which is undesirable and could be avoided through measurable objectives.</p> <p>The NPS-FW currently contains objectives in relation to trophic state of lakes which provide numeric objectives that could be immediately added to the Plan. Table 3.5 would benefit greatly from the addition of the NOF lake attributes and objectives.</p>	<p>(a) Soluble inorganic nitrogen (SIN = nitrate + nitrite + ammoniacal N): should not exceed 0.444 mg/L in any water body across the Region (bottom line) along with advice to decision makers that lower limits should be looked at where values are significant, high or outstanding at the site or in the downstream receiving environment, including coastal waters and lakes and where concentrations would exceed MCI objectives in Table 3.4 for each river type.</p> <p>(b) Dissolved reactive phosphorus (DRP): should not</p>

			<p>exceed 0.01 mg/L in any water body (bottom line) along with advice to decision makers that lower limits should be looked at where values are significant, high or outstanding at the site or in the downstream receiving environment, including coastal waters and lakes and where concentrations would exceed MCI objectives in Table 3.4 for each river type.</p> <p>Amend Table 3.5 to include the NOF lake attributes as well as the following additions:*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) measurable parameters for macrophytes (defining dominance as a % cover); (b) and mahinga kai (identifying mahinga kai species).
Tables 3.6	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>The objectives are narrative and greater certainty could be provided by removing reference to “unacceptable” which imports a degree of uncertainty which is undesirable and could and should be avoided through measurable objectives.</p> <p>The definition of unacceptable effects on stygofauna communities should be defined.</p>	<p>Amend Table 3.6 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Include provision that groundwater nitrate does not cause surface water nitrate to exceed objectives; (b) Include numeric measure of unacceptable effects on stygofauna communities.
Tables 3.7	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>The objectives are narrative and greater certainty could be provided by including measurable objectives where possible. For example, references to “appropriate” and “balanced” import a degree of uncertainty which is undesirable and could and should be avoided through measurable objectives.</p>	<p>Amend Table 3.7 so as it includes measurable objectives for plants and fish and identifies mahinga kai species</p>

Tables 3.8	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>The objectives are narrative and greater certainty could be provided by including measurable objectives where possible. For example, references to “low frequency”, “balanced” and “appropriate” import a degree of uncertainty which is undesirable and could be avoided through measurable objectives.</p> <p>There is adequate information about some significant coastal waters such as Pauatahanui Inlet and Porirua Harbour to allow for specific objectives to be developed, particularly in relation to the effects of sediment.</p>	<p>Amend Table 3.8 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Include provision that defines “low frequency” of algal blooms; (b) Include measurable objectives for “seagrass and saltmarsh” and “invertebrates” (c) Identify mahinga kai species; (d) Develop specific objectives for Pauatahanui Inlet and Porirua Harbour
Objective O26-29	Support	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
<i>3.6 Biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai</i>			
Objectives O31-O38	Support	These objectives are appropriate.	Retain
<i>3.10 Land use</i>			
Objective O44	Oppose	This policy is uncertain and ambiguous.	<p>Replace with:</p> <p>The adverse effects on soil and water from land use activities is managed to achieve the freshwater objectives in Table 3.4 -3.8.</p>

Objective O45	Oppose	This objective simply requires the reduction of effects. Stock access can have significant adverse effects, and it is inadequate that their effects simply be reduced, as they may remain significant. The policy is therefore inconsistent with the RMA, including Part 2 and section 30.	Replace "reduced" with "avoided".
3.11 Discharges			
Objective O46	Oppose	This objective simply requires the reduction of effects. Discharges to land can have significant adverse effects, particularly where they reach water, and it is inadequate that there effects simply be reduced, as they may remain significant. The policy is therefore inconsistent with the RMA, including Part 2 and section 30.	Replace with: Discharges to land are managed in a manner that achieves the freshwater objectives in Table 3.4 -3.8.
Objective O47	Oppose	This objective simply requires the reduction of effects. Sediment-laden run-off can have significant adverse effects, and it is inadequate that there effects simply be reduced, as they may remain significant. This is particularly relevant where sediment may reach the coastal environment.	Replace with "The adverse effects related to sediment laden water are avoided remedied or mitigated."
Objectives O49-O50	Support	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
3.12 Water allocation			
Objective O52	Oppose	The key issues relating to the taking, using, damming and diverting of water is to ensure that the effects of the take of	Replace title with 3.12 Taking, using, damming and diverting water

		water are avoided remedied or mitigated. The efficiency of allocation is secondary to this and is appropriately addressed in policies.	Replace objective with: Taking, using, damming and diverting water is undertaken in such a way that: (a) adverse effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated; (b) allocation amounts and minimum flows or water levels are complied with.
3.13 Coastal environment			
Objective O53	Oppose	The objectives fail to give effect to section 6(a) the NZCPS.	Replace reference to coastal marine area with coastal environment. Add the following at the end of the objective: and avoids adverse effects on significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitat of indigenous fauna and outstanding landscapes and features in the coastal environment.
Objective O54-O58	Support	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
New Objective		The use of soft engineering solutions should be promoted in the coastal environment.	New objective inserted: Soft engineering solutions to coastal hazards are preferred over hard engineering solutions.

Chapter 4 Policies			
Policy P3	Support		Retain
Policy P4	Oppose	Minimising adverse effects is not a RMA concept. Adverse effects need to be avoided, remedied or mitigated. The use of minimisation removes "avoid" from the way in which adverse effects are to be addressed. That is, there is no requirement to avoid effects if they are minimised.	Delete policy P4 and replace all references to "minimise" in the plan with appropriate language consistent with the RMA, e.g. avoiding, remedying or mitigating
Policies P5 and P6	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
<i>4.2 Beneficial use and development</i>			
Policy P7	Oppose	This policy is uncertain as it does not specify how the benefits are recognised. There is particularly an issue where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil or ecosystems will not be safeguarded; the adverse effects have not been avoided, remedied or mitigated; and where freshwater objectives and/or targets and limits are being met. 	Delete

		For these reasons, this policy is therefore contrary to Part 2 and the NPS for Freshwater Management.		
Policy P8	Support in part, oppose in part	Many of these activities are beneficial and generally appropriate. However, the maintenance and use of beneficial structures in the CMA, natural wetlands or the beds of rivers and lakes may not be beneficial or appropriate.	Delete (h)	
Policy P9	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain	
Policy P11	Oppose	This policy is uncertain and inconsistent with Part 2 particularly where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil or ecosystems will not be safeguarded; the adverse effects have not been avoided, remedied or mitigated; and where freshwater objectives and/or targets and limits are being met. 	Delete	
Policy P13	Support in part, oppose in part	While it is accepted that regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation facilities are generally appropriate, it is important that adverse effects are avoided remedied and mitigated.	Add the words, "provided the adverse effects are avoided remedied".	
Policy P15 and 16	Oppose	While it is accepted that flood protection activities are generally appropriate, it is important that adverse effects	Add the words, "provided the adverse effects are avoided remedied".	

		are avoided remedied and mitigated.	
<i>4.4 Natural function and form</i>			
Policy P22	Support in part, oppose in part	This policy does not give effect to Policy 11 of the NZCPS.	<p>Replace with:</p> <p>The following effects shall be avoided:</p> <p>(a) significant adverse effects on the ecosystem values of estuaries, including their importance as habitat for indigenous plants, birds and fish including diadromous species, and as nursery for important fish stocks</p> <p>(b) Adverse effects on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Threatened or at risk indigenous taxa ; (ii) indigenous ecosystems and vegetation types that are threatened in the coastal environment, or are naturally rare; (iii) habitats of indigenous species where the species are at the limit of their natural range, or are naturally rare; (iv) areas containing nationally significant examples of indigenous community types; and (v) areas set aside for full or partial protection of indigenous biological diversity under other legislation

Policy P23	Support in part, oppose in part	The intention of this policy is supported but the language used, particularly the reference to “reduce” and “manage” is inappropriate.	Retain (c) but replace (a) and (b) (a) Managing activities that involve discharges of sediment and other pollutants in their catchments to achieve the Objectives in Tables 3.4 -3.8; (b) Managing erosion prone land and riparian margins in their achieve the Objectives in Tables 3.4 -3.8;
Policies P24 and P25	Support	These policies are supposed to implement section 6(a) and Policy 11 of the NZCPS. However, the reference to the coastal marine area is inappropriate. Section 6(a) refers to the coastal environment (including the coastal marine area). These policies are limited to the coastal marine area and do not implement section 6(a) or Policy 11 of the NZCPS.	Replace coastal marine area with coastal environment.
Policy P26	Support in part, oppose in part	The reference to minimise is inappropriate.	Replace P26 with: Use and development will avoid significant adverse effects on natural processes. In relation to adverse effects on natural processes that are not significant: (a) these are avoided in the first instance; (b) where they cannot be avoided, they are remedied; (c) where they cannot be remedied they are mitigated; and (d) residual adverse effects that cannot be mitigated, are offset.

Policy P29	Support in part, oppose in part	The policies do not adequately address the effects of climate change.	<p>Rename P29 Effects of climate change</p> <p>Add a new policy</p> <p>Managing the Effects of climate change</p> <p>The effects of climate changes are addressed in a proactive way by:</p> <p>(a) retaining existing indigenous vegetation in the coastal environment;</p> <p>(b) using environmentally sensitive options when addressing the effects of climate change, including soft engineering options.</p>
Policy P30	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
<i>4.5 Biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai</i>			
Policy P31	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>Some aspects of this policy are supported but there are significant deficiencies.</p> <p>The policy makes no reference to the adverse effects associated with declining water quality, which can have significant adverse effects on aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai. The policy should include a provision requiring that water quality is maintained.</p> <p>The use of the word “minimise” is not appropriate. This adds uncertainty as it is not clear the extent to which effects must be “minimised”. Effects can be minimised by</p>	<p>Replace “minimise adverse effects on” with “maintain”</p> <p>Add new provisions:</p> <p>Maintain water quality in rivers, lakes and wetlands.</p> <p>Improve water quality in rivers, lakes and wetlands which are degraded.</p>

<p>Policy P32</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>preventing activities which would cause the effects occurring. However, this is not the intention, as if it was the word “avoid” would be used. The appropriate language is that found in the RMA, which refers to avoiding, remedying and mitigating adverse effects and maintaining water quality.</p> <p>The policy provides no guidance on the management of effects and provides that any activity can proceed, regardless of effects, if the effects are offset. This is inconsistent with the Freshwater NPS, Part 2 and section 30.</p> <p>There are two improvements that could be made to the plan in this regard.</p> <p>Firstly, the plan should include limits and targets that ensure that the freshwater objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 are met. At a minimum this should include SIN and DRP. Forest & Bird has recommended a new policy to this effect. As discussed below, rules are also necessary to ensure that the targets/limits are achieved. These freshwater objectives are meaningless without these mechanisms to ensure they are met.</p> <p>Secondly, the approach in Policy 32 as notified should be discontinued in favour of an approach that provides for the avoidance of significant adverse effects and the hierarchical approach of avoiding, remedying, mitigating and offsetting of residual adverse effects.</p>		
<p>Replace this policy with policies that provide:</p> <p>Policy P32 Adverse effects on aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai</p> <p>In order to maintain water quality, and meet the freshwater objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8, activities that have significant adverse effects on aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai are avoided.</p> <p>In relation to adverse effects that are not significant:</p> <p>(c) these are avoided in the first instance;</p> <p>(d) where they cannot be avoided, they are remedied;</p> <p>(e) where they cannot be remedied they are mitigated; and</p> <p>(f) residual adverse effects that cannot be mitigated, are offset.</p> <p>Insert new policy P32A Managing to limits and targets</p> <p>Activities that impact on aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai shall be managed to ensure that the freshwater</p>				

		<p>A further issue is that the plan considers that mitigation has to be provided in favour of offsetting. This is the appropriate approach. However, when assessing adverse effects, mitigation and offsetting are conflated in the last paragraph of Policy P32 and Schedule G.</p> <p>The matters in Schedule G relate only to offsetting and not mitigation.</p>	<p>objectives in Tables 3.4 – 3.8 and limits/targets in Table 4.5 are achieved.</p> <p>Insert new Table 4.5 which includes at a minimum the targets/limits for SIN and DRP that need to be achieved to ensure that the freshwater objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 are met.</p>
Policy P33	Support	<p>The policy appropriately provides for significant adverse effects on significant sites are avoided.</p>	Retain
Policy P34,35	Support	<p>These policies are appropriate.</p>	Retain
Policy P36	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>This policy contains the word minimised which, for reasons set out above, is uncertain and should not be used. In addition, the policy is contrary to Policy 11 of the NZCPS in that it provides for adverse effects on matters that where adverse effects should be avoided.</p> <p>The policy should provide for the avoidance of significant adverse effects and avoiding, remedying or mitigating of other adverse effects in the same way that Policy 42 addresses effects on sites with significant indigenous biodiversity values.</p>	<p>Replace policy with:</p> <p>Significant adverse effects of use and development on the habitats of indigenous birds in the coastal marine area, wetlands, and beds of rivers and lakes and their margins for breeding, roosting, feeding, and migration are avoided and other effects are avoided remedied or mitigated.</p>

Policy P37	Support in part, oppose in part	The intent of Policy 37 is supported but the wording could be improved. In particular "their values" is ambiguous.	Replace the words "their values" with " <i>the values of the natural wetland</i> "
Policy P38-40	Support	These policies are appropriate.	Retain
Policy 41	Oppose	<p>The policy provides that any activity can proceed, regardless of effects on the sites identified in Policy P40, if the effects are offset. This is inconsistent with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Part 2, particularly section 6(c) in that it does not recognise and provide for the protection of the sites identified in Policy 40; (b) Section 30(1); (c) Policy 11 of the NZCPS; and (d) Policy 40, which provides for the protection of these sites. <p>The policy should provide for the avoidance of significant adverse effects on the sites identified in P40 and avoiding remedying, mitigating and offsetting other effects in accordance with the mitigation hierarchy.</p> <p>In the coastal environment Policy 11 the NZCPS requires adverse effects on some matters be avoided and significant adverse effects on other matters are avoided. A new policy needs to be added with respect to sites within the coastal environment which gives effect to Policy 11 of the NZCPS</p>	<p>The first paragraph should only apply to the matters in P40(a)-(c) so the words (a)-(c) should be added after P40.</p> <p>Replace second paragraph with:</p> <p>If the ecosystem or habitat cannot be avoided, adverse effects are managed by avoiding significant adverse effects. Where adverse effects are not significant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) they are avoided in the first instance; (b) where they cannot be avoided, they are remedied; (c) where they cannot be remedied they are mitigated; and (d) residual adverse effects that cannot be mitigated, are offset. <p>Delete "mitigation and" for the last paragraph of the policy.</p> <p>New policy</p> <p>P41A Managing adverse effects on significant sites within the coastal environment</p> <p>In order to protect the ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values in the coastal</p>

		<p>and should be included in 4.10.</p>	<p>environment avoid:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) significant adverse effects on the sites Schedule F4 (coastal sites) and F5 (coastal habitats); and (b) adverse effects on any of the matters referred to in Policy 11(a) of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement. <p>In relation to other effects on indigenous biodiversity in the coastal environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (c) they are avoided in the first instance; (d) where they cannot be avoided, they are remedied; (e) where they cannot be remedied they are mitigated; and (f) residual adverse effects that cannot be mitigated, are offset. <p>A cross reference in the coastal policies should also be included immediately below heading 4.10.</p> <p>Policy 41A applies to where there are adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity in the coastal environment.</p>
<p><i>4.6 Sites with significant values</i></p>			
<p>Policy P42, P43, P48-51</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>These policies are appropriate.</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p><i>4.8 Discharges to land and water</i></p>			

<p>General comment</p>	<p>Support in part, oppose in part</p>	<p>The provisions of Section 4.8 make some reference to the freshwater objectives in Table 3.4-3.8 with respect to point source discharges. However, diffuse discharges, particularly from agricultural activities, which can have significant adverse effects, are not addressed.</p> <p>The effect of this is that there are no controls on agricultural activities that will ensure that the objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 are achieved. This is a significant flaw as it effectively renders the objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 meaningless if there are no supporting provisions (including rules) to ensure that the objectives are met.</p> <p>Policy 62 is supported</p>	<p>Amendments are required to ensure that the freshwater objectives are achieved.</p>
<p>Policy P62</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P65</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Nutrient discharges from agriculture are a significant issue that can cause significant adverse effects. This policy is the key provision for these nutrient discharges and it makes no reference to the freshwater objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8. There is no rule that gives effect to this policy. Despite Policy 65(d) providing for regulatory methods none are specified in the Plan.</p> <p>It is critical that this policy refer to the objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 and that other areas of the plan specify methods to achieve these objectives.</p> <p>There is reference to the objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 in</p>	<p>Replace with:</p> <p>Where an objective in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 of Objective O25 is not met, discharges from agricultural activities which involve contaminants entering water shall be managed in the following way:</p> <p>(a) for an existing discharge that contributes to the objective not being met, the discharge is only appropriate if:</p> <p>(vi) the application for resource consent, at a minimum includes a defined programme of work for upgrading the activity, in accordance with good</p>

		<p>Policy 70 which relates to discharges to water. However, agricultural discharges are usually discharges to land in circumstances where it may enter water.</p> <p>The reference to minimisation is inappropriate.</p> <p>Adverse effects are not changed through information gathering, monitoring, assessment or reporting, although it is acknowledged that this information is required to be collected to enable more robust management of the effects in future.</p>	<p>management practice, within the term of the resource consent, and</p> <p>(vii) conditions on the resource consent which require the reduction of adverse effects that will ensure that, along with other measures in the catchment, the objectives in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 are achieved.</p> <p>(b) for a change of agricultural activity, the discharge is only appropriate if the activity would not cause the affected fresh water body or area of coastal water to become any worse in relation to the objective.</p>
Policy 66	Oppose	<p>This policy does not give effect to the NPS for Freshwater Management 2014</p> <p>The transition provision is inappropriate. The NPSFM2014 has no transitional provision.</p>	<p>Replace second paragraph with:</p> <p>This policy applies to all discharges (including diffuse discharges by any person or animal) of contaminants to water and all discharges of contaminants onto or into land that may result in that contaminant or, as the result of natural processes from the discharge of that contaminant, any other contaminant enter water.</p> <p>Delete last paragraph (starting Sections (a)...).</p>
Policy P67	Oppose	<p>The use of minimising effects is inappropriate.</p> <p>This policy relates to both discharge to land and water but is in the section relating to discharges to water.</p>	<p>The adverse effects of discharges of contaminants to land and water are managed so that significant adverse effects are avoided. Where adverse effects are not significant they are managed by:</p>

			<p>(a) these are avoided in the first instance;</p> <p>(b) where they cannot be avoided, they are remedied;</p> <p>(c) where they cannot be remedied they are mitigated; and</p> <p>(d) residual adverse effects that cannot be mitigated, are offset.</p> <p>Move heading 4.8.2 below Policy P67.</p>
Policy P68	Support	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
Policy P70	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>This policy does not go far enough. It relates to discharge to water. It does provide any assurance that the objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 will be met.</p> <p>The reference to offsetting residual adverse effects is not appropriate in circumstances where the objectives are not being met. Schedule G is not aimed at offsetting adverse effects on water quality.</p>	<p>Replace with:</p> <p>Where an objective in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 of Objective O25 is not met, point source discharges to water shall be managed in the following way:</p> <p>(a) for an existing discharge that contributes to the objective not being met, the discharge is only appropriate if:</p> <p>(i) the application for resource consent, at a minimum includes a defined programme of work for upgrading the activity, in accordance with good management practice, within the term of the resource consent, and</p> <p>(ii) conditions on the resource consent which require the reduction of adverse effects that will ensure that, along with other measures, the objectives in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 of</p>

			Objective O25 are achieved. (b) for a new activity, the discharge is only appropriate if the activity would not cause the affected fresh water body or area of coastal water to become any worse in relation to the objective. (c) Remove reference to “good management practice” – this is undefined
Policy P71	Support in part, oppose in part	Policy 71 should only apply where the freshwater objectives are being met. Where freshwater objectives are not being met, this policy is inadequate. The reference to minimise is inappropriate.	Add the following to the start of the policy Where all of the objectives in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 of Objective O25 are met Replace “minimised” with “managed”
Policy P76, 78, 81	Support in part, oppose in part	The reference to minimise is inappropriate	Replace “minimise” with “mitigate”
Policy P92- 94	Support	These objectives promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
Policy P95	Support in part, oppose in part	The issue with these is that it does not address diffuse discharges from stock. Policy P95(f) was not developed with this in mind, as there will usually be a diffuse discharge from stock that can effect water.	Amend to ensure provisions properly address diffuse discharges from stock.
Policy P96	Oppose	There should be an explicit link between activities and the objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8. The reference to good management practice is oblique and will not ensure that	Rural land use activities are undertaken in a manner consistent with Policy P65 (as recommended by Forest and Bird above) and good management practice.

		the objectives are achieved. New activities should not contribute to the objectives not being met and existing activities should need to improve environmental performance (alongside equivalent improvements by other existing activities to ensure that the objectives are achieved).	
Policy 97 and 98	Oppose	<p>These policies are confusing.</p> <p>It is not clear how adverse effects on water quality are to be offset. The principles in Schedule G are addressed to habitat loss and are not readily applied to water quality, especially in the context of a one-off discharge. .</p>	<p>Replace references to minimised with mitigated.</p> <p>Delete last paragraph of Policy 97.</p>
Policy 99	Oppose	This policy is not appropriate as it allows significant adverse effects.	<p>Replace with the following policy:</p> <p>Stock shall be excluded from waterbodies except where the adverse effects, including cumulative adverse effects, can be demonstrated as being no more than minor.</p>
Policy 100	Support in part, oppose in part	The reference to minimisation is inappropriate	Riparian set-backs and good management practises shall be used to avoid remedy and mitigate the adverse effects of the overland flow of contaminants to surface water bodies from the use of land for cultivation and break-feeding.
Policy 101 - 109	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain

Policy 110	Oppose	The NPSFM2014 does not have any transitional provisions. This means that the everything after (b) does not give effect to the NPS for Freshwater Management 2014	Delete everything after the end of (b)
Policy 111-112, 115, 119, 120, 129	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
Policy 113	Oppose	The core allocations are too high and do not give effect to the NPSFM.	The maximum allocation amount should be set at a level which provides for ecological health (a significantly lower allocation than in this policy)
Policy 128	Support in part, oppose in part	In overallocated catchments, provision should be made for a reduction in the take when transferred Any transfer should allow for the imposition of up to date conditions. Outdated conditions should not be able to persist through a transfer	Amend (b) by adding the words "except in overallocated catchments, where a maximum of 50% of the water should be transferred" Measuring and reporting the use of transferred water shall be subject to appropriate conditions at the time of transfer
Policy 148	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
<i>4.10 Coastal management</i>			
Policy P132	Support in part, oppose in part	This policy does not give effect to the NZCPS.	Add new provision (h) (h) adverse effects are managed in accordance with [new] Policy 41A

Policy P138	Support in part, oppose in part	This policy does not give effect to the NZCPS.	Add new provision (e) (e) adverse effects are managed in accordance with [new] Policy 41A
Policy P139	Support in part, oppose in part	Policy P139(e) is a good start but does not go far enough in supporting soft engineering options.	In (e) replace "appropriate" with "possible"
Policy P143	Support in part, oppose in part	It is uncertain why activities by territorial authorities which are not covered by the others provisions should be allowed.	Delete (e)
Policy 147-149	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain

Chapter 5 Rules

Proposed New Provision	Support/Oppose	Reasons	Decision Sought

<i>5.2 Discharges to water</i>		
Rules 42-68	Support	These rules are generally appropriate.
		Retain subject to any consequential amendments necessary to give effect to submissions on the objectives and policies above.
<i>5.3 Discharges to land</i>		
Rules 42-93	Support	Subject to the submission points below, these rules are generally appropriate.
Rule R84		This rule is incorrectly located. It is a rule that relates to discharges to water but is in the part of the plan that relates to discharges to land.
New rule(s) for diffuse discharge from stock		These rules are confusing and circular. Policy 65 and 66 relate to nutrient discharges from agricultural activities that enter water. Policy P66 includes express reference to diffuse discharges from animals, which are governed by section 15(1) as a discharge to land in circumstances where it may enter water. Policy 65 provides for the minimisation of the effects of nutrient discharges from agricultural activities that enter water and refers to this occurring through regulatory and non-regulatory methods. However there is no rule to give effect to this. The
		Insert new rule(s) relating to agricultural discharges which permit diffuse discharge of nutrients from agricultural activities onto land in circumstances where the nutrient may enter water is a permitted activity provided good management practises are adopted and the discharge is not contributing to a breach of the objectives in tables 3.4-3.8 or the limits and targets. If the freshwater objectives are not being met then consents would be required to ensure that the freshwater objectives are being met.

		<p>freshwater objectives are only referred to in Policy P70, which relates to point source discharges.</p> <p>The effect of this is that agricultural activities involving a diffuse discharge from an animal resulting in a contaminant entering water are covered by Rule 93. The likely effect of this is that a large number of famers will require resource consent under Rule 93. There are much more efficient ways of managing this issue. Resource consents are appropriate when freshwater objectives are not being met.</p>	
<p><i>5.4 Land use</i></p>			
<p>New rule</p>		<p>There is no rule to give effect to Policy 96. While the policy refers to setting the limits through the whatua process, the absence of any rules relating to land use and/or diffuse discharge from stock associated with agricultural land use is a significant. If the freshwater objectives in Tables 3.4-3.8 are not being met then there needs to be some mechanism available to monitor and enforce compliance with the freshwater objectives.</p>	<p>Add new rule for diffuse discharge from stock as above.</p>
<p>Rule 97 and 98</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>These rules are inadequate to address the adverse effects associated with stock access to water bodies. They do not give effect to Policies 97-100.</p> <p>Stock access in accordance with this rule could have significant adverse effects on water quality and aquatic ecology and should not be permitted.</p>	<p>Amend Rule 97 so that stock access (cattle including dairy cows, farmed deer and farmed pigs) is not permitted in Category 1 or 2 surface water bodies or rivers with an active bed wider than 1 m.</p> <p>Amend Rule 98 so that stock access to the bed of surface water bodies that is not permitted is non-complying.</p>

5.5 Wetlands and beds of rivers and lakes			
5.5.2 and Rules 104 - 106	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
Rule 107	Support in part, oppose in part	Clearance of vegetation from natural wetlands should be a non-complying activity.	Make (c) a non-complying activity by moving it to Rule 108
Rule 108	Support in part, oppose in part	The definition of reclamation is too wide. Drainage and diversion can have significant effects before the wetland is no longer a wetland	Replace (c) with (c) Draining that effects the natural characteristics of a natural wetland
Rule 110 and 111	Support in part, oppose in part	The definition of reclamation includes drainage and diversion that makes the outstanding natural wetland not a wetland. However, the use of the word "includes" indicates reclamation includes other things but it is not clear what they are	Amend Rule 111 and follows Rule 111 – Diversion of outstanding natural wetlands Reclamation, which involves activities which change the characteristics of the wetland or part of it within an outstanding natural wetland in Schedule 3 is a prohibited activity unless stipulated and carried out in accordance with a restoration management plan under Rule 106 is a prohibited activity.
5.5.2, Rules 112-116	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain

Rules 126-128	Support in part, oppose in part	The damming or reclamation of outstanding water bodies should be prohibited. There is no justification for distinguishing between outstanding river and outstanding lakes.	Change activity status for Rules 126 and 127 to prohibited
Rule 128	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain
Rules 130-134	Support in part, oppose in part	Damming or diversion of water in outstanding rivers and lakes should be a non-complying activity	New rule providing that damming or diversion of water outstanding rivers and lakes is a non-complying activity
<i>5.7 Coastal management</i>			
General comment	Support in part, oppose in part	These rules are generally supported. The key issue is ensuring that the rules apply to activities in significant sites which are within the coastal environment but not the CMA.	Amend Schedules to ensure that apply to coastal environment not on CMA.
5.7.2 and Rules 149-200, 202-205	Support	These rules are generally appropriate	Retain subject to any consequential amendments necessary to give effect to submissions on the objectives and policies above.
Rule 200	Support in part, oppose in part	Discretionary activity status is not appropriate in sites of significance	Change activity status to non-complying
Rules 206 and 207	Support in part, oppose in part	The rule should not apply in significant sites, where the activity should be restricted discretionary.	Delete matter of control (5) and make the activity in sites identified in (5) a restricted discretionary activity with discretion reserved over whether the activity should be undertaken within that site.

Rule 211	Support in part, oppose in part	The rule should not apply in significant sites, where the activity should be non-complying.	Make the activity non-complying in significant sites
Rules 210, 212, 213, 218 and 219	Support	These provisions promote the purpose of the RMA.	Retain subject to any consequential amendments necessary to give effect to submissions on the objectives and policies above.
Rule 217	Support in part	Only plants indigenous to the area should be able to be planted.	Delete (d) and replace with: The plant species planted shall be native species that naturally grow in the area planting occurs.

Chapter 12 Schedules

Proposed New Provision	Support/Oppose	Reasons	Decision Sought

Schedules A,E and F	Support	The schedules are generally appropriate and should be retained, although some minor amendment may be required..	Retain, subject to some minor amendments
Schedules F4 and F5	Support in part, oppose in part	This schedule only relates to the coastal marine area. This does not give effect to the NZCPS which references to indigenous biodiversity with tin the coastal environment.	Extend Schedules F4 and F5 to include sites within the coastal environment
Schedule G	Support in part, oppose in part	<p>This schedule provides guidance about and seeks to attempt to distinguish mitigation from offsetting but fails to clearly distinguish between the two. This distinction is important as effects should be mitigated before they are offset.</p> <p>Mitigation is not about generating positive effects. It is about reducing the adverse effects from an activity. When this approach is adopted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principles 1 and 2 relate to both offsetting and mitigation. • Principle 3 is about positive effects and only relates to offsetting. • The application of Principle 4 requires a positive effect so relate to offsetting not mitigation. • Principle 5(a) is about positive effects and only relates to offsetting. • Principle 5(b)-(d) relate to both offsetting and mitigation • Principle 6 relates only to offsetting. <p>The second paragraph is superfluous.</p>	<p>Delete second paragraph</p> <p>Retain the first sentence of paragraph 3 but replace the remaining sentences with "Principles 1, 2 and 5(b)-(d) relate to proposals for offsetting and mitigation. Principles 3, 4, 5(a) and 6 apply solely to the consideration of biodiversity offsets."</p>

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Sam Orsborn

Submitter Number:

S354

S354

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Name	Sam Orsborn
Farm Name	Puketahi Farm
Physical Address	383 Francis Line, Carterton
Phone Number	027 4484586
Email Address	sam@stockfeed.co.nz

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, <u>agricultural business</u>
Farm size (area)	330 hectares
Main Waterways	Watercraes - East Tawatahi
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes <u>No</u> Not yet. - we have had shelter plan with GWRC and are reviewing those now.
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so We have had a good working relationship with GWRC.

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

Most of our stock water comes from water races. If we fence off completely then we have the fencing cost and reticulation cost. if we have to fence we be able to have stock drinking points

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

*e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)
Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.*

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

with water races running through most paddocks,
restricting cultivation to 5m of water race equates
to a large portion of the paddock unproductive.
we currently cultivate to approx 2m of water races

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available.

Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Michael Hewison

Submitter Number:

S355

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Name	Michael Hewison
Farm Name	PUKE TARI
Physical Address	22 MARSHALL ROAD, CARTERTON
Phone Number	06 379 8145 027 2450047
Email Address	mikeh@eastern.co.nz

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission ✓
agreed

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters ✓ yes

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission - I support this -

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business at Consulting engineer.
Farm size (area)	31 hectares
Main Waterways	water race, drains, no named channels.
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes <u>No</u>
Environmental investments	Some riparian fencing & separate planning more planned including or water wet area.
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	—
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so my preference is permitted activities, simple cost effective & efficient conditions. Industry agreed best practice, collaboration. There is a committee for the eastern hill country, there should be similar for valley – use to address issues, eg drain cleaning, etc.

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: **support/oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

or small seeps in side of low rolling hill - fully pasture, no rushes etc.
Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

*I don't have a wetland, but have an area - low
clay, grassed, but gets wet in winter - plan to
fence & plant, but I want to control what I do.*

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will
make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

*Baleage at least ~~are~~ needs to be evaluated.
I have used this (square bales) for a number of
years and there has been no discharge from
any of it.*

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; and

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; same conditions for both

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

R122 opening para & item (n) not clear - no excavation of bed - removing accumulated sediments is not excavating bed - is going deeper or wider.

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

This whole area R121/122 is shambolic - a/w have used courts to fill the table.

This is something that needs to be worked through by a committee to recognize what is important, what isn't, times that are better than others.

The 0.3m, 30% etc is not practical in many channels. I can have been notes than this. sediment needs to be removed for conveyance & environmental reasons (its potential to absorb O₂ is not recognized here.

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

I don't do this, but I understand what is being said - again - best mgmt practice, comments at earthworks are creeping cost paralysis.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

I agree.

There needs to be a demonstration of an adverse effect.

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available.

Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

✓

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025 ✓

Exclude sheep from Category One ✓

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two ✓

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre ✓

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season. ✓

Specify criteria for "important" trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria ✓

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects ✓

Allow for stock drinking points ✓

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

including ability to have access during emergencies

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons *when water supply fails.*
Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

There is a cost.

Some practicality

need access for emergency stock water if water supply from water race - I pip to a tank @ gravity feed, but near end of line - cleaning & water flow can be an issue upstream. water races are integrated with natural channels & operating constraints becoming too cumbersome.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Rule 75. on-site waste water - permitted - community drinking water areas.

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: support/oppose

Control makes item 2.

I seek the following changes:

likely to be costly, where problems have been experienced.

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons
 e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?
 If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

What about reference to Dairy NZ FAE guidelines / approval process.

Also to

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

There appears to be no recognition of the relative orders of magnitude.

Seems to be only an arbitrary guess.

Delete.

Keep previous comments about a 'lowland' committee & development of best management practice.

Consents cost, you are at the whim of an officer. Then ecological reports and other things creep in without any consultant.

This applies across the board & not just to this area.

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

For Again what is the issue - get best practice in place.

The cost of any one of these ignores the compound interest effect of some cost here, some cost there, etc.

CULVERTS & BRIDGES *a activities built lake / rivers.*

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 112. 5% 1m restriction for limiting - as large culverts better - lowers velocity, pass greater flood.

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: **support/oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

*Best mgmt practice
Costs – officer uncertainty – discourages people wanting to do things for environment. example property owner talking to 2 officers, same day, same office, different views, walked out confused.*

With an prosecution, owners too afraid to do anything. This is a very bad situation for a/c to be in.

This needs to be far more permissive.

It is also, absolute lack of recognition by officers of experts from Dec, Fish & game, etc. Force further ecological studies, conflicts of interest

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

If something needs to be refused or heavily controlled - declare this.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: **support/oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

means may have to move
slur uphill to
somewhere!?

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

even R49 maybe hard to
use in this case.

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

District Plans cover this for buildings.

Some of these stormwater discharges contain sludge from neighbours, country roads, etc.

The 'last person' cannot be held responsible.

R58 any other rules will increase cost to force them out of existence - They are my only stock water source

Any other areas of concern - just copy format above unless I go to a bore

that costs & is very noisy in my area.

This does not recognise the very low flow rate compared to other water bodies & the 'total revenue' of contaminants.

Concentration can be higher (not always) but flows much smaller → mass overall is lower.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Mike Butterick

Submitter Number:

S356

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Name	<i>Mike Butterick</i>
Farm Name	<i>Rocky Hills</i>
Physical Address	<i>RD3 Masterton</i>
Phone Number	<i>06 3727075</i>
Email Address	<i>butterick@ruralinzone.net</i>

Communication from GWRC: *I prefer email*

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	<i>e.g. Sheep, Beef,</i>
Farm size (area)	2300 hectares
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	2 QEII's and large areas of voluntarily retirements
General Comments	In New Zealand we have a justice system where you are innocent until proven guilty. With this plan we are however presumed guilty of all things in relation to the supposed degradation of the environment. It is not now nor has ever been in the agricultural sectors best interests to cause harm to our environment. This plan has been shoddily put together and has not taken into account a lot of the previous submissions whether written or verbally. There is no or very little regard given to the cost impositions of the proposed rules. I would strongly recommend farm visits by the hearing panel to view for themselves the ramifications, both practically and financially, of the rules. What is particularly disconcerting is the fact that the water quality in the

	<p>Wairarapa is stable and/or improving (as per GWRC's own statistics) and yet these rules need to be written as if there is a widespread problem. There is no recognition of the already substantial efforts of the farming community in fencing off waterbodies, erodible gullies, planting, QEII's, retirements, etc. I would however like to make reference to the fact that in the Wairarapa we have very good ground staff that are always able to offer good practical advice.</p>
--	--

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for "important" trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Need farm visits by the committee to visually assess the imposition of these proposed rules. Where is the cost for implementing these rules and allowance for loss of land?

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

Are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

Low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining?

Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs. Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons
Rule is a complete nonsense

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

Little thought has been given to the practicalities and cost of cleaning half a drain and then completing the other half in three months. Cannot have rules pertaining to drains/highly modified streams without the affected people knowing that theirs have been identified, and therefore not having the chance to submit.

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

Ridiculous to have rules such as this on a farm, regardless of the size of the farm. It must be noted that we need to have good tracks to operate efficiently and safely as a business.

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

Rule is a nonsense particularly given all the hard work put in to produce a good fair rule re vegetation in the Combined District Plan. All scrub and noxious weeds to be excluded. Suggest adopting the biodiversity rule as mentioned in regards to any vegetation clearance. As also stated in previous discussions with GWRC, slope is not the main factor in erosion, soil type is. There is also no recognition that most erosion is a naturally occurring process.

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

Fords/crossings are a good alternative compared to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford. Should be allowed to construct to specifications greater than a one in 20 year event. 20m² is nowhere near big enough.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

These are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions. There is no logical reason why rubbish and offal cannot be in the same dump. If zoned rural should still be able to continue existing use. Get rid of the distance rule.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

Provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

Impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Griffin Ag-Air Ltd

Submitter Number:

S357

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Name	<i>Hallett Griffin</i>
Company Name	<i>Griffin Ag-Air Ltd</i>
Physical Address	<i>988 Kairanga Bunnythorpe Road, Palmerston North</i>
Phone Number	<i>06-3573828</i>
Email Address	<i>griffair@inspire.net.nz</i>

Communication from GWRC: *I prefer email*

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about our business

Our company Griffin Ag-Air Ltd operate three aircraft in the Greater Wellington Regional Council Area on all types of both the Aerial Application of Agri-Chemicals (Rule 36) and the Application of Fertiliser.

This submission is supported by Martinborough based Bargh & Gardner Aviation Ltd who operate one Air Tractor aircraft on Fertiliser application throughout the GWRC area.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once per annum
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

We oppose the proposed Rule 36. Ground based and Aerial Applications should be conducted totally in accordance with NZS 8409-2004 which states that a Spray Plan has been prepared and is available on request whereas your proposed plan under 5.1.13 (a) (iii) is far too onerous on the applicator, manager or owner to have to obtain written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required. In our operating experience it is less than 1% of the adjacent neighbours that are concerned about Aerial Spraying, so why should we have to get written agreement from 100% of neighbours of whom 99% are not concerned.

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

It is impossible to avoid all intermittent surface waterbodies when applying Fertiliser by air. It is being unrealistic and operationally impossible to prevent the drift of fine particles of Superphosphate, Di Calcic and Lime beyond the boundary of the property including as a result of wind drift. The drift of Fertiliser has never been a serious problem in rural areas in the past.

The practical implication of a no drift rule would have the effect of rendering the application of Fertiliser as difficult if not impossible in many cases with resulting serious economic implications for Hill Country production due to reduced stock numbers and resulting animal health issues.

Under Rule 82 5.3.6c Records for Aerial discharges is in total too onerous. It should be a requirement on the Operator not the Pilot as the Operator maintains all the records.

iv. daily flight logs should be removed as it would require the Pilot to record the take-off time on every take-off which can be every 3 to 5 minutes. A Pilot records the total time for a job by way of a stop-watch.

Under 5.3.6 c (v)-There is no legal requirement for a G.P.S. to be fitted to an Agricultural Aircraft and if fitted are subject to becoming unserviceable. Under the proposed rule unserviceability would mean having to cease operations.

It must also be said that a G.P.S. records the point of discharge from an aircraft and not the position of the deposit on the ground

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Craig Dairy Farm Ltd

Submitter Number:

S358

Submission on Greater Wellington Proposed Natural Resources Plan

To: Chief Executive, Greater Wellington Regional Council

1. This is a submission from:

Submitter Details: Craig Dairy Farm Ltd

This submission is also supported by the following parties;

- Gary James Daysh and Anne Marie Daysh (112 Hururua Rd, Carterton RD 1)
- Lewis Herrich (1513 State Highway 53, Martinborough)
- Blair Percy (36 Masterton Stronvar Road, Masterton)
- Sandra Joy Shivas (28 Mangatarere Rd, Carterton RD 1)
- James and Jane Smallwood (19 Homestead Lane, Greytown)
- N & S Terry (Richmond Road, Carterton)
- Ali Scott & Dion Kilmister (1665 Te Ore Ore Bideford Road, Masterton RD11)
- AB & DE Smith (60 Chester Road, Carterton)
- Beryl Masters Stuart (107 Manuka Street, Masterton 5810)
- Garry Daniell (Te Ore Ore Road)

A contact address sheet is provided for each of these parties as attached to the submission.

Submitter Contact: Ray Craig

Submitter Postal Address: 144 Lincoln Road, Carterton 5713

Address for service: C/- Opus International Consultants Ltd
PO Box 12 003
Wellington 6144
Attention: Nicholas Cooper

Phone: 04-471-7120

Nicholas.Cooper@opus.co.nz

Trade Competition

I/we **could not** gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [*If you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission'*]

Submission

2. This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resource Plan for the Greater Wellington Regional Council

3. The specific provisions of the proposal that this submission relates to are:

The specific provisions of the proposed NRP that the submission relates to are in terms of;

A. Accuracy of nomenclature and identification of the Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas – Wairarapa Map 27a.

With regard to the Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas on Map 27a there are a number of concerns are identified:

- Map 27a is entitled “Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas – Wairarapa (incorporates Schedule M2). Within Map 27a there are identified ‘Groundwater supply well’, and ‘Groundwater supply protection area’. Map 27a does not identify ‘community drinking water’ supply protection areas.
- The proposed defaulting of activities (currently permitted) such as the application of agrichemical (rule 36), the discharge of collected animal effluent (rule 83), or farm refuse dumps (rule 89) to discretionary or restricted discretionary activities where on land within an identified community drinking water supply protection area creates an uncertainty for the current landowner or operator in regard to future land use and management options.

Identifying that those uses are not permitted within the ‘groundwater community drink water supply protection area’ unduly penalises those landowners or operators within the protection area without identifying an actual environmental problem or adverse effect to avoided, remedied or mitigated.

- The Proposed NRP Section 32 Report for Discharges to Land in Section 5 “Efficiency and Effectiveness” discusses managing effects on drinking water supplies (5.1), rural waste (5.3), manufacture and storage of silage and compost (5.4), and collected animal effluent (5.5). The only specific data about groundwater for the Wairarapa cited is the region wide study relating to groundwater capture zones by GNS Science (Toews and Donath, 2015). Section 5.1 on page 17 states

Taking a precautionary approach (in accordance with Policy P3 of the proposed Plan) in protecting sources of community drinking water is generally more effective and less costly than trying to counteract the impacts of contamination after the occurrence. Uncertainty about how well the mapped zones reflect actual contaminant pathways and channel characteristics (and therefore risk), will always be present, and especially so in the vicinity of minor tributaries. However, the extent of the protection zones should be reviewed and refined over time as knowledge and methodologies improve. An external peer review has confirmed that the approach to identifying zones around the drinking water supplies as protections areas, was appropriate and defensible (Potts 2015).

This approach is based upon Policy 69 which states;

*Policy P69: Human drinking water supplies
The adverse effects from discharges to land and water on the quality of community drinking water supplies and group drinking water supplies shall be avoided to the extent practicable. Where adverse effects cannot be avoided, the adverse effects shall be managed having particular regard to:*

Further in section 5.1 it is referenced that Policy 69 directs the management of ‘adverse’ effects on human drinking water supplies by

‘...conditions have been included on rules for specific discharges to land activities including farm refuse dumps, offal pits....’ and,

A default protection zone as an ‘alert’ or ‘filtering’ mechanism has been identified. This can be seen in proposed Rules R71-R73 and Rule R89, which include a provision that

restricts otherwise permitted activities to occur within a community drinking water supply protection area as identified in Maps 26-27.

The justification for Policy 69 is in the second to last paragraph of 5.1 where it is stated at the bottom of page 17;

Proposed Policy P69 is followed by a note explaining that sections 7 and 8 of the NES-Drinking Water limit the ability of a regional council to grant consent to activities within community supply protection areas.

There are no specific problems regarding water quality, and a link between land use and water quality, has been identified in the area affected by Schedule M2.

Under the discussion relating to rural waste (Section 5.2.2 of the PNRP Section 32 report: Discharges to land) pages 22 it is stated;

Agriculture plays a role in the economic and social well-being in the Wellington Region, primarily in the Wairarapa but also in the rest of the region. Farming practices produce a variety of waste streams from construction waste (timber and metal) and hazardous wastes (agricultural chemicals and paints), to household organic food scrap waste and dead animals. It is important to ensure that waste management options are available to enable rural landowners not only to minimise their waste, but also to divert or dispose of it in a sustainable manner.

In terms of farm rural waste and assessing whether there are adverse environmental effects occurring within the Wairarapa, or the *community supply protection areas* specifically,

“The volume of waste ending up in farm dumps in the Wellington Region is not known...”

However in the Section 32 Report it is discussed that using data from a study of farm dump disposal in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty regions suggests that a volume of 65,453 tonnes of rural waste annually (Section 5.3.1, page 24 of Section 32: Discharges to Land) is being disposed of within the region. But there is no quantification by the Section 32 report in terms of environmental problems resulting from farm refuse other than a statement (Section 5.3.1 page 24);

“WRC incident reporting shows that inappropriate contents and location of farm refuse dumps has led to environmental contamination in a number of cases.”

This doesn't indicate whether farm refuse dumps are an increasing environment problem or whether the dumps have a problem in relation to groundwater and potable water for a community supply.

This submission questions whether the *community supply protection areas* have been identified adequately to impose restriction upon land users where there is no record established of an adverse effect occurring.

- A report on water quality, the Ministry of Health *Annual Report on Drinking Water Quality (2013-2014)* indicate that there is no problem which requires management.
- The use of a regional-scale model, with inherent assumptions and generalisations, to predict the behaviour at specific bores and locations. While the availability of hydrogeological data may be appropriate to support a regional-scale model, considerable local variation exists. As stated in GNS (2015) *“The models were never calibrated as groundwater transport models”* and *“Because the groundwater models were not calibrated as transport models, the travel times of particle path lines may not be accurate; however, their flow pathways should remain the same.”* Consequently, at specific locations there will be significant differences

between the assumed/modelled conditions and the actual situation. Any default classification, such as schedule M2, therefore must not be overly restrictive.

- There is a lack of empirical calibration or validation of the model. The available data suggests that the model is either inappropriate or that there is no problem to be addressed. In addition: *“The mapped zones in this report (GNS, 2015) are conservative in the sense that their size and shape consider a wide range of uncertainties. The boundaries do not mark absolute boundaries of the CZs and PZs, and as such, may delineate zones that may not contribute groundwater to wells. Some of the uncertainty analysis runs, for instance, may not realistically portray groundwater flow, and as a result would map a zone larger than it should be.”*
- The adoption of conservative, and potentially non-validated capture zones. This is acknowledged within the report upon which the extents of the capture zones are based (GNS, 2015).
- The adoption of the default capture zones, with no empirical support or justification, will place the onus on the landowner to show that they are not causing a problem. The available evidence suggests that there is not actually a problem to be addressed.
- There is no economic assessment of the costs of imposing the proposed capture zones on existing and lawful land use activities. There may be potentially substantial direct and indirect costs and restrictions imposed on landowners. The Section 32 Report has not weighed these against any benefits from ‘managing’ a national issue, rather than quantifying and determining the extent of the potential scale at the issue within Greater Wellington.

B. Rules of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan being;

With regard to farming activities within the Groundwater Supply Protection Areas this submission comments on the following rules of the PNRP

- Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity
- Rule R83: Discharge of collected animal effluent onto or into land – controlled activity
- Rule R89: Farm refuse dumps – permitted activity
- Rule R90: Manufacture and storage of silage and compost – permitted activity
- Rule 92: All discharges to land within community drinking water supply protection areas – restricted discretionary activity
- Rule R94: Cultivation or tilling of land – permitted activity
- Rule R95: Break-feeding – permitted activity
- Rule R96: Cultivation and break-feeding – discretionary activity
- Rule R121: Maintenance of drains – permitted activity
- Rule R122: Removing vegetation – permitted activity

4. The submission is:

The submission is that the rules identified above are to be amended and or deleted as detailed within section 5 below.

5. The submitter seeks the following decision from Greater Wellington Regional Council:

Table of Submitter Requested Changes

<i>Specific Provision</i>	<i>Request</i>	<i>Reason</i>
<i>Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule.</p> <p>Remove criterion (e) requiring that there is no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area.</p>	<p>The inclusion of criteria (e) does not address any known or identified problem. It does not reflect the available information and data on the water quality of Wairarapa potable water supplies (Ministry of Health, 2013-2014). There is no region specific evidence of a risk to community drinking water supply from the activity described by rule 36. The other criteria under the PNRP rule 36 aside from (e), being criteria (g) through to (o) can equally provide for the safe application of agrichemical in a manner that avoids adverse effects upon land within a community drinking water supply area.</p>
<i>Rule R83: Discharge of collected animal effluent onto or into land – controlled activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule by deleting condition (e)(iii).</p>	<p>Rule R83 is supported in principle as a sensible approach to managing the effects of dairy farm effluent. However, the submitter is concerned that the identification of the community drinking water supply protection area as shown on map 26 and 27a is faulty and therefore landowners are required by condition (e)(iii) to go through a resource consent process even if the activity is outside the protection area.</p>

Specific Provision	Request	Reason
<i>Rule R89: Farm refuse dumps – permitted activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule by deleting condition (d)(iii).</p>	<p>The submitter seeks that rule 89 is amended to remove criterion (d)(iii). The PNRP Section 32 on Discharges to Land report does not have evidence at a regional level that this activity is creating a problem for the Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas. Policy 69 is basing the implementation of Rule 89 on a precautionary approach but has not quantified the costs of doing so. There is also considerable uncertainty regarding the delineation of the groundwater capture zones based on work undertaken by GNS (Toews and Donath 2015).</p>
<i>Rule R90: Manufacture and storage of silage and compost – permitted activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend condition (d) of the rule by inserting the word “permanent” in front of ‘silage storage area’ as follows;</p> <p>(d) the walls and floor of a <u>permanent silage</u> storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water, and</p> <p>Or any other equivalent change</p>	<p>Condition (d) requiring that all silage areas are lined is not justified. The submitter considers that lining is appropriate for permanent silage storage pits which are used on an ongoing basis. It is not appropriate for temporary silage storage which may only be in use when there is a sufficient additional material for silage that cannot be accommodated by the existing permanent pit. It is suggested that if required, temporary could be defined as being used only once per 4 years (48months). At that frequency of use any silage leachate emanating from a temporary pit would be broken down by biological and chemical soil/ground processes.</p>
<i>Rule 92: All discharges to land within community drinking water supply protection areas – restricted discretionary activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Request that the rule be deleted.</p> <p>Or any other equivalent</p>	<p>Based upon the information collected for GWRC by GNS Science (Toews and Donath, 2015) and the information collected by the Ministry of Health (Ministry of Health</p>

Specific Provision	Request	Reason
	change	2013-2014) it is not clear that the land discharge activity is a problem for the Groundwater supply wells or that or that the Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas are defined appropriately. If these points are correct the rule is being unfairly applied without due recognition of the costs imposed on those parties who will have to comply with the rule. This is in terms of what level of evidence would be required for a consent application under rule 92 to determine that any effects on community drinking water supply water quality are not more than minor?
<i>Rule R94: Cultivation or tilling of land – permitted activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule in relation to condition (a) as follows;</p> <p>(a) cultivation-shall not occur within 5m of a surface water body <u>for those surface water bodies with a wetted channel width of greater than 2m of wetted channel.</u></p> <p>Add new condition as follows;</p> <p><u>(xx) cultivation shall not occur within 2m of a surface water body with a wetted channel width of less than 2m.</u></p> <p>Or any other equivalent change</p>	<p>The intent of the rule is to avoid the contamination of surface water bodies by sediment laden run off occurring as a result of cultivation activity.</p> <p>The use of a 5m setback is just a default provision. The information contained in the PNRP Section 32 report discussing the efficiency and effectiveness for livestock access, break-feeding and cultivation highlights various research (Section 5.3, pages 35-36) on the movement of coarse or fine contaminant particle flows to water, various setback distances and the influence of vegetation.</p>

Specific Provision	Request	Reason
<p><i>Rule R95: Break-feeding – permitted activity</i></p>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule in relation to condition (a) as follows;</p> <p>(a)-break-feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface water body <u>for those surface water bodies with a wetted channel width of greater than 2m of wetted channel,</u></p> <p>Add new condition as follows;</p> <p><u>(xx) break-feeding shall not occur within 2m of a surface water body with a wetted channel width of less than 2m,</u></p> <p>Or any other equivalent change</p>	<p>The submitter considers it is impractical to apply 5m setback to break feeding around small surface water bodies such as farm drains which may completely enclose a fam paddock.</p>
<p><i>Rule R121: Maintenance of drains – permitted activity</i></p>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule in terms of inserting a new condition;</p> <p><u>(XX) all tools and mechanical devices used for drain clearing must be inspected and cleaned to remove any pest plants or fragments of pest plants, or pest animals before and after use, to prevent the spread of pests.</u></p> <p>and amend to the following conditions;</p> <p>(g) if mechanically clearing aquatic vegetation, the machinery must use a weed bucket with a curved flat base, and a slatted back that permits the easy drainage of water and fish back into the drain <u>which reduces the likelihood of pest plant</u></p>	<p>Supports in principle Rule R121, which permits the removal of vegetation or bed material and associated sediment from any drain or highly modified river or stream, as this is an appropriate status for these activities.</p> <p>Good practice for managing the control of pest plant and animals species is for all machinery to be inspected and if needed, cleaned before machinery or equipment is used in any waterway, including drains. Cleaning should also take place after use and before moving to another location.</p> <p>Machinery should not allow the return of pest plants to a drain, particularly where maintenance activity results in fragments of pest plants being returned to a drain. Such an activity is likely to cause the spread of pest</p>


Specific Provision	Request	Reason
	<p><u>material being spread through the drain, and</u></p> <p>(j) floating debris and plant material shall be prevented from drifting away and causing obstructions to the river or lake bed, or spreading pest plants (as listed in the Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002-2022 operative at the time, or <u>listed as an Unwanted Organism under the Biosecurity Act 1993</u>), and</p> <p>Or any other equivalent change</p>	<p>plants, and where the pest plants are Unwanted Organisms (UO's) under the Biosecurity Act 1993, this is a breach of the Act. Similarly any actions that cause the spread of pest animals, including pest fish that are UOs is a breach of the Act.</p>
<p><i>Rule R122: Removing vegetation – permitted activity</i></p>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule in terms of the changes to the following conditions;</p> <p>(h) if mechanically clearing aquatic vegetation from an area of river or lake bed covered with water, the machinery must use a weed bucket with a curved flat base, and a slatted back that permits the easy drainage of water and fish back into the drain <u>and which reduces the likelihood of pest plant material being spread through the river</u>, and</p> <p>(j) floating debris and plant material shall be prevented from drifting away and causing obstructions to the river or lake bed, or spreading pest plants (as listed in the Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002-2022 operative at the time, or <u>listed as an Unwanted</u></p>	<p>Same reason as for Rule 121.</p>

<i>Specific Provision</i>	<i>Request</i>	<i>Reason</i>
	<u>Organism under the Biosecurity Act 1993</u> , and ... Or any other equivalent change	

6. The submitter wishes ~~/ does not wish~~ to be heard in support of its submission

7. If others make a similar submission the submitter does ~~/ does not~~ want to present a joint case at a hearing.

Craig Dairy Farm Ltd Submission on Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Signature of submitter  Date 22 OCTOBER 2015
RAYMOND BRIAN CRAIG

Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington R

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:

Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

Full name: Ali Scott & Dion Kilmister
Company name:
Address1: 1665 Te Ore Ore Bideford Road
Address2: RD 11
Address3:
Address4:
Town: Masterton
Postcode:
Telephone Work: 027 609 9522
Telephone Home:
Telephone Cell: 027 609 9522
Email address: toviewadream@wizbiz.net.nz

Trade competition

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

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

I/we are not directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of my submission that adversely and does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

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 any decision made by the Wellington Regional Council to the Environment Court.]

If other make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing

Date:

Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington R

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:

Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

Full name: RB & LJ Craig
Company name: Craig Dairy Farm Ltd
Address1: 144 Lincoln Road
Address2:
Address3:
Address4:
Town: Carterton
Postcode: 5713
Telephone Work: 027 329 4794
Telephone Home: 06 379 5128
Telephone Cell: 027 329 4794
Email address: ray.lynx@xtra.co.nz

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

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yes If other make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing

Date: 20/10/2015

Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington R

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:

Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

Full name: Lewis Herrich
Company name: Melton Dairies Ltd
Address1: 1513 State Highway 53
Address2: RD 3
Address3:
Address4:
Town: Martinborough
Postcode: 5783
Telephone Work: 027 306 9438
Telephone Home: 06 306 9071
Telephone Cell: 027 306 9438
Email address: lewisherrick@hotmail.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 my business and does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

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Yes If other make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing

Date: 20/10/2015

Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington R

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:

Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

Full name: Gary James Daysh and Anne Marie Daysh
Company name: Echobank
Address1: 112 Hururua Rd,
Address2: R D 1
Address3:
Address4:
Town: CARTERTON
Postcode: 5791
Telephone Work: 06 3798571
Telephone Home:
Telephone Cell: Gary cell 021 0369 507 Anne 027 292 8981
Email address: dayshies@xtra.co.nz

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:

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Yes If other make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing

Date: 20/10/2015

Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington R

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:

Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

Full name: Blair Percy
Company name: Goodlands Partnership
Address1: 36 Masterton Stronvar Road
Address2: RD 6
Address3:
Address4:
Town: Masterton
Postcode: 5886
Telephone Work: 027 499 0241
Telephone Home: 06 377 5581
Telephone Cell: 027 499 0241
Email address: blair.deanne@xtra.co.nz

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:

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Yes If other make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing

Date: 21/10/2015

Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington R

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:

Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

Full name: Sandra Joy Shivas
Company name: NEER Enterprises Limited
Address1: 28 Mangatarere Rd
Address2: RD1
Address3:
Address4:
Town: Carterton
Postcode: 57791
Telephone Work: 06 379 8463
Telephone Home:
Telephone Cell: 021 2423 461
Email address: sandie.shivas@neer.nz

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:

Yes I/we are directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of my submission that adversely and does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

no I/we are not directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of my submission that adversely and does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

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[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: 20/10/2015

Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington R

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:

Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

Full name: James and Jane Smallwood
Company name: Berwick Holdings Ltd & Smallwood Family Trust
Address1: C/- N E Smallwood
Address2: 19 Homestead Lane
Address3:
Address4:
Town: Greytown
Postcode:
Telephone Work:
Telephone Home: 61393782799
Telephone Cell:
Email address: berwick.farm@yahoo.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 my business and does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

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

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[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: 20/10/2015

Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington R

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:

Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

Full name: N & S Terry
Company name:
Address1: Richmond Road
Address2:
Address3:
Address4:
Town: Carterton
Postcode:
Telephone Work: 02 7453 3551
Telephone Home: 06 379 8258
Telephone Cell: 02 7453 3551
Email address: nol.brock@xtra.co.nz

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:

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Yes If other make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing

Date: 22/10/2015

Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington R

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:

Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

Full name: Ali & Dion Kilmister
Company name:
Address1: Gordon St
Address2:
Address3:
Address4:
Town Masterton
Postcode:
Telephone Work: 027 609 9522
Telephone Home:
Telephone Cell: 027 609 9522
Email address: toviewadream@wizbiz.net.nz

Trade competition

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

I/we could gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

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

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[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.]

If other make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Date:

Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington R

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:

Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

Full name: AB & DE Smith
Company name: Leyden Downs Ltd
Address1: 60 Chester Road
Address2: RD 1
Address3:
Address4:
Town: Carterton
Postcode:
Telephone Work: 06 379 9202
Telephone Home:
Telephone Cell:
Email address:

Trade competition

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

I/we could gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

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

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If other make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing

Date: 22/10/2015

Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington R

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:

Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

Full name: Beryl Masters Stuart
Company name: Woodleigh Farm Trust
Address1: 107 Manuka Street
Address2:
Address3: Dairy Number 46505
Address4:
Town: Masterton
Postcode: 5810
Telephone Work:
Telephone Home: 06 377 1280
Telephone Cell: 027 688 4245
Email address: berylslot@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

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

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

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[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.]

If other make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing

Date: 22/10/2015

Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington R

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:



Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

Full name: Garry Daniell
Company name:
Address1: Te Ore Ore Road
Address2:
Address3:
Address4:
Town
Postcode:
Telephone Work:
Telephone Home:
Telephone Cell:
Email address: gdaniell125@gmail.com

Trade competition

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

I/we could gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

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

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If other make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing

Date:

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

NZ Pork

Submitter Number:

S359

New Zealand
PORK

23 October 2015

New Zealand

Dear Sir / Madam

Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

Please find attached a submission from the New Zealand Pork Industry Board (NZPork) on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region.

We have reviewed the proposals for their impact on pig farming in the region and have suggested a number of changes.

NZPork appreciates the opportunity to comment, and we would be pleased to elaborate further on our submission. Please contact me in the first instance via the details below.

Yours sincerely



Anita Murrell

Environmental Advisor

Phone: 04 917 4752, email: anita.murrell@pork.co.nz

SUBMISSION ON the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

TO: Greater Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

SUBMITTER: NZ Pork Industry Board

CONTACT DETAILS:

NZPork
Anita Murrell
New Zealand Pork
PO Box 4048
WELLINGTON 6140

Email: anita.murrell@pork.co.nz

Phone: 04 917 4752

Mobile: 029 220 3300

NZPork is not a trade competitor who could gain an advantage in trade completion through this submission.

NZPork wishes to speak at the hearing on this submission. If others make a similar submission, we will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

I am authorised to act and represent NZ Pork in making this submission.



Anita Murrell
23 October 2015



Introduction

The New Zealand Pork Industry Board (NZPork) is a statutory board funded by producer levies. It actively promotes “100% New Zealand Pork” to support a sustainable and profitable future for New Zealand grown pork. The board’s statutory function is to act in the interests of pig farmers to help attain the best possible net on-going returns while farming sustainably into the future.

Nationally there are less than 110 registered commercial pork producers, comprising a relatively small but significantly integrated sector of the New Zealand Agricultural economy.

New Zealand pork producers are facing a number of economic, social and environmental challenges in order to remain viable. The contribution of imported pork to New Zealand’s total pork consumption has increased significantly in recent years, placing further demands on producers who have responded by developing increasingly efficient systems. Currently, nearly all pork produced in New Zealand is consumed locally and makes up approximately 49% of the domestic market supply.

Pig Farmers in New Zealand are leaders in Environmental Management and have a firm grasp of environmental issues, especially water quality and quantity pressures. They demonstrate a high level of innovation and environmental stewardship, particularly in regard to manure and nutrient management which has important implications for water quality. The New Zealand pork industry has committed significant time and resource to Sustainable Farming Fund projects centered on nutrient management and environmental initiatives. However, profit margins for the industry remain tight and dialogue with farmers indicates that compliance costs and uncertainty into the future are key issues.

NZPork is an affiliated member of Federated Farmers. We endorse the submission of Federated Farmers on the proposed plan, and in addition make further comment in our own submission to clarify the nature of issues from the particular perspective of pig farmers.

SPECIFIC SUBMISSION POINTS

Compost

Definition: Compost.

Rule 90: Manufacture and storage of silage and compost

The proposed definition of compost excludes dead animals or dead animal parts. This, combined with Rule 90, results in a discretionary activity status being given to composting of stock mortalities while offal pits retain permitted activity status. This is inconsistent with the approach of regional councils around the country and makes environmentally and socially responsible disposal of dead stock problematic.

Even the best animal husbandry will not prevent occasional stock mortalities, and when disposing of this stock it is important to prevent disease as well as pollution. Composting generates a useful end product, reuses other farm resources such as spent bedding material, and the high temperatures generated destroy pathogens and prevent fly incubation. Discharge to groundwater is minimized as the activity occurs on the land surface and produces little leachate when well-managed.

Farm Effluent

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land.

NZPork submits that the discharge of collected animal effluent to land from existing farming activities should be a permitted activity. These enterprises have been lawfully established and as long as certain standards are met should not be controlled activities.

There must also be more rigorous cost-benefit analysis of the proposed pond storage and sealing permeability requirements. Where changes to infrastructure are required, reasonable timeframes must be allowed and a long consent granted to reflect the investment that has occurred.

Reverse Sensitivity

NZPork requests the addition of a new policy relating to reverse sensitivity to ensure that primary production activities are protected from conflicts with new incompatible or sensitive use and development. These activities have a functional need for a rural location and must be protected and provided for in this location.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Kyle Wells

Submitter Number:

S360

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Name	Kyle Wells (THE CLIFFS FARM LTD)
Farm Name	THE CLIFFS
Physical Address	715 EAST TARAIAHI ROAD
Phone Number	029 200 8222
Email Address	Kyle-wells@bwz.co.nz

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR ~~handmail~~ - choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	194 hectares
Main Waterways	Kumutonga A
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	Various wetland plots adjacent the Kumutonga.
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	N/A
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so I like the partnership approach with council on the ground.

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for "important" trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

*e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)
Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.*

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

- I generally don't do it anyway. but to achieve this would require:
- relocating various troughs -
 - purchasing & installing various troughs & water can
 - fencing a considerable distance -
- Effectively 5m out from each stream is then productively worthless?! The water.

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Sandra Shivas

Submitter Number:

S361

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Name	<i>Sandra Shivas</i>
Farm Name	<i>NEER Enterprises Limited</i>
Physical Address	<i>28 Mangatarere Rd, R.D.1, Carterton</i>
Phone Number	<i>0212423461</i>
Email Address	<i>sandie.shivas@neer.nz</i>

Communication from GWRC: *I prefer email thanks*

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters to be heard please

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers & the Wairarapa Water Users submissions

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	<i>e.g. Sheep, Beef, Dairy, Pork, Dairy Sheep agricultural business</i>
Farm size (area)	1500 hectares
Main Waterways	Mangatarere Stream, Kopuaranga River, Rimuhanga River, Wainuioru River, Booth Creek and Carrington & Taratahi water race systems
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Eastern Hill Erosion & Mangatarere Catchment LEP's
Environmental investments	<p>Fencing, culverts, planting in the last 2 years well over \$100,000.</p> <p>Pending investment in the next 18 months another \$250,000+ which includes effluent system alterations but not the establishment of a native nursery or the plants from it, not the establishment of a worm farm to process the effluent solids or any pending requirements deemed necessary by the Natural Resources 10 year plan changes if it's accepted as is, which would be easily be over \$500,000 for silage pits, bridges, more culverts & fencing etc.</p> <p>The downsizing of our pork unit from 1200 sows to 200 in the Mangatarere catchment with a loss of 10 family's jobs in the community aside from support businesses, eg 5000+ tonnes less local grain required.</p> <p>We introduced a fish passage at one of the river spots running through our farm when it was requested by Fish & Game members. The challenge was it's a wide gravel bed that continually moves so the fish passage became</p>

	<p>redundant at the next flood & sadly it's another expense to continue getting a digger in to move it each time it would be desired. The fish are still seen moving up the natural waterway by our young people that spend a lot of time at the river. In hindsight this was a non-effective use of time & capital investment.</p> <p>We've put in around 1000 poles on the eastern hills erosion prone areas in the last couple of years & many more in earlier years. And we're letting some areas rejuvenate back to native bush rather than retaining them in pasture.</p>
<p>QE2 or Retirement Blocks</p>	<p>We have personally fenced off two wetland areas – one at Te Wharau & one near Mangatarere Catchment, a totora block & 10+ km of riparian fencing with land retired & planting begun but not completed in Mangatarere, & many more km's of riparian fencing at Rangitumau & east of Carterton where planning hasn't begun yet. We have more, smaller areas of totora & likely some areas of rejuvenated native areas we'd like to retire as funds & time for fencing, planting & the up keep of weeding allows.</p>
<p>General Comments</p>	<p>We've had a great relationship & tangible positive results with GW land management teams on the eastern hills erosion plan & the Mangatarere catchment Land Environment Plan. The knowledge & support the GW staff have given has made a noticeable difference to the areas we've focused on together.</p> <p>I have a constant tension between environment & commercial viability. We are a family business with 3 generations working on farm & a number of the next generation growing up on it presently. One of our core values is caring for the environment and another is learning. We're keen to gain information of ways new to us & that can achieve a more sustainable environment & family business & we're looking forward to implementing them as they're understood by us & proven.</p> <p>I grew up with my grandfather saying if we look after the land it'll look after us, then putting more money than he had spare at times into achieving that task because of the importance he put on that truth.</p> <p>There is no lack of enthusiasm here to achieve improving & making a sustainable environment but there's often a limit on the speed we can achieve the desired changes while still keeping the business financially sustainable in the present.</p> <p>There are over 2 dozen families reliant on the decisions we make, for their families income.</p> <p>Farmers & landowners are understanding more & more about different ideas & ideals of land management than we've had for the last while. This has been a progression from before the gold mining era that will continue.</p> <p>The Industry good organizations are doing a great job of providing training & information as trials are achieved & data of outcomes can be shown.</p> <p>Regional councils working with these organizations will bring about the necessary change over time much more effectively than more rules would.</p> <p>Facilitating teaching through media, giving access to information & money and effort put in to the collaboration rather than regulation arm of GWRC will achieve more profound & long term beneficial change.</p> <p>To achieve the change we're wanting to see will take unity & working together & would be much harder to achieve with dissention, factions & sectors of society putting energy into fighting instead of into solutions.</p> <p>There would be value in regional councils contracting a specialist in business culture change as a cost effective way to help navigate proposed &/or desired</p>

change.

As a wider community we need expectations shown to be balanced & proven that the expense farming families are expected to pay are aided by the communities to the extent that those communities are going to benefit from the changes made.

The water we clear & purify as it goes through the waterways on our land doesn't stay with us for our use but moves on for others to benefit from.

There may be an underlying idea for some people that farmers have more money or a higher disposable income than other businesses or families. For many of us however, possibly the majority, this isn't the fact. Many of us farm **for** the land rather than farming the land for ourselves. This makes long term improvements at the expense of short term financial gains. This & the fact that farms are generally commodity based businesses cancel the assumption that farmers have high annual wealth, it's not the reality. In our case we put much more back in to the community through wages & donations than we have as profit. In considering the figures we may be expected to front for the benefit of others ticking the boxes on looking after the environment please don't expect there's 'lots of fat' or a high profit margin in our businesses even though we can all see farmers do have a large amount of asset they're working with, even if it's bank owned.

This draught plan seems weighted to improvements for environment and recreation values rather than including the balanced perspective & consideration of the farming people who care for many of these resources & who affect most people's income in NZ at the least indirectly through retail.

The snowballing speed of change that's being pressed on the farming community seems out of kilter. Farmers will move with change but do need to have reassurance that what they're doing will be a genuine improvement & it won't be undermined within short timeframe.

Robust prehearing cost benefit analysis is seriously needed on many areas of the Natural Resource plan that affect farmers & therefore our farming communities with greater debt to achieve in many cases a very small overall gain.

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extension to the timeframes.

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre.

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points at the least & ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

As a farm business we need to prioritize available funds to the area/s that will achieve the most significant changes for the environment & in a way that will have the most desirable long term business responses. I trust that our managers & myself will achieve what’s needed. Legally pushing specific actions into too tight a timeframe will be detrimental to achieving everyone’s desired overall outcomes of a fully well cared for environment. Extension to timeframes for stock exclusion is needed.

As sheep certainly don’t like being in water. The fencing required to keep sheep excluded from water that they don’t want to go in anyway will make the fencing costs much more prohibitive.

The ability to access water, at the very least from drinking spots, is really important to us as we have areas that are very hard (& excessively expensive) to achieve water reticulation to, in these areas our stock’s welfare is reliant on natural drinking water.

In areas that are practical to fence to exclude stock from waterways & as time & funds permit we have been & will continue to achieve this.

We do know however to do this means many more 10’s of 1000’s of liters of water storage, tanks, pumps, fittings, many kms of piping, planning, labor to install & maintain etc.

There would be increased risk in drought & from breakdowns, at which time stock would need to be able to gain access to natural water supplies.

In our hill country it is extremely impractical for us to achieve complete fencing. Among other factors the large quantity of willow – alive & encroaching, & dead trees that are swept along the river - will continue to wipe out posts & even 1 wire fencing.

On the dairy land we are governed by the Sustainable Dairy: Water Accord & work to this standard.

The clearing of water races & drains especially when one side is bounded by a hedge or other vegetation & the other is proposed to be fenced makes it impractical for the equipment to get to the the necessary waterways.

On the lowlands we pay a large amount for water (that we use very minimally) to be moved through our property for the benefit of others. It would seem more in keeping with our 'user pays society' for the costs to be covered by those who utilize the water rather than those that pay to fence it off, plant to clean it up, put trucks & labour in to assist the CDC digger cleaning now there are fences, don't access it & still pay rates on it above everything else.

We are already fully fenced around our spawning rivers. Any occasional stock movement through these water ways is only if stock will be noticeably disadvantaged without the movement being achieved. The likelihood of us moving stock between the trout spawning May & October is even less usual but we would support having the clause in place to cover the importance of their spawning season.

We would need to have evidence of Inanga spawning in each of our respective rivers to know if it's necessary to extend this spawning season exclusion rule in our areas.

Please cut out rivers that aren't truly spawning rivers. We're all going to achieve greater buy-in from all concerned if rules are actually valid in any area they're being expected.

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites & change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Make available GW funding for planning; professional reports; fencing & other beneficial activities to achieve quality decisions by the land owners of significant wetlands.

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for **bees in particular** or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan, **especially in areas where filtering nutrients would be beneficial.**

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

We need very clear information to all affected land owners with these areas & with any land that changes hands. Thanks for the effort that's been made to date to be in touch with us regarding the significant wetland on our land.

On our property these are large areas, the 2 largest are approx. 15ha & 5ha we're concerned with. Without the use of machines the increased time & expense would make it non-affordable to upkeep weed & pest invasion or work to benefit the wetland & water flow in any other ways.

GW suggested & has done some preliminary work regarding us utilizing the lowland wetland for nutrient filtering. If this is deemed to be beneficial it would possibly require an amount of superficial alteration of some of the area to be of the greatest benefit, which would require machinery. If there was a large amount of consenting reports with payment to consultants this would decrease the likelihood of us achieving this, even if it was the best environmental outcome & an action we

personally would be keen to see worked into the overall farming system.

As a family we have a desire to utilize each area of our land to its best possible advantage. This includes redeeming wetlands to be the best they possibly can be & utilizing the habitat to its best advantage for our native flora & fauna. We already know from our 1ha totora block weeding by hand takes a note-able amount of time - & it's tiny & already well maintained in comparison to the wetlands.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In our groundwater protection area, please undertake a risk analysis before the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investments made.

Effluent Comment and Reasons

We need clear rules that have the most important/beneficial points specifically cited so we don't need to waste time & money with reports. We have large time lags in areas where we have high demand but a low number of experienced, qualified people to achieve the consent reports required already. The extra expense is becoming prohibitive to move forward to achieve the beneficial changes we'd like to be doing.

The money & time we're putting into reports would be better spent on plants, improved systems etc rather than paperwork that doesn't tangibly aid the environment on our land.

The payback & paying off time for new systems is many years, extending the timeframe of consents would make these expensive decisions more financially prudent.

We need to see the cost benefit analysis achieved on the expectation of lined ponds, whether they are new additions to a property or an expected change to line presently non-lined ponds.

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and **intermittently flowing streams - what size is 'stream' expected to cover?**)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water.

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body due to no discharge (condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage **which is completely sealed so can't leak.**

Silage Comments and Reasons

We need the term manufacture clarified. Is it cutting & harvesting the paddocks or making & compacting the stack? How does blowing the silage into a sealed bag relate to the proposed silage making rules?

Well-made silage, which is what we expect for our stock & a viable business will have very minimal, if any leaching.

Delete the 20m in recognition that we personally, so I expect others too, have got many water ways & we need to allow the silage area to be in a practical situation for farming practices. Having well-made silage will mean there's minimal leachate to move anywhere near waterways anyway.

For all but one of our farms we don't have our silage in a sealed bunker. We use a pad with a combination of stacks & long bags. The cost to achieve the necessary storage base for a usual year for us is over \$190,000 without any mechanism to catch rainwater from the concrete area. This price however doesn't allow for a year that has excessive growth at an unexpected time which we will need to harvest so we can care for the stock when the seasons later balance themselves out again with a lack of growth.

We utilize silage in our grass based system. For some stock we move the silage stack to the cropping area they will winter on (chosen due to the need for adding nutrients to the area & rejuvenate the pasture species). This is often used as a self-feeding stack to lower movement on the land in winter.

We also have an area at each farm that is permanently used as a silage area. These are thick, compacted lime bases positioned within the farm boundaries to enable the efficient making & use

of the silage.

The farm that has a concrete silage pit has it right beside the cowshed, concrete feed area & effluent system for the water coming into the system. However there are not suitable areas near our other dairy sheds to achieve a similar system & our dry stock area is kms away from any power or facilities to irrigate the rain catchment area.

DairyNZ has been a great source of robust information & continues to give direction to dairy farmers seeking to improve their land. In one of their studies looking at hot spot areas for N leaching on dairy farms silage leaching was low, especially if the silage pad was moved around the land.

Baleage is completely sealed so if it was possible to leak at all it would be very minimal. There are valid reasons for putting grass into baleage at times but it is noticeably more expensive than pit silage & has the challenge of wrapping disposal.

The added expense for no benefit would be taking away revenue from more important areas of concern, eg planting the kms of riparian area we now have growing weeds, whose seeds we aren't keen to have multiplying. Thistles, blackberry & other weeds tend to relish these non-utilized areas.

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Break feeding Comments and Reasons

The effort required to monitor this would be better utilized with actions that are going to achieve a greater benefit.

Supporting industry best practice would likely see the best results with limiting sediment & nutrients into the water.

The stock access into waterways will cover the water quality issue we're all aiming to achieve.

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

We have 10's of kms of waterways on our land that would be affected by this rule. The extra labour to go over the area twice to achieve the job once would have a great financial impact. When you add this ongoing cost on top of the other planned natural resource changes we won't be able to keep up with our extra expenses that give only minimal environmental reward. We really need to focus on the 'big wins' & find ways to mitigate environmental AND financial risk.

The idea costs are modest and are outweighed by the benefits may be an ideal thought but the costs are all associated to the farmers while the benefits are to the whole community. Farmers are likely to need the community, that reaps most of the benefit, paying for the extra person's employment to return the fish or invest in the new equipment or the extra time & cost of the digger driver to retrack their steps twice or to cover the consent & it's report costs to achieve the necessary tasks without the double time for the digger driver etc.

We need to see the cost benefit analysis regarding the practicalities for the suggested changes.

We need to have it clarified that moving dead trees & similar vegetation can be extracted from waterways so we can try to limit damage when we have the opportunity.

Each farm will need a very clear map outlining every water way on their property & what its status is & what is/isn't able to be done with each one. This information needs to be easily seen & understood & given to all prospective land buyers.

Our on farm digger driver says fish move upstream in front of any dirty water as the digger moves along. He hasn't once yet met the neighbor doing the next drains at the same time so the fish don't run out of habitat here to migrate to.

I'm also told the strict specifications for digger buckets are unnecessary & having an outcome to aim at would be a much more effective way of achieving the outcome than specifying a scarce piece of equipment as the only way to do this task, adding even greater cost to us.

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

Stabilization of land within 12 months may not be achievable on some of our land areas. If there's a large slip over a track that needs to be cleared some of our soil types may take many years to recover.

If we're going to be required to put water reticulation &/or fencing into hard to get to areas we are likely to need to put tracks through & to clear areas for the prescribed utilities. To make a track 6m wide we'll only be able to move 0.5 km each year or at 3m wide, 1km. It would take a lot of years to get near the back of our property.

The same is true for a track into the forestry areas we need to fell in the future.

This rule needs to allow track construction & of course maintenance to keep our health & safety up to the expected standard.

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

We have already put in culverts in many of our regularly used crossings. On our backland & areas that have infrequent crossing we still utilize fords & crossings. Safety, ability to achieve construction to the necessary standard & cost benefits are used to make our decision on how to most effectively cross each water body.

A number of our crossings that are larger than 20m² would be cost prohibitive to bridge. One of the more frequently used ones we had priced but didn't go through with - at about \$120,000 from memory, about 5 years ago. Another vehicle crossing we had priced about 3 years ago to cross the Mangatarere needed to be over 18m wide, which considerably increases the costs as a pillar is needed in the river bed & was expected to be around \$200,000.

I would think where a landowner decides a culvert is the most feasible option to cross a water body they will achieve this to their best advantage, which isn't to have it washed out, blocked or ineffectively small for flooding water flows. Putting in a culvert of inadequate diameter is known to be a poor decision with terrible consequences for the immediate land owner. This would be another rule where specifying outcomes then allowing people to make decisions is the best avenue of regulation, eg to see or have known over many years the seasonal variations of water flow to direct the decision on the best method to achieve it.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

Specify outcomes then allow people to make decisions & take action to achieve these.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

We are in the proposed water supply protection area & really need to see the solid data showing the tangible effects presently on the Carterton water supply from our current practices & the potential substantiated risk in the future that we are trying to mitigate by any proposed changes to present farming practices.

We also need to have cost benefit analysis achieved of any planned changes to these present farming practices with its relationship to the benefits that will measurably be achieved for the drinking supply.

Is this rule suggesting we aren't able to spray any weeds or pests on the approx. 400ha of our farm within the proposed water protection area? If so please provide the alternative financially viable methods for pasture & crop establishment & maintenance and stock health maintenance.

It seems idealistic but quite impractical to supply a spray plan to each neighbor before any spraying is achieved. Spaying plans change due to weather regularly & the time taken to notify each neighbor would seem to be better utilized elsewhere.

What do we do if the neighbor's happen to be away or on holiday before we spray?

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

Ideally we have no intention of throwing away any fertilizer we've paid for. In reality though there are circumstances that are tricky to achieve perfectly. Such as unexpected changes to breeze conditions after a task has been begun & before it can be sensibly stopped. General land form in the hill country is quite unstructured which makes it tricky to achieve a structured, tactical task like totally avoiding all water ways.

It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. However the loss in soil condition & in farm productivity & profitability of not applying fertilizer is detrimental to the land & the farm business as a whole.

We need to keep our aerial personal as safe as possible also while we wait until the technology becomes commercially available to achieve what we ideally would like to achieve with perfectly placed & most efficiently utilized fertilizer we paid for.

We aim to use fertilizer on our own land without giving any to neighboring land as much as we're happy to work in community with them, giving fertilizer without conversation is an action we naturally try hard to avoid.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Storm water comments and reasons

In our case storm water are excesses that don't originate from us but do disrupt our land & farming practices as the water goes through our land. In many way we have very little control as it passes through.

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Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington R

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:

Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

Full name: Sandra Joy Shivas
Company name: NEER Enterprises Limited
Address1: 28 Mangatarere Rd
Address2: RD1
Address3:
Address4:
Town: Carterton
Postcode: 57791
Telephone Work: 06 379 8463
Telephone Home:
Telephone Cell: 021 2423 461
Email address: sandie.shivas@neer.nz

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:

Yes I/we are directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of my submission that adversely and does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

no I/we are not directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of my submission that adversely and does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

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).]

no 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: 20/10/2015

Submission on Greater Wellington Proposed Natural Resources Plan

To: Chief Executive, Greater Wellington Regional Council

1. This is a submission from:

Submitter Details: Craig Dairy Farm Ltd

This submission is also supported by the following parties;

- Gary James Daysh and Anne Marie Daysh (112 Hururua Rd, Carterton RD 1)
- Lewis Herrich (1513 State Highway 53, Martinborough)
- Blair Percy (36 Masterton Stronvar Road, Masterton)
- Sandra Joy Shivas (28 Mangatarere Rd, Carterton RD 1)
- James and Jane Smallwood (19 Homestead Lane, Greytown)
- N & S Terry (Richmond Road, Carterton)
- Ali Scott & Dion Kilmister (1665 Te Ore Ore Bideford Road, Masterton RD11)
- AB & DE Smith (60 Chester Road, Carterton)
- Beryl Masters Stuart (107 Manuka Street, Masterton 5810)
- Garry Daniell (Te Ore Ore Road)

A contact address sheet is provided for each of these parties as attached to the submission.

Submitter Contact: Ray Craig

Submitter Postal Address: 144 Lincoln Road, Carterton 5713

Address for service: C/- Opus International Consultants Ltd
PO Box 12 003
Wellington 6144
Attention: Nicholas Cooper

Phone: 04-471-7120

Nicholas.Cooper@opus.co.nz

Trade Competition

I/we **could not** gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [*If you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission'*]

Submission

2. This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resource Plan for the Greater Wellington Regional Council

3. The specific provisions of the proposal that this submission relates to are:

The specific provisions of the proposed NRP that the submission relates to are in terms of;

A. Accuracy of nomenclature and identification of the Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas – Wairarapa Map 27a.

With regard to the Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas on Map 27a there are a number of concerns identified:

- Map 27a is entitled “Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas – Wairarapa (incorporates Schedule M2). Within Map 27a there are identified ‘Groundwater supply well’, and ‘Groundwater supply protection area’. Map 27a does not identify ‘community drinking water’ supply protection areas.
- The proposed defaulting of activities (currently permitted) such as the application of agrichemical (rule 36), the discharge of collected animal effluent (rule 83), or farm refuse dumps (rule 89) to discretionary or restricted discretionary activities where on land within an identified community drinking water supply protection area creates an uncertainty for the current landowner or operator in regard to future land use and management options.

Identifying that those uses are not permitted within the ‘groundwater community drink water supply protection area’ unduly penalises those landowners or operators within the protection area without identifying an actual environmental problem or adverse effect to avoided, remedied or mitigated.

- The Proposed NRP Section 32 Report for Discharges to Land in Section 5 “Efficiency and Effectiveness” discusses managing effects on drinking water supplies (5.1), rural waste (5.3), manufacture and storage of silage and compost (5.4), and collected animal effluent (5.5). The only specific data about groundwater for the Wairarapa cited is the region wide study relating to groundwater capture zones by GNS Science (Toews and Donath, 2015). Section 5.1 on page 17 states

Taking a precautionary approach (in accordance with Policy P3 of the proposed Plan) in protecting sources of community drinking water is generally more effective and less costly than trying to counteract the impacts of contamination after the occurrence. Uncertainty about how well the mapped zones reflect actual contaminant pathways and channel characteristics (and therefore risk), will always be present, and especially so in the vicinity of minor tributaries. However, the extent of the protection zones should be reviewed and refined over time as knowledge and methodologies improve. An external peer review has confirmed that the approach to identifying zones around the drinking water supplies as protection areas, was appropriate and defensible (Potts 2015).

This approach is based upon Policy 69 which states;

*Policy P69: Human drinking water supplies
The adverse effects from discharges to land and water on the quality of community drinking water supplies and group drinking water supplies shall be avoided to the extent practicable. Where adverse effects cannot be avoided, the adverse effects shall be managed having particular regard to:*

Further in section 5.1 it is referenced that Policy 69 directs the management of ‘adverse’ effects on human drinking water supplies by

‘...conditions have been included on rules for specific discharges to land activities including farm refuse dumps, offal pits....’ and,

A default protection zone as an ‘alert’ or ‘filtering’ mechanism has been identified. This can be seen in proposed Rules R71-R73 and Rule R89, which include a provision that

restricts otherwise permitted activities to occur within a community drinking water supply protection area as identified in Maps 26-27.

The justification for Policy 69 is in the second to last paragraph of 5.1 where it is stated at the bottom of page 17;

Proposed Policy P69 is followed by a note explaining that sections 7 and 8 of the NES-Drinking Water limit the ability of a regional council to grant consent to activities within community supply protection areas.

There are no specific problems regarding water quality, and a link between land use and water quality, has been identified in the area affected by Schedule M2.

Under the discussion relating to rural waste (Section 5.2.2 of the PNRP Section 32 report: Discharges to land) pages 22 it is stated;

Agriculture plays a role in the economic and social well-being in the Wellington Region, primarily in the Wairarapa but also in the rest of the region. Farming practices produce a variety of waste streams from construction waste (timber and metal) and hazardous wastes (agricultural chemicals and paints), to household organic food scrap waste and dead animals. It is important to ensure that waste management options are available to enable rural landowners not only to minimise their waste, but also to divert or dispose of it in a sustainable manner.

In terms of farm rural waste and assessing whether there are adverse environmental effects occurring within the Wairarapa, or the *community supply protection areas* specifically,

“The volume of waste ending up in farm dumps in the Wellington Region is not known...”

However in the Section 32 Report it is discussed that using data from a study of farm dump disposal in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty regions suggests that a volume of 65,453 tonnes of rural waste annually (Section 5.3.1, page 24 of Section 32: Discharges to Land) is being disposed of within the region. But there is no quantification by the Section 32 report in terms of environmental problems resulting from farm refuse other than a statement (Section 5.3.1 page 24);

“WRC incident reporting shows that inappropriate contents and location of farm refuse dumps has led to environmental contamination in a number of cases.”

This doesn't indicate whether farm refuse dumps are an increasing environment problem or whether the dumps have a problem in relation to groundwater and potable water for a community supply.

This submission questions whether the *community supply protection areas* have been identified adequately to impose restriction upon land users where there is no record established of an adverse effect occurring.

- A report on water quality, the Ministry of Health *Annual Report on Drinking Water Quality* (2013-2014) indicate that there is no problem which requires management.
- The use of a regional-scale model, with inherent assumptions and generalisations, to predict the behaviour at specific bores and locations. While the availability of hydrogeological data may be appropriate to support a regional-scale model, considerable local variation exists. As stated in GNS (2015) *“The models were never calibrated as groundwater transport models”* and *“Because the groundwater models were not calibrated as transport models, the travel times of particle path lines may not be accurate; however, their flow pathways should remain the same.”* Consequently, at specific locations there will be significant differences

between the assumed/modelled conditions and the actual situation. Any default classification, such as schedule M2, therefore must not be overly restrictive.

- There is a lack of empirical calibration or validation of the model. The available data suggests that the model is either inappropriate or that there is no problem to be addressed. In addition: *“The mapped zones in this report (GNS, 2015) are conservative in the sense that their size and shape consider a wide range of uncertainties. The boundaries do not mark absolute boundaries of the CZs and PZs, and as such, may delineate zones that may not contribute groundwater to wells. Some of the uncertainty analysis runs, for instance, may not realistically portray groundwater flow, and as a result would map a zone larger than it should be.”*
- The adoption of conservative, and potentially non-validated capture zones. This is acknowledged within the report upon which the extents of the capture zones are based (GNS, 2015).
- The adoption of the default capture zones, with no empirical support or justification, will place the onus on the landowner to show that they are not causing a problem. The available evidence suggests that there is not actually a problem to be addressed.
- There is no economic assessment of the costs of imposing the proposed capture zones on existing and lawful land use activities. There may be potentially substantial direct and indirect costs and restrictions imposed on landowners. The Section 32 Report has not weighed these against any benefits from ‘managing’ a national issue, rather than quantifying and determining the extent of the potential scale at the issue within Greater Wellington.

B. Rules of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan being;

With regard to farming activities within the Groundwater Supply Protection Areas this submission comments on the following rules of the PNRP

- Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity
- Rule R83: Discharge of collected animal effluent onto or into land – controlled activity
- Rule R89: Farm refuse dumps – permitted activity
- Rule R90: Manufacture and storage of silage and compost – permitted activity
- Rule 92: All discharges to land within community drinking water supply protection areas – restricted discretionary activity
- Rule R94: Cultivation or tilling of land – permitted activity
- Rule R95: Break-feeding – permitted activity
- Rule R96: Cultivation and break-feeding – discretionary activity
- Rule R121: Maintenance of drains – permitted activity
- Rule R122: Removing vegetation – permitted activity

4. The submission is:

The submission is that the rules identified above are to be amended and or deleted as detailed within section 5 below.

5. The submitter seeks the following decision from Greater Wellington Regional Council:

Table of Submitter Requested Changes

<i>Specific Provision</i>	<i>Request</i>	<i>Reason</i>
<i>Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u> Amend the rule.</p> <p>Remove criterion (e) requiring that there is no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area.</p>	<p>The inclusion of criteria (e) does not address any known or identified problem. It does not reflect the available information and data on the water quality of Wairarapa potable water supplies (Ministry of Health, 2013-2014). There is no region specific evidence of a risk to community drinking water supply from the activity described by rule 36. The other criteria under the PNRP rule 36 aside from (e), being criteria (g) through to (o) can equally provide for the safe application of agrichemical in a manner that avoids adverse effects upon land within a community drinking water supply area.</p>
<i>Rule R83: Discharge of collected animal effluent onto or into land – controlled activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u> Amend the rule by deleting condition (e)(iii).</p>	<p>Rule R83 is supported in principle as a sensible approach to managing the effects of dairy farm effluent. However, the submitter is concerned that the identification of the community drinking water supply protection area as shown on map 26 and 27a is faulty and therefore landowners are required by condition (e)(iii) to go through a resource consent process even if the activity is outside the protection area.</p>

Specific Provision	Request	Reason
<i>Rule R89: Farm refuse dumps – permitted activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule by deleting condition (d)(iii).</p>	<p>The submitter seeks that rule 89 is amended to remove criterion (d)(iii). The PNRP Section 32 on Discharges to Land report does not have evidence at a regional level that this activity is creating a problem for the Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas. Policy 69 is basing the implementation of Rule 89 on a precautionary approach but has not quantified the costs of doing so. There is also considerable uncertainty regarding the delineation of the groundwater capture zones based on work undertaken by GNS (Toews and Donarth 2015).</p>
<i>Rule R90: Manufacture and storage of silage and compost – permitted activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend condition (d) of the rule by inserting the word “permanent” in front of ‘silage storage area’ as follows;</p> <p>(d) the walls and floor of a <u>permanent silage</u> storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water, and</p> <p>Or any other equivalent change</p>	<p>Condition (d) requiring that all silage areas are lined is not justified. The submitter considers that lining is appropriate for permanent silage storage pits which are used on an ongoing basis. It is not appropriate for temporary silage storage which may only be in use when there is a sufficient additional material for silage that cannot be accommodated by the existing permanent pit. It is suggested that if required, temporary could be defined as being used only once per 4 years (48months). At that frequency of use any silage leachate emanating from a temporary pit would be broken down by biological and chemical soil/ground processes.</p>
<i>Rule 92: All discharges to land within community drinking water supply protection areas – restricted discretionary activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Request that the rule be deleted.</p> <p>Or any other equivalent</p>	<p>Based upon the information collected for GWRC by GNS Science (Toews and Donath, 2015) and the information collected by the Ministry of Health (Ministry of Health</p>

Specific Provision	Request	Reason
	change	2013-2014) it is not clear that the land discharge activity is a problem for the Groundwater supply wells or that or that the Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas are defined appropriately. If these points are correct the rule is being unfairly applied without due recognition of the costs imposed on those parties who will have to comply with the rule. This is in terms of what level of evidence would be required for a consent application under rule 92 to determine that any effects on community drinking water supply water quality are not more than minor?
<i>Rule R94: Cultivation or tilling of land – permitted activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule in relation to condition (a) as follows;</p> <p>(a) cultivation shall not occur within 5m of a surface water body <u>for those surface water bodies with a wetted channel width of greater than 2m of wetted channel.</u></p> <p>Add new condition as follows;</p> <p><u>(xx) cultivation shall not occur within 2m of a surface water body with a wetted channel width of less than 2m.</u></p> <p>Or any other equivalent change</p>	<p>The intent of the rule is to avoid the contamination of surface water bodies by sediment laden run off occurring as a result of cultivation activity.</p> <p>The use of a 5m setback is just a default provision. The information contained in the PNRP Section 32 report discussing the efficiency and effectiveness for livestock access, break-feeding and cultivation highlights various research (Section 5.3, pages 35-36) on the movement of coarse or fine contaminant particle flows to water, various setback distances and the influence of vegetation.</p>

Specific Provision	Request	Reason
<p><i>Rule R95: Break-feeding – permitted activity</i></p>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule in relation to condition (a) as follows;</p> <p>(a)-break-feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface water body <u>for those surface water bodies with a wetted channel width of greater than 2m of wetted channel.</u></p> <p>Add new condition as follows;</p> <p><u>(xx) break-feeding shall not occur within 2m of a surface water body with a wetted channel width of less than 2m.</u></p> <p>Or any other equivalent change</p>	<p>The submitter considers it is impractical to apply 5m setback to break feeding around small surface water bodies such as farm drains which may completely enclose a fam paddock.</p>
<p><i>Rule R121: Maintenance of drains – permitted activity</i></p>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule in terms of inserting a new condition;</p> <p><u>(XX) all tools and mechanical devices used for drain clearing must be inspected and cleaned to remove any pest plants or fragments of pest plants, or pest animals before and after use, to prevent the spread of pests.</u></p> <p>and amend to the following conditions;</p> <p>(g) if mechanically clearing aquatic vegetation, the machinery must use a weed bucket with a curved flat base and a slatted back that permits the easy drainage of water and fish back into the drain <u>which reduces the likelihood of pest plant</u></p>	<p>Supports in principle Rule R121, which permits the removal of vegetation or bed material and associated sediment from any drain or highly modified river or stream, as this is an appropriate status for these activities.</p> <p>Good practice for managing the control of pest plant and animals species is for all machinery to be inspected and if needed, cleaned before machinery or equipment is used in any waterway, including drains. Cleaning should also take place after use and before moving to another location.</p> <p>Machinery should not allow the return of pest plants to a drain, particularly where maintenance activity results in fragments of pest plants being returned to a drain. Such an activity is likely to cause the spread of pest</p>

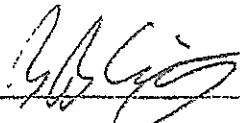
Specific Provision	Request	Reason
	<p><u>material being spread through the drain, and</u></p> <p>(j) floating debris and plant material shall be prevented from drifting away and causing obstructions to the river or lake bed, or spreading pest plants (as listed in the Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002-2022 operative at the time, or <u>listed as an Unwanted Organism under the Biosecurity Act 1993</u>), and</p> <p>Or any other equivalent change</p>	<p>plants, and where the pest plants are Unwanted Organisms (UO's) under the Biosecurity Act 1993, this is a breach of the Act. Similarly any actions that cause the spread of pest animals, including pest fish that are UOs is a breach of the Act.</p>
<p><i>Rule R122: Removing vegetation – permitted activity</i></p>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule in terms of the changes to the following conditions;</p> <p>(h) if mechanically clearing aquatic vegetation from an area of river or lake bed covered with water, the machinery must use a weed bucket with a curved flat base, and a slatted back that permits the easy drainage of water and fish back into the drain <u>and which reduces the likelihood of pest plant material being spread through the river</u>, and</p> <p>(j) floating debris and plant material shall be prevented from drifting away and causing obstructions to the river or lake bed, or spreading pest plants (as listed in the Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002-2022 operative at the time, or <u>listed as an Unwanted</u></p>	<p>Same reason as for Rule 121.</p>

<i>Specific Provision</i>	<i>Request</i>	<i>Reason</i>
	<u>Organism under the Biosecurity Act 1993</u>), and ... Or any other equivalent change	

6. The submitter wishes ~~/does not wish~~ to be heard in support of its submission

7. If others make a similar submission the submitter does ~~/does not~~ want to present a joint case at a hearing.

Craig Dairy Farm Ltd Submission on Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Signature of submitter  Date 22 OCTOBER 2015
RAYMOND BRIAN CRAIG

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to
 Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Sandra Jay Shivas

Organisation name: NEER Enterprises Ltd.
 (if applicable)

Address for Service: 24 Mangatare Rd.,
R.D.1,
Cartersville.

Telephone no's: Work: 06 379 8463 Home: Cell: 021 242 3461

Contact person: Sandra

Address and telephone no (if different from above): -

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: sandeshivas@gmail.com

Trade competition

I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]

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.
- I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number): <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	I support the submission of the Wairarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation.
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

14/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

#1530376

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL
SUBMISSIONS UNIT

21 OCT 2015

Your details

Full name: Leo Vollebregt
Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society
Address for service: Leo Vollebregt
235 Pahautea Road, RD1,
Featherston
Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405
Contact person: Leo Vollebregt
Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

RECEIVED

4.10 PM

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lrvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

yes I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [If you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission']

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

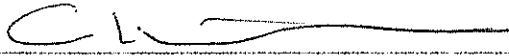
Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: : →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:



Date: 20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB, Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.
21st October 2015

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

Dear Sir/Madam

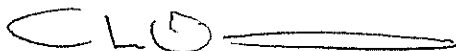
Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought													
<u>Definitions</u>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> Category A groundwater </td> <td> <p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</p> </td> <td rowspan="4"> amend </td> <td rowspan="4"> <p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p> <p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p> <p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p> </td> <td rowspan="4"> <p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GWV has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> Category B groundwater (not directly connected) </td> <td> <p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> Category B groundwater (not directly connected) </td> <td> <p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> Category C groundwater </td> <td> <p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td> <p>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,</p> </td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Category A groundwater	<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>	amend	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p> <p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p> <p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>	<p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GWV has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>	Category B groundwater (not directly connected)	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). 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Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>	Category C groundwater	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,</p>			
Category A groundwater	<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>	amend	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p> <p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p> <p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>				<p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GWV has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>										
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Category C groundwater	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>																
	<p>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,</p>																

	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	
<p>groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Category A groundwater and the component of category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 	<p>amend</p>	<p>There is no definition of what directly connected means.</p> <p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>Ground water in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p> <p>Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater directly connected to surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised <u>the amount is increased</u> through time, including by means of:</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whatua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain</p> <p>Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that whaitua or sub-catchment.</p>			
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included.</p> <p>We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.</p> <p>retain</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to (b)</u></p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>			
<p>Policy P107: framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <p>(a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and</p> <p>(b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and</p> <p>(c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>	<p>(a) the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have significant part to play in establishing the evidence Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost. +ve effect - the water availability should be released immediately."</p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>We support the use of water</p>	
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the whatua chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115 (authorising</p>	<p>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>Policy P115: authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and take levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
	<p>Amend</p>	<p>oppose</p>	

Policy P116: re-allocating water	Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the <i>whaitua</i> chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.	Support	Retain
Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow	In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.	support	retain
Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use	The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made	amend	(a) while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan being made-operative renewal of consent to meet the criteria'
			The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>		
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>			
<p><u>Rules</u></p>				
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>
<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>	<p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>	<p>amend</p>		

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after "...property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Waitarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a permitted activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p><u>Other methods</u></p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<p>(d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.</p>		<p>positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??</p>	
<p><u>tuamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u> Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water</p>	<p>When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.</p>	<p>Insert after - adverse effects – that are measured on aquatic ...</p>
<p><u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u></p>	<p>Water allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Again the categories need empirical verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly</p>	<p>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</p>
<p><u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u></p>	<p>Surface and groundwater allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.</p>	<p>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</p>

<p><u>Schedules</u></p> <p>Schedule P: assessing and managing groundwater and surface water connectivity</p>		oppose	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW</p> <p>The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical calibration</u> by GW</p>
<p>Schedule Q: reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>Irrigation</p> <p>A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria:</p> <p>(a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and</p> <p>(b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	Amend	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%." Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations. Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised. More consultation with affected parties is required.</p> <p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%</p> <p>Add after field validated model – for <u>Wairarapa conditions</u></p> <p>(a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows.</p> <p>Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount.</p> <p>Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups</p> <p>However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledged</p> <p>However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users.</p> <p>As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower.</p> <p>The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions</p> <p>There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u></p> <p>Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Angela and Nigel Johns

Submitter Number:

S362

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Angela & Nigel Johns

Organisation name: _____
 (if applicable)

Address for Service: 47 Seaview Road, Paremata, Porirua City

Telephone no's: Work: 04 2338062 Home: 04 2331733 Cell: 0274461734

Contact person: Nigel Johns

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: nigel@manabathrooms.co.nz

Trade competition

I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number): Rule R198: Motor vehicles inside sites of significance – non-complying activity	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
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	<p>My submission on this provision is: →</p>	<p>It has been brought to our attention that if the proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP) is adopted in its present form the use of vehicles to access our property will change from a restricted discretionary activity to a non-complying/ prohibited activity.</p> <p>We would like it to remain as per the existing restricted discretionary activity status with regard to vehicle access to beach front properties in our area for the activities described below, as we have no suitable/safe access from the street for this purpose.</p> <p>The cost of a consent under the existing restricted discretionary activity is typically \$850-\$1000. The consent includes specific conditions designed to protect the beach environment and minimise disturbance to residents.</p> <p>We are advised that under the PNRP it will be much more difficult to obtain a consent and will likely require the use of expert witnesses, the presentation of evidence and could cost over \$10,000.</p> <p>Our requirement to access the beachfront is for property maintenance, removing rubbish and trees. We have no requirement to drive on the beach for no purpose.</p> <p>The proposed change, along with the uncertainty associated with being granted a consent at all, will effectively deny access to the relatively few properties that currently rely on the existing vehicle access provisions. For these properties there is no alternative safe vehicle access from the street.</p> <p>When we first purchased our property 28 years ago, driving on the beach required no consent. It would appear that the construction of the new home on Paremata Road which had resource consent to drive on the beach caused a lot of damage with trucks & digger because of the manner in which they proceeded.</p> <p>Since this time other owners on the Golden Gate Peninsula have applied for resource consent to drive on the beach for various reasons & caused no problems for Greater Wellington.</p> <p>The recent rebuild of 15b Seaview Road was carried out with total agreement between the owners & Greater Wellington with no complaints from other residence.</p> <p>The residences of Seaview Road take seriously the responsibility of looking after the beach front & only drive on the beach when necessary, the action of 1 owner could potentially affect many unnecessarily.</p> <p>The existing requirement to obtain a consent for vehicle access to beach front properties as a restricted discretionary activity limits the number of vehicle trips that can be made within a given period. This means that only essential trips are made and are bound by conditions such as the area of the beach that can be used, the state of the tide, the time of day, keeping of vehicle trip logs etc. The existing consent provisions also allow for monitoring of effects of the activity by Council staff.</p> <p>The existing requirements provide a reasonable balance between safeguarding the environment and allowing residents to continue to live in the area and maintain their properties.</p>
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	<p>I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →</p>	<p>We seek to amend Rule 198 of the Proposed NRP to be a discretionary activity for the Golden Gate Peninsula including Browns Bay and Ivey Bay. That is, retain the existing provisions for this area.</p>
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The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: 

Date: 23.10.2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Gavin Bruce

Submitter Number:

S363

#1530908

S363

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Wellington Regional Council
23 OCT 2015

Name	Gavin Bruce
Farm Name	Mill Creek
Physical Address	180 Takarua Gorge Rd, Ohariu Valley
Phone Number	044783231 021906252
Email Address	bruceohariu@hotmail.com

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business <i>Sheep beef</i>
Farm size (area)	<i>440</i> hectares
Main Waterways	<i>Mill Creek + Ohariu Stream</i>
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	<i>30 hectares Native bush Parcel off</i>
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so <i>Have offered to pay for poplar planting along stream edge</i>

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for "important" trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between
landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

*e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)
Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.*

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: **support/oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Terra Moana

Submitter Number:

S364



e

Seafood Industry House, Private Bag 24-901, Wellington 6142

PAUA 2 INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION SUBMISSION to Greater Wellington Regional Council Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

28 September 2015

1. Paua 2 Industry Association appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington region.
2. Paua 2 Industry Association represents the interests of paua quota owners and commercial paua divers in the paua management area 2, covering the coastal area from Blackhead Point (north of East Cape) on the east coast of the North Island southwards around the bottom of the North Island and up to the West Coast to Albatross Point (North of New Plymouth). Only the area from Blackhead Light (East of Porangahau) to Turakirae Point (Cape Palliser) is currently open to commercial harvest.
3. The aim of the Paua 2 Industry Association is to enable the sustainable harvest of Paua in the Quota Management Area 2. Therefore, we are committed to supporting anything that improves the management of coastal waters, including this Proposed Natural Resources Plan. Below we provide points relevant to improving the management of coastal waters, and the relevant ecosystems to protecting Paua, its habitat habitat and its food source – kelp.

Ecosystem Services and Fisheries Management

4. Currently, the New Zealand Quota Management System (QMS) manages the Paua fishery and Paua stocks by setting catch and size limits for commercial, recreational and customary. The QMS helps ensure sustainable utilisation of fisheries resources through the direct control of harvest levels for each species in a nominated geographical area ¹.
5. The QMS was world leading for targeted fishery management when it was established. There is a need now though for far greater scrutiny of the environmental and ecosystem health surrounding commercial fisheries. New Zealand's coastal fisheries resources are under pressure from all forms of take

¹ <http://fs.fish.govt.nz/Page.aspx?pk=81>

(recreational, commercial, customary and illegal), from the environment, including for example sediment input from terrestrial sources (forestry and farming), climate change and from interactions with other species through the ecosystem that are also affected in these ways. Sustainable management therefore requires a more management approach and the ecosystem services framework provides a useful way to analyse these issues.

6. Aotearoa Fisheries Ltd (AFL) is a significant quota owner in Paua 2 on behalf of Iwi. In 2014 AFL conducted a Qualitative Ecosystem Service Review (ESR) of New Zealand Pāua. The Pāua Industry Council (PIC), Terra Moana Limited (AFL sustainability advisors and ecosystem service experts), the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) and Otago University School of Marine Science were core technical partners. This was one of five ESRs led by Landcare Research under the auspices of the New Zealand Sustainable Business Council Business and Biodiversity project. The ESR was conducted using the World Resources Institute Corporate Ecosystem Service Review, internationally accepted best practice methodology.
7. The AFL ESR focused on the Paua 7 fishery, in the Marlborough Sounds and many of its findings are relevant nationally. Six ecosystem services were prioritized for analysis:
 1. Wildfoods,
 2. Regional Climate Change,
 3. Erosion,
 4. Educational and Inspirational,
 5. Ethical and Spiritual, and;
 6. Recreational and ecotourism.

The major findings are that:

- i. Recreational fishing must be better managed. For AFL this means licencing.
 - ii. Sediment influx, from terrestrial sources is a major issue, irritating paua directly as well as smothering their food source, kelp.
 - iii. That climate change on a regional scale is a risk to paua juvenile settlement, affecting water chemistry and biochemical processes.
 - iv. And that, the paua industry need to be enabled to develop more localized, targeted sustainable management measures.
8. The ESR methodology provided a holistic way of considering the management issues in paua fisheries. For AFL, this means not just managing the stock but managing the impacts upon the ecosystems in which Paua inhabits and depend upon. AFL and the Paua 7 (Marlborough Sounds) Management Committee are now developing proposals for the Ministry for Primary Industries, as well as exploring partnering with the Department of Conservation and Marlborough District Council on better marine management.
9. We commend the proposed Natural Resources Plan and in particular support the following objectives:

Objective 1: Land, fresh water bodies and the coast are managed as integrated and connected resources; ki uta ki tai – mountains to sea;

Objective 5: Fresh water bodies and the coastal marine area, as a minimum, are managed to:

(a). safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai; and

Objective 25: To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:

(b). restoration of aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai is encouraged.

10. The Paua 2 Industry Association upholds shared fisheries principles and is ready to work with the Council in protecting the habitat and food source of Paua. The shared fishery principles are particularly relevant for improving recreational fisheries management. The Paua 2 Industry Association strongly believes that local and regional government, knowing community aspirations best, can take a leadership role in enabling citizens to more responsibly access natural resources for recreational purposes. We are at a turning point in the sustainability of some coastal fisheries and recommend concerted action that is empowering rather than punitive. The shared fisheries engagement principles are appended with this submission. We also believe that this means we must play our role in doing what we can to proactively responsibly manage these natural resources, and taonga that we have the privilege of commercially harvesting and that support community livelihoods.
11. As mentioned in Point 7. the AFL ESR identified six key ecosystem services. Two are most relevant to the proposed Wellington Natural Resources Plan; erosion (sedimentation) and regional climate change.

Sedimentation

12. Erosion, causing soil loss and sedimentation, especially into the coastal marine area is a major threat to Paua fisheries. The scientific literature documents how sediment affects paua (gut irritation, slower growth, abnormal movement and behavior). Research notes that sedimentation events can restrict settlement of Pāua larvae, cause larval mortality, and change behavior in adult Pāua making them more susceptible to predation and dislodgment i.e. they cluster on the upper surfaces of rocks to escape the sediment but which means they then poorly adhere to rock and can be dislodged by waves. Sedimentation can also restrict the recruitment of kelp spores, cause mortality of settled juveniles by smothering, and restrict growth in juveniles by increasing water turbidity. Settlement of fine sediments on the laminae of mature plants can also restrict their photosynthetic ability and nutrient exchange. These findings all suggest that sedimentation ultimately adversely affects Pāua fisheries by limiting recruitment success (into the fishery) and reducing overall productivity in areas where *Macrocystis pyrifera* is a critical food source².
13. We note this is mentioned in Schedule F5 of the proposed *Natural Resource Plan: Habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values in the coastal marine area* and which describes kelp beds as

² McCowan T. AFL Paua Ecosystem Service Review – Erosion and Sedimentation.

the provider of three dimensional habitat space and structuring to the environment in rocky reef habitats. Kelp beds are known to harbor high biodiversity and are critical to food chains. These habitats are important for paua and paua fisheries whether recreational, customary or commercial.

14. We welcome the opportunity to work with the council to design projects that can better protect, and where necessary attempt restoration of the kelp beds. This could include designing prevention mechanisms against soil erosion and sedimentation into coastal marine areas.

15. Anecdotal reports from Paua 7 divers in the Marlborough Sounds suggest that sedimentation from forestry has resulted in a decline in the productivity of the Paua fishery in these areas. We support: Schedule O of the proposed Natural Resources Plan: Plantation forestry harvest plan point (g) The harvest plan shall document best practice methods for erosion and sediment control. We note the National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry is also under development³.

The anecdotal report is based on observations from commercial Paua divers in Paua Management Area 7 for over 50 years and which proves the value of citizen science to complement formal science data that does not date back as far. The Paua 2 commercial divers also see value in pursuing these approach and are prepared to share their observations with Council to further strengthen the Council's work for sedimentation control. We invite collaboration to this end.

Climate Change

16. We also note that you have a policy on climate change:

Policy P29: Climate change

Particular regard shall be given to the potential for climate change to cause or exacerbate natural hazard events that could adversely affect use and development including:

(a) coastal erosion and inundation (storm surge)

Method M4: Sea level rise

Forecasts of sea level rise will be reviewed after each International Panel of Climate Change report and a re-analysis of the local rates of sea level change will be undertaken at least every 10 years.

17. Future climate change (ocean acidification and ocean warming) has the potential to have detrimental effects on the New Zealand pāua (*Haliotis iris*) fishery⁴ including:

³ <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/news-and-resources/consultations/proposed-national-environmental-standard-for-plantation-forestry/>

⁴ University of Otago. AFL Paua Ecosystem Service Review – Regional Climate Change

- I. Growth and biomineralisation of juvenile and adult abalone are negatively affected by reduced seawater pH with smaller/younger individuals showing the greatest sensitivity;
 - II. There is limited research on the biological responses of abalone to ocean acidification, although, the bulk of research highlights a strong sensitivity to pH reductions at early-life stages with changes in development, growth and shell formation apparent;
 - III. Warming may cause a reduction in fertilization success/rates, as demonstrated in the red abalone (*H. rufescens*), while fertilization in the Japanese and Australian abalone species (*H. discus hannai* and *H. cozzoradiata*) appears robust to moderate ocean acidification levels; and
 - IV. Warming on its own may increase disease risk and spread in abalone populations.
18. There is currently no published information on the effects of warming or acidification on fertilisation of New Zealand Pāua. Early findings from an Otago University Masters research found:
- I. Larval development in a number of abalone species' is sensitive to seawater pH reductions of 0.2 to 0.5 units below ambient, and this is characterized by malformation or complete loss of the larvae shell, smaller sizes of normally developed larvae, as well as reduced thermotolerance; and
 - II. Growth of juvenile New Zealand pāua is reduced, condition and metabolism are negatively affected and their shell is susceptible to dissolution under future ocean pH scenarios.
19. There is little we can do to significantly curb the threat of climate change, however, some steps can be taken to adapt and mitigate starting with assessing the extent of the problem for the pāua fishery. These include monitoring of existing coastal marine chemistry, and minimizing input of other anthropogenic stressors to these systems while additional research identifies the range and extent of the impact of ocean acidification and warming on the pāua fishery. Related to but not restricted to climate change adaptation and mitigation, we support Council strengthening coastal environmental and ecosystem monitoring for example in partnership with the Department of Conservation (DOC), as per the Marlborough District Council. We also note the development of a more coherent Regional Council marine research strategy⁵ and invite collaboration in this respect given the extensive data our 'turtle pack' data loggers can collect and deep relationships our divers have in the community.

End

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http://www.cawthron.org.nz/media_new/publications/pdf/2015_07/Guiding_coastal_and_marine_resource_management.pdf

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

A Barton

Submitter Number:

S365

#1530866

5365

Mark Sutherland

From: Regional Plan
Sent: Tuesday, 27 October 2015 8:56 a.m.
To: Records
Subject: FW: Submission on new Natural Resources Plan

Wellington Regional Council
23 OCT 2015

Kind Regards,

Erin Campbell | Hearings Officer, Environmental Policy
GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL
Te Pane Matua Taiao
Shed 39, 2 Fryatt Quay, Pipitea, Wellington 6011

PO Box 11646, Manners St, Wellington 6142
T: 04 830 4318 | www.gw.govt.nz

From: John Barton [<mailto:john@ongaha.co.nz>]
Sent: Friday, 23 October 2015 3:11 p.m.
To: Regional Plan
Subject: Submission on new Natural Resources Plan

Please would you acknowledge receipt and let me know if you would like a hard copy put in the mail.

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Name	A J Barton
Farm Name	Ongaha
Physical Address	R D 1 Featherston 5771
Phone Number	027 444 7647
Email Address	John@ongaha.co.nz

Communication from GWRC: *I prefer email*

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard.

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission.

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	Sheep, Beef , Arable, Dairy,
Farm size (area)	Two properties: 950ha hill country breeding and 580ha finishing and dairy
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Delete all requirements for sheep exclusion from any waterway.

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete the rule preventing livestock from drinking from purpose built water races.

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season only.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

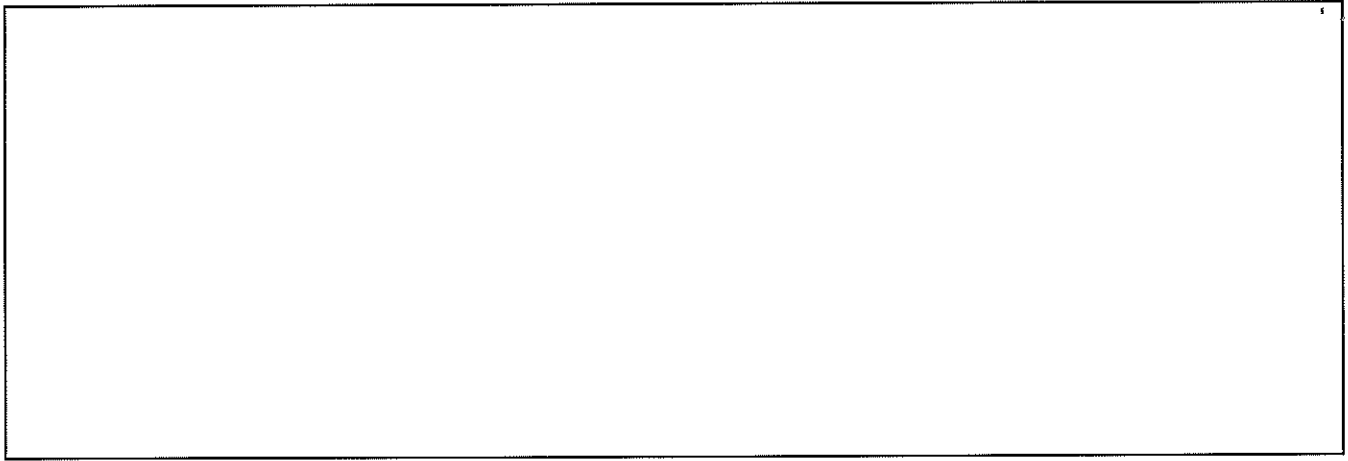
Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Undertake a rigorous effects assessment and cost/benefit analysis of any exclusion rules and conditions. Allow for individual circumstances on particular properties.

Exclude sheep from all water access restrictions. Sheep have entirely different drinking habits from cattle and pose no threat to waterways.

A cow is a cow no matter what the breed. Treat all cattle in the same manner in access to hill country water.

Water races were built to provide water for livestock to drink from. Many have been providing this function with no ill effects for well over a century. It is absurd to now attempt to prevent them from operating in the manner for which they were designed.



WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands –controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Acknowledge the legal definition of wetlands as specified in the RMA.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

The legal definition of a wetland is precisely specified in the RMA.

A definition of wetland for New Zealand purposes is provided in the Resource Management Act (1991): ' "Wetland" includes permanently or intermittently wet areas, shallow water, and land water margins that support a natural ecosystem of plants and animals that are adapted to wet conditions.'

No area which fails to fulfill that definition can be classed as a wetland of any description.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake a rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of any required storage.

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

Acknowledge that some operations in particular areas do not require effluent storage and remove the mandatory requirement for storage. Adopt an effects based approach taking rigorous consideration of cost/benefit analysis of pond storage systems.

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons:

There is low risk from wilted silage which when made properly should not leach any significant amount of liquid. A large proportion of silage is made in paddock surface bunkers, particularly in surplus seasons, in a different location each year. Any impermeable lining would be very likely to be destroyed by machinery during the ensiling process. In a paddock situation any leachate which does escape quickly evaporates.

Cost Benefit analysis has not included any evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs or the practical difficulties of implementing this rule. Delete it.

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Break feeding Comments and Reasons:

There is no logical reason for imposing a 5 metre setback.

Any setback area would be colonized by weeds which would soon spread around waterbodies and along drains.

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land. Develop clear differentiation between a natural stream and a drain dug specifically for land drainage.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

Costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized.

Cleaning a drain one side at a time is inefficient, costly and patently absurd.

Delete this condition

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks?

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that do not meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance. Delete the specified area.

Change Rule R99 and 101

Earthworks comments and reasons

Consider operational and farm safety aspects:

The required area of roads and tracks will vary with the size of the property. To specify a set maximum area of 3000 square metres per individual property is absurd.

For instance: We farm a property of 580 hectares which contains over 8 kilometres of roads, tracks and livestock lanes. At an average of width of 4 metres this equates to an area of well over ten times the proposed property limit. There are many other properties in the region which would have similar and larger areas of roads and tracks. Roding systems require regular maintenance and periodic reconstruction. This work has been an existing activity for very many years and must continue to be classed as a permitted activity.

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke. What is erosion prone and what is not?

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing. Define vegetation.

Delete Rule R100

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

Confusion with different slope triggers on different aspects, soil types and climate. What is erosion prone and what is not in various situations?

What is 'vegetation? Gorse? Woody weeds? Other weeds?

This rule has not been properly thought through, is impractical and should be deleted.

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rules R114 and 125:

- Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha
- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: Identify Mana whenua sites within the plan itself and undertake proper assessment of proposed restrictions. Do not leave this to a consent process at landowner cost.

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons.

Ford crossings are a good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects only

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- Retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) Odour is not offensive beyond the boundary.
- Heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects.
- Delete requirement for GPS mapping.

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

These are an existing activity on farms and do not normally have adverse effects so do not need consents and conditions. Many are already monitored by Fonterra and meat processing companies under their Quality Assurance guarantees. Dead stock/offal pits are often transient sites regularly filled in and replaced at another location. GPS mapping in this case is onerous and unnecessary.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) No discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) Spray plan must be prepared once per annum
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

Provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours are either unlikely to be or will not be affected.

Spraying requirements vary widely from year to year and even day to day so it is often not possible to provide any meaningful annual spray plan. Spraying is highly weather dependent and often a decision to spray is not made until early same day or even later.

Delete rule 36(g)

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons.

It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter.

Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Storm water comments and reasons

Impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

It is generally not possible to control the flow or composition of storm water, particularly during a major flood event.

It is of deep concern that this process has taken up so much time and cost to arrive at this point with so many misguided, unreasonable and unworkable rules and conditions remaining in the proposed Natural Resources Plan. There still remains ahead of us further time and expense involved with submissions, hearings and possible court action to try and rectify the errors. There appears to be a large degree of misunderstanding between those who sit in offices and draft the rules and those who are required to work with and abide by them.

The relief sought is: Next time there is a plan replacement to involve affected parties in a consultation process at an earlier stage; to get some key planners out in the field to observe what actually happens in rural business and farming operations and to give greater consideration to the wisdom, experience and immense practical knowledge of those who live, manage and work in the region's rural sector where the majority of rules and conditions apply.

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to
 Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



greater WELLINGTON
 REGIONAL COUNCIL
 Te Pane Matua Talao

To: Freepost 3156
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: A. JOHN BARTON
 Organisation name: WAIRARAPA WATER USERS SOCIETY
 (If applicable)
 Address for Service: _____

Telephone no's: Work: _____ Home: _____ Cell: _____

Contact person: _____

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: _____

Trade competition

I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number): <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	I support the submission of the Wairarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation.
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____

Date: 13/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB: Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

#1530378

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

652 Wellington Road
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Your details

21 OCT 2015

Full name: Leo Vollebregt

RECEIVED

Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

4.10 PM

Address for service: Leo Vollebregt

235 Pahautea Road, RD1,

Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405

Contact person: Leo Vollebregt

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lrvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

yes I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [if you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission']

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online

www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

21st October 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

<u>Provision</u>	<u>Text</u>	<u>Support/ Oppose/ Amend</u>	<u>Reasons</u>	<u>Refers sought</u>							
<u>Definitions</u> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Category A groundwater</td> <td>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Category B groundwater (directly connected)</td> <td>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Category B groundwater (not directly connected)</td> <td>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Category C groundwater</td> <td>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,</td> </tr> </table>	Category A groundwater	Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.	Category B groundwater (directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.	Category B groundwater (not directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.	Category C groundwater	Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,	amend	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p> <p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p> <p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>	<p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>
Category A groundwater	Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.										
Category B groundwater (directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.										
Category B groundwater (not directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.										
Category C groundwater	Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,										

<p>groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p> <p>Category A groundwater and the component of Category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 	<p>amend</p>	<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p> <p>There is no definition of what directly <u>connected</u> means.</p> <p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p><u>Ground water in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</u></p> <p>Add after treatment plants ... <u>water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</u></p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater irectly connected o surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of: (a) to (e) are good means to the objective. Add (f) enabling storage within the bed of a river</p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whatua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain Add (c) consents will run for a period of 25 years</p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that <i>whaitua</i> or sub-catchment.</p>		
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included.</p> <p>We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>		amend	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <p>(a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and</p> <p>(b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and</p> <p>(c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	<p>Policy P107: Framework for taking and using water</p>
<p>(a) the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have significant part to play in establishing the evidence</p> <p>Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect - the water availability should be released immediately.”</p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt.</p> <p>Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>			<p>We support the use of water</p>	
<p>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</p>	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(C) and 115 (authorising</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, “given effect to” includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>
				<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the whatua chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>(d)</p> <p>Policy P115: Authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
	<p>Amend</p> <p>oppose</p>		

Policy P116: re-allocating water	Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whaitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.	Support		Retain
Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow	In addition to core allocation , water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.	support		retain
Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use	The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made	amend	The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes	(a).while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan being made-operative renewal of consent to meet the criteria"

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>		
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>			
<p><u>Rules</u></p>				
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>
<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>	<p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>	<p>amend</p>		

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after " ... property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a permitted activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary ctivity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p><u>Other methods</u></p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.		positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??	
<p><u>tuamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u></p> <p>Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water</p>	<p>When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.</p>	amend	Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.	Insert after - adverse effects – that are measured on aquatic ...
<p><u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u></p>	<p>Water allocation amounts</p>	Oppose	<p>Again the categories need empirical verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore.</p> <p>As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly</p>	<p>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</p>
<p><u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u></p>	<p>Surface and groundwater allocation amounts</p>	Oppose	<p>The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.</p>	<p>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</p>

<p><u>chedules</u></p> <p>chedule P: assifying and anaging oundwater and urface water nnectivity</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW</p> <p>The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>oppose</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW</p> <p>The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>
<p>chedule Q: easonable and fficient use criteria</p>	<p>Irrigation</p> <p>A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria:</p> <p>(a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and</p> <p>(b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%." Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations. Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised. More consultation with affected parties is required.</p> <p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>
	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%</p> <p>Add after field validated model -- for <u>Wairarapa conditions</u></p> <p>(a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>	<p>amend</p>	

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows.</p> <p>Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount.</p> <p>Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups</p> <p>However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledging</p> <p>However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users.</p> <p>As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower.</p> <p>The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions</p> <p>There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u></p> <p>Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

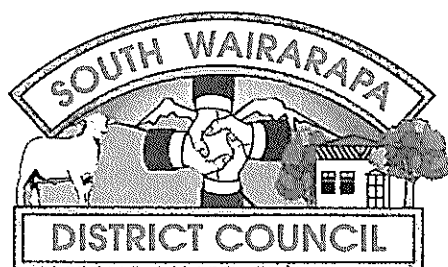
South Wairarapa District Council

Submitter Number:

S366

Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

Submission by:



South Wairarapa District Council

29 October 2015

**Submission on the
Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington
Region under Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource
Management Act 1991**

To: Wellington Regional Council ("WRC")
Name of Submitter: South Wairarapa District Council ("the Council")

The Council's are making a submission on the **Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region** in accordance with Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991.

The Council confirms that it:

- a) will not gain any advantage in terms of trade competition as a result of the contents or relief sought in this submission; and
- b) wish to be heard in support of the submission; and
- c) would be prepared to consider presenting a joint submission

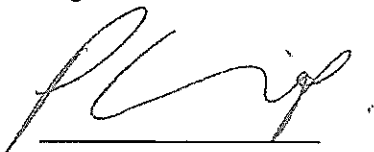
The general and specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region that the Council's submission relates to are included in the attached ("**Schedule A**").

Address for Service:

South Wairarapa District Council
PO Box 6
Martinborough 5741

Attn: Murray Buchanan

Signed for and on behalf of the submitter:



Mr. Paul Crimp
Chief Executive Officer

29 October, 2015

1. Local Government in the Wairarapa

The purpose of local government under the Local Government Act 2002 is

- To enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities
- To meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses. (Local Government Act 2002, section 10 (1)).

“Good quality” is defined in this respect to mean infrastructure, local public services and performance of regulatory functions that are:

- efficient,
- effective, and
- appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

The role of local authorities is to lead and represent their communities. They must engage with their communities and encourage community participation in decision-making, while considering the needs of people currently living in communities and those who will live there in the future.

The Local Government Act 2002, section 12(2), gives councils wide scope to do anything within the context of the purpose of local government.

The Act requires all councils to –

- Separate policy setting from operational functions as far as possible.
- Prepare long-term plans (LTPs), annual plans and budgets in consultation with their communities.
- Report annually on performance in relation to their plans.
- Prepare long-term financial strategies including funding, financial management and investment policies.

The Local Government Act 2002 also makes it clear that councils have a variety of other statutory responsibilities. These are mostly in other Acts such as the Resource Management Act 1991, the Building Act 2004, and the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Territorial authorities’ responsibilities include:

- Sustainable district well-being.

- The provision of local infrastructure, including water, sewerage, stormwater, roads.
- Environmental safety and health, district emergency management and civil defence preparedness, building control, public health inspections and other environmental health matters.
- Controlling the effects of land use (including hazardous substances, natural hazards and indigenous biodiversity), noise, and the effects of activities on the surface of lakes and rivers.

In order to achieve this purpose and role, regional policy provides the basis on which to achieve certainty, in both **regional** and district plans. Regional Plans must not introduce significant changes in regulation outside of the RPS and in general over short periods of time. This is particularly relevant in small communities who are required to fund such changes within a wide range of demands upon their rating bases, such as those in the Wairarapa.

The local authorities in the Wairarapa appreciate that, in some cases, regulation is a necessary tool. However, it is one tool available to the regional council, and should not be the default method. Regulation should not be adopted at the scale and range proposed in the NRP unless other alternatives have been considered, and shown to be unworkable, but more importantly, only where justifiable by well-founded scientific evidence and in terms of quantifiable costs and benefits, including economic costs and benefits.

The Wairarapa is a significant contributor to the productive base of the Wellington Region, supporting a significant productive agricultural industry, timber and forestry industry, and continuing to be regionally and nationally significant for recreation and tourism.

The Proposed Natural Resources Plan has the potential to either support these industries and the communities of the Wairarapa, while ensuring environmental and cultural values are appropriately provided for, or to stifle growth and development through over regulation and an unnecessarily restrictive policy and rule framework. The Council's consider that the Proposed NRP will stifle growth and development by over regulation.

2. Key legislation required to be given effect to in the Proposed NRP.

Section 67(3) of the RMA provides that the PNRP must give effect to the following

- Any national policy statement; and
- the New Zealand coastal policy statement; and
- any regional policy statement.

a) National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014

The NPSFM 2014 provides a national policy framework assisting and directing regional councils on how to set the objectives, policies, and rules within their regional plans. The intent of the NPSFM2014 is to assist regional councils and communities to “*more consistently and transparently plan for freshwater objectives*” and to “*underpin community discussions about the desired state of fresh water relative to the current state.*” (NPS preamble)

Key stated philosophies of the NPSFM2014 include the following:

- Freshwater planning will require an iterative approach that tests a range of possible objectives and methods for their achievement, including different timeframes for achieving objectives.
- The national policy statement sets national bottom lines for two compulsory values – ecosystem health and human health for recreation – and minimum acceptable states for other national values.
- National bottom lines in the national policy statement are not standards that must be achieved immediately.
- Where changes in community behaviours are required, adjustment timeframes should be decided based on the economic effects that result from the speed of change. Improvements in freshwater quality may take generations depending on the characteristics of each freshwater management unit.
- Monitoring plans are intended to be practical and affordable.

b) New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (“NZCPS”)

The NZCPS sets out the national policy framework for the management of activities and resources within the coastal environment.

The NZCPS includes a balanced approach to the management of the coastal environment, providing for both the protection of specified values, but also, and importantly, for the

- Recognition of infrastructure as an activity with an important purpose to achieve the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of communities (Policy 6.1a);
- Recognition that some activities have a functional dependency on a coastal marine area location, and where appropriate, those activities should be provided for (Policy 6.2c);
- Recognition that public expectation of both walking and vehicle access can, in cases, be appropriate (Policy 19 and 20).

The NZCPS is particularly relevant to the Councils for ensuring the efficient use, maintenance, and upgrade of existing infrastructure in the coastal environment and the Coastal Marine Area. In particular, the Council’s have an extensive length of highly dynamic and exposed coastline which includes

critical access infrastructure to rural and coastal ratepayers, and provides significant recreational and tourism opportunities for residents of the Wairarapa, the Wellington Region, and national and international visitors.

Of particular note is the outcome of the decision of the Supreme Court in the 'King Salmon' case - regarding the importance of the NZCPS2014 where it seeks to 'avoid' adverse effects, and potentially the policy framework intended to implement the NZCPS2014 (i.e. regional and district policy frameworks).

c) Wellington Regional Policy Statement (2013)

The Regional Policy Statement 2013 (RPS) identifies the regionally significant issues in managing the use and development of natural and physical resources within the Wellington Region.

The RPS recognizes the following in terms of Infrastructure (3.3(b)):

The roading network, airports, the port, telecommunication facilities, the rail network and other utilities and infrastructure, including energy generation, transmission and distribution networks, are significant physical resources. This infrastructure forms part of national or regional networks and enables communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing and their health and safety.

Objective 10 requires the following when preparing regional or district plans:

The social, economic, cultural and environmental, benefits of regionally significant infrastructure are recognised and protected.

This is supported by Policy 7, Policy 8, and Policy 39, which specifically require these benefits to be recognised and protected.

The RPS also recognises the important role of the small urban and rural service areas, including the Wairarapa. The RPS recognises (2.3 Community Outcomes) that:

The rural production activities that occur in and around the rural and small township areas provide economic, social, cultural, and environmental benefits for the region as a whole, and contribute to the achievement of the community outcomes.

In order to achieve the regionally defined community outcomes, it is important that the Regional Plan enables local authorities to continue to operate without undue regulation, and communities to provide for their cultural, economic and social wellbeing equally while still protecting key environmental baselines.

The RPS recognises the importance of this balance, and of providing for beneficial and economic use of resources throughout its framework, including

the allocation of scarce resources, which by definition includes “*economic, technical, and dynamic efficiency*”.

3. General Submission of the Masterton and South Wairarapa District Councils

The Council’s submission is intended to assist the Regional Council in ensuring the Natural Resources Plan is as effective as possible, and meets the relevant requirements of the Act, including supporting the functions of Regional Council as specified by s30 of the Act.

The Council’s note that they have invested significant time and energy in reviewing the draft plan, attending information sessions, and preparing submissions on the draft plan. Equally, significant time, effort and cost has gone into this submission. The Councils are frustrated at the lack of communication from Wellington Regional Council on key issues, and on key matters which have been retained in the Proposed Plan despite the Councils initial submissions on the Draft Plan.

Given the importance and complexity of the documents and their potential implications for the Masterton and South Wairarapa Districts, we do not believe that the submission time has been long enough to enable us to fully contemplate and comment on the documents. We do note that we have been granted an extension of time, but still do not consider this sufficient.

The attached **Schedule A** includes the specific provisions upon which this submission relates, and the relief sought. The submission also seeks any consequential amendments required as a result of granting the relief sought on each submission point.

In summary, the Council’s submission is predicated on achieving a Plan which appropriately provides for the following:

- certainty to all plan users, and enables certainty of investment by local authorities, businesses, communities and individuals without undue regulation or restriction;
- an appropriate balance between beneficial use of natural and physical resources and the need to protect or enhance environments;
- provides sufficient time for the achievement of “strategic” environmental outcomes, particularly where there is existing significant capital investment in physical resources and where the cost of short term upgrade of significant infrastructure on communities would be potentially prohibitive;
- A full suite of methods and clear environmental leadership by WRC, and doesn’t default to regulation as a matter of course;

- Recognition of the importance of the local road network to communities, that is it being equally as important as any other Infrastructure, especially in small communities;
- Appropriately recognises and provides for the significant difference between the needs and effects of rural communities and small urban areas, and the needs and effects of large urban areas within the region.

In reviewing firstly the Working Draft for Discussion, the draft NRP and more recently the Proposed NRP, the Councils have identified the following key issues on which clarification or amendment (or other relief) have been sought in the submissions detailed in Schedule A. These relate to the following:

Complexity of the Plan

- The Proposed NRP is significantly more complex in its regulatory framework than the existing suite of regional plans, making it difficult to interpret and to use, in particular for non-technical plan users.
- This complexity inevitably requires users to obtain professional assistance in using the plan, even for very simple matters, including determining whether an activity is permitted under the Plan.
- This will have a significant cost implication to users over the life of the Plan.

Regulatory Focus of Proposed Plan Framework

- The regulatory focus of the Proposed Plan is a significant concern, with regulation clearly evident as the preferred approach of WRC. The regulatory framework is much heavier and far more prescriptive than current regional plans, and in many cases unnecessarily so and not supported by sufficient evidence and analysis of the respective costs and benefits;
- The comprehensive range of “Other Methods” contained within the Plan is supported in principle; however the following comments are made:
 - the “Other Methods” are clearly secondary to regulation. Many of these other methods should necessarily inform the appropriate level of regulation. Regulation should not be the ‘default’ position, particularly where there is insufficient evidence to justify doing so. As an example, this is evident and of concern in the regulatory framework proposed for Stormwater Networks.
 - The regulatory framework, in places, is inconsistent with the requirements and intent of the Regional Policy Statement;
 - This level of regulation will create significant work programmes for local authorities, which will have cost implications and potentially divert key staff from operational priorities and adversely affect communities; and,

- Will create a significant programme of work in a short period of time for which there will be a significant cost to WRC (WRC staff or contractor resourcing; monitoring; capital investment) which can only be put on local authorities, local communities, ratepayers and consent holders. Plan users are already experiencing significantly increasing costs for resource consent processes from WRC.
- The intent of the Plan to effect change is supported where justifiable on the basis of evidence; the current Framework is too heavily reliant on unsupported opinion and beliefs and is attempting to condense too much change into a single Plan cycle (10yrs). The evidence does not support the need for driving such an extent and pace of change where the costs will be significant, and are not appropriately defined or assessed under s32 of the Act;
- It is inequitable to require local communities to remedy effects which have been created over generations, (not all of which are having significant adverse effects), and to undertake significant environmental monitoring programmes to fill data and information gaps in WRC information. It is WRC's obligation to assess and justify its regulatory interventions through evidence of effect, not for applicants and communities to do so. Regulation should only be implemented where justified, and where reasonable alternatives do not exist. If a change can be technically justified, then a well-defined and prioritised programme over 20 years (or more) would be more appropriate. The Proposed Plan is only a first step, not the only step;
- The regulatory framework is overly conservative. The unnecessarily prescriptive and overly regulated requirements around the discharge of treated effluent to land will limit the effectiveness of the policy direction (which encourages the transfer of treated wastewater from water to land) and render it unaffordable.
- The level of regulation will drive a significant increase in the need for complex resource consent processes in cases where actual and potential adverse effects on the environment do not necessarily support such a process. WRC has recently significantly increased its consent administration and processing fees, which in combination with the highly regulatory nature of the Plan, will be a significant cost to individuals and the wider community. The clear intent to require additional monitoring will have further and additional significant cost implications for consent holders on an ongoing basis.

Scope of the Regulatory Framework.

- The Proposed Plan goes beyond the legislative purpose for a regional plan, in prescribing work programmes and operational matters which are the responsibility of local authorities.
- The Council's acknowledge a catchment based policy framework to achieve consistency and balance at a regional level is appropriate, but the Proposed Plan has gone too far. Examples include the framework associated with stormwater management, water efficiency, and treated

effluent discharge to land. The Plan goes beyond the “end of pipe” effects, and effectively seeks to regulate local authority operational requirements. This is inappropriate.

Cultural and Environmental Effects Framework

- The Council's acknowledge the need to provide for cultural values;
- The Council's are already working with tangata whenua to achieve a collaborative and shared outcome (along with all stakeholders), as outlined in respective policies and regulatory documents;
- The Council's are however concerned that the resulting policy framework appears to establish a priority for cultural and environmental values over reasonable beneficial use, and economic and social wellbeing. This is inconsistent with Part II of the Act. The proposed policy framework, in places, appears to provide tangata whenua with a “veto” over critical activities including the operation of regionally significant infrastructure required of TLA's under the Local Government Act; this is contrary to the RPS;
- These “out of plan” determinations create significant uncertainty, and Council request clarification that they are not *ultra vires*;
- As a result, and as outlined above, the Proposed Plan introduces a significant level of “red tape” and uncertainty, increasing costs for the Council's that have not been anticipated or are affordable. If implemented by WRC, there will be significant impact upon levels of service (for example critical infrastructure and rates), particularly in Wairarapa's small communities, where there will be no clearly determined benefit or reason;
- The “tone” of the Proposed Plan, and its use of language and context is unnecessarily negative toward the balanced use of natural and physical resources, both through its narrative description of resources in the region, and through the lack of recognition of and provision for beneficial use. The Plan needs to provide for appropriate balance in consumptive resource use and protection.

Section 32 Reporting

- The Councils have a major concern at the general lack of assessment undertaken in the section 32 reports, including the lack of supporting technical documents, no substantive analysis, and lack of fiscal costing of alternatives;
- The Council's are particularly concerned at the lack of consideration of actual and potential costs to communities and individuals within the s32 reports of implementing the regulatory framework;
- In addition the Council's are also concerned at the process of identification of significant resources, features, and areas appear to be developed using insufficient information. A clear process of assessment and identification should be undertaken prior to inclusion in Schedules subject to regulation. This includes, for example, providing for “all tributaries” to identified waterbodies as being of

significance, considerably increasing the level of regulation throughout catchments on a widespread basis.

- Significant regulatory interventions have been proposed on the basis of this inappropriate level of evidential analysis, which have major cost implications on communities, and is likely to fall short of the requirements of s32 of the Act.
- The Council's do not consider the requirements of s32 have been met.

Planning Maps and Schedules

- The Plan contains planning maps which are not at a scale enabling them to be accurately read or used with certainty. It is impossible to determine from the current maps whether a property is included within a specified area. The Proposed Plan maps should be deleted, revised, and redrafted to provide Map users with certainty.
- The Plan suggests that the GIS is the definitive location for determining these mapped areas. However, the GIS is, at least in part, inaccurate, incomplete, and difficult to use. The Council's question whether the Proposed Plan is actually 'vires' in this respect.
- The Proposed Plan contains extensive schedules listing features, places, areas and resources which are then often subject to regulation. Because of the restrictive nature of the plan and the uncertainty of the schedules in many cases quite simple activities will become non-complying.
- The Policy Framework then requires a restrictive application of use within those areas, including regularly requiring activities to "avoid" effects on undefined and ambiguous terms; or areas to be "restored" to undefined levels; or for poorly defined values, attributes, and uses within those areas to be 'protected'. This sets a very high bar for consistency with policy frameworks, which will prove to be unattainable or cost prohibitive for plan users, and their communities.
- In many cases, the Schedules contain areas and features which have not been appropriately assessed in terms of their value to justify their inclusion for protection. Affected land owners and resource users have not been suitably consulted or advised of the implications of the Schedules within the current Plan framework, and will face significant costs.
- Significant land owners, including the Councils, need sufficient time to confirm the accuracy of the areas and determine the implications of the scheduling and maps. The current information, including the manner in which it has been prepared, in combination with the complexity of the proposed Plan means the submission period has been insufficient to enable a comprehensive consideration and submission process.

Other issues:

The following issues have also been identified by the Council's:

- There is uncertainty as to how any Plan Change emanating from the Whaitua processes will change other parts of the NRP. This may create a need for review of provisions already fully considered through this plan development process.
- It is uncertain as to how the Proposed Plan will deal with situations where the Whaitua process identifies a relaxation of regulations and/or standards is appropriate.
- This Whaitua process will undoubtedly and unnecessarily increase time and financial cost associated with the Plan development process, both for Wellington Regional Council and users/submitters.
- The Plan must clearly provide for sufficient time for operators and Plan users to implement significant change; providing sufficient time for change is a clear direction in the NPS and the RPS.
- The Plan should provide a regulatory framework for Regionally Significant Infrastructure and local authority roading (including earthworks and ancillary activities) which is based on a Controlled, Restricted Discretionary Activity or Discretionary status, not a default to non-complying activities. This is unnecessarily restrictive and has significant cost implications.
- There is a need to provide for activities with significant benefits and acceptable adverse effects as permitted activities. Examples include existing structures, roading and tracking activities, vegetation removal, minor discharges and gravel extraction (undertaken in accordance with an approved WRC flood management plan) and the implementation of flood protection works (also in accordance with an approved Flood Management Plan).
- The policy framework is unnecessarily restrictive, in many cases requiring “avoidance” “protection”, or “restoration” of environments without any context to any actual identified adverse effect on that environment. Interpretation of this policy framework will be out of context, unnecessarily restrictive, and in some cases, bordering on prohibitive.
- The cascading hierarchy of the policy framework is supported in places, but is not used consistently. The policy framework should incorporate the cascading policy framework of the RMA – based on “avoiding, remedying, or mitigating” adverse effects and/or inappropriate use and development.
- The current policy framework fails to provide a clear framework for adopting the Best Practicable Option, which is important for the Council’s when undertaking large infrastructure and community facility projects in a manner envisaged under the RMA for large projects.
- The Proposed Plan is introducing a framework for the Wairarapa’s network of Water Races which appears to be leading to their managed disestablishment. The Plan fails to recognise the important role the water races play in water supply to rural areas in South Wairarapa, and their important part in the existing stormwater network, making them (by definition) Regionally Significant Infrastructure.

4. General Relief Sought

In light of the above general issues and shortcomings of the Plan, the Councils request the Plan be comprehensively reviewed with key stakeholders prior to submissions being heard, including in particular:

- A full review of the scope of the Plan, including in particular regulation and policy relating to “up the pipe” operational matters;
- A full review of anticipated timeframes for completion of key strategic outcomes, including stormwater management, water efficiency, from a geographical perspective (intra-regional), a cost of implementation perspective, and an effects based needs perspective;
- A full review of the s32 reports, in particular the costs associated with the proposed regulatory framework;
- A full review of the policy framework of the Plan against the policy framework of the Regional Policy Statement to ensure consistency;
- A full review of all scheduled areas, sites, and features, including provision of evidence and the process by which sites are included;
- A full review of all “out of plan” determinations;
- A full review of the appropriateness of the balance between the environmental, cultural, social, and economic use of resources within the Proposed Plan, including the costs to communities from the policy and regulatory frameworks;
- A full review of the potential effects of the proposed regulatory frameworks on small communities, such as those in the Wairarapa, with particular regard given to the effects of those activities on the receiving environment, the actual benefits of regulation, and the costs of that regulation to plan users;
- A full review of the accuracy of all maps, the GIS, and the reliance placed on the GIS system;
- Inclusion of the outcomes of the Ruamahanga Whaitua process, which has significant implications for the entire Wairarapa region, and,
- Full consultation with all key stakeholders on all of the above.

5. Detailed Submission Points

Please refer to **Schedule A** for the detailed submission points of the Councils, and specific relief sought. This applies in conjunction with and in addition to the general relief sought above.

Schedule A:

DETAILED SUBMISSION POINTS

PART 'A': SCHEDULES IDENTIFYING SIGNIFICANT VALUES

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support/Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Suggested relief and/or decision on Submission
387	Schedule F2c; Rule R198 and Rule R190.	Inclusion of "Stony Bay" in Schedule F2c as a Habitat for indigenous birds in the Coastal Marine Area (SWDC)	Oppose	The area identified Stony Bay in Schedule F2c includes two boat-launching facilities that have been in existence and used for over 60 years. These are used both for recreational fishers and for three commercial operators. While Rule R190 appears not to preclude boat launching in the scheduled area, Rule R198 makes the operation of motor vehicles in areas identified within Schedule F2c a non-complying activity. This will have a significant impact on safe recreational boat launching in the Tora coast area. Schedule F2c and the associated Map and GIS should be updated to identify the existing boat launch sites, including access; and excluded from the provisions in Rule R198; and provided for as a permitted activity in Rule R190.	Schedule F2c and the associated Map and GIS be updated to identify the existing boat launch sites, including access; and excluded from the provisions in Rule R198; and provided for as a permitted activity in Rule R190.
300	Schedule C5: Sites of significance to Ngati Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitane o Wairarapa	Inclusion of Henley Lake in Schedule C5	Oppose	Henley Lake is a recently formed man-made lake created from the rehabilitation of a former quarry site. It is not clear to the submitter how these values have been determined for inclusion in the Plan. The inclusion in the Schedule has the potential to create a significant additional work programme for Council.	Delete Henley Lake from Schedule C5
395	Schedule F3: Identified Significant Natural Wetlands	Inclusion of "Henley Lakes A" in Schedule F3	Oppose	Henley Lake is a recently formed man-made lake created from the rehabilitation of a former quarry site. It is not clear to the submitter how these values have been determined for inclusion in the Plan. The inclusion in the Schedule has the potential to create a significant additional work programme for Council.	Delete "Henley Lakes A" from Schedule F3.
349	Schedule E5: Historic heritage Freshwater sites	Inclusion of the Ruakokoputuna and Waihenga Bridge in the schedule	Oppose	The Waihenga and Ruakokoputuna Bridges are both listed as historic freshwater sites in the Plan. It is not clear to the submitter why the Plan is concerning itself with physical historic structures, considering these heritage matters best dealt with through the District Plan. In addition, the Schedule is entitled "Historic heritage freshwater sites". It is not clear to the submitter how a bridge asset can be a freshwater site. The Waihenga Bridge is narrow and is often required to be closed during flood events. The Ruakokoputuna Bridge is a one laned bridge. The upgrading of both these bridges would be beneficial to road users, and the inclusion creates uncertainty as to the ability to plan for any required upgrade.	Delete both the Ruakokoputuna Bridge and the Waihenga Bridge from Schedule E5.
431	Schedule N	'Stormwater Management Strategy'	Oppose	Section 101B of the Local Government Act 2002 separately requires the preparation of infrastructure strategies for all community infrastructure assets including stormwater. The proposed Plan risks the requirement to	Delete Schedule N from the Plan, including all reference to it in the Plan, instead referring as appropriate to the strategies

436	Schedule Q	Criteria for reasonable and efficient use of water	Oppose	<p>prepare two separate strategies as currently written. In addition, the proposed Schedule N fails to identify that some local authority stormwater networks do not have adverse effects on the environment, in particular small urban areas and settlements. There needs to be a definitive threshold included in the Plan based on effects (or at least network size, volumes, or population beyond which the preparation of this strategy is beneficial.</p> <p>Group or community water supplies Schedule Q and the associated policy and regulation within the Plan effectively seek to provide WFC with the ability to review and approve District Council's water asset management function. Rather, it would be more appropriate for this Plan to incorporate a fixed per capita per day rate of supply, and include provision for commercial and industrial use, and reasonable growth. A figure of 500l/person/day could be used for example as a target for domestic use from urban supplies, plus provision for other uses. Comparatively in the rural zone, the Plan anticipates up to 20,000 litres per day per property being "reasonable use". In this respect urban use is considerably lower.</p> <p>Water Races Schedule Q (Water Races) requires local authorities to undertake significant work on the efficiency of the water race systems of a section-by-section basis, and to identify alternative water supply options. The Council's suggest it would be premature to undertake such a significant piece of work prior to Method M13 being implemented, which will enable a collaborative approach toward informed decision-making on the future and specified function of the water race network.</p>	<p>required under the Local Government Act 2002.</p> <p>Delete Schedule Q (Group or community water supplies) and related policy and regulation from the Plan, and replace with a target for water allocation in urban water takes (500l/p/d, plus commercial and industrial use allocation).</p> <p>Delete Schedule Q (Water Races) from the Plan.</p>
442	Schedule U	Trigger Levels for River and Stream Mouth Cutting	Oppose	<p>The Okau Stream on the Matakona coast also blocks and requires cutting to manage erosion of the road asset. Some investigation may be required, but it is requested that the Okau Stream is included in Schedule U.</p>	<p>Insert "Okau Stream" to Schedule U, including trigger levels.</p>

PART '2': INTRODUCTION & DEFINITIONS

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Suggested relief and/or decision on Submission
14	2.1.3	Rule 'bundling' – GWRC's stated intention to combine several permissions which may be required under sections 9, 13 to 15 into one rule – such that only one application will be required to be lodged.	Oppose, with amendments	The Council's acknowledge that the Proposed NRP is intending to combine activities into single application processes where appropriate. Whilst the intent is supported, the Council's request clarification that this approach will not be able to result in unnecessary consent requirements "by association" for activities, by for example, making a controlled activity a discretionary or non-complying activity by adopting an unnecessarily conservative view of what a more "relevant" activity, area, or resource may be, and therefore increasing regulation unnecessarily.	Retain the intent of combining activities under a single rule for activities otherwise regulated by s9 and ss12-15 of the RMA. Confirm within the Plan that minor activities will not be required to obtain more restrictive consents where there is any uncertainty in interpretation.
15	2.1.3	Second sentence: All rules (and definitions and maps) have immediate effect under section 86B (3) of the RMA from the date of public notification of the proposed NRP (31.07.15).	Oppose	It is not clear whether this is an error – because s. 86B(3) applies only to: (a) Water, air, soil (for soil conservation) (b) Areas of significant indigenous vegetation (c) Areas of significant habitats of indigenous fauna (d) Historic heritage or (e) Aquaculture activities. It is noted that s.86B(3) applies automatically anyway to the above matters (it is a provision set by the RMA and not really open to opposition in this respect). s.86B (3) does not apply, for example, to activities in the beds of rivers where none of the above values exist. There is provision in s.86B(1)(c) to enable any and all rules to have immediate legal effect if that decision is made prior to public notification (as is the case for the proposed NRP). However that isn't the section referred to. Importantly, in relation to activities involving water, the rules have immediate effect regardless of what is stated in the proposed NRP.	Clarify whether s.86B(3) is the correct reference and clarification of why the text refers to 'all' rules when s. 86B (3) is more limited in scope.
16	2.1.6	Reference to and reliance upon the on-line GIS facility.	Oppose	Having trialled the on-line GIS mapping function, it is evident to Council that the information boxes in that system are not all accurate and do not consistently link automatically to the PNRP Schedule referenced. The text in 2.1.6 says that the printed (pdf) maps contained in the PNRP should not be relied on and refers users to the on-line GIS facility. If the on-line GIS mapping system is to be relied on, it needs to be accessible, reliable and accurate. The Council's question whether this approach is vires in any case, as the proposed Plan regulation relies heavily on locations, areas, and maps referenced in the Plan, and the current mapping mechanisms contains errors making for considerable uncertainty. The maps in cases are at insufficient scale for any plan user to interpret and use with confidence, and are therefore unreliable.	That all maps be deleted, revised for scale and accuracy, and renotified for consideration. That the potential unreliability of the on-line GIS system be comprehensively reviewed and WRC ensure that, if GIS is to be relied upon, that it is made accessible, reliable and accurate, and confirm how this will be achieved with the necessary level of certainty.
	Definition	Best Practicable Option	Oppose	The Plan uses the term "best practicable option" in its policy framework, the intent of which is generally supported by Council. However the Plan does not support this with an appropriate definition. For certainty, it would assist Plan users, particularly non-technical plan users, to replicate the definition of Best Practicable Option as provided for in s2 of the Resource Management Act.	Include a new Definition in the Plan for Best Practicable Option, <i>best practicable option, in relation to a discharge of a contaminant or an emission of noise, means the best method for preventing</i>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Suggested relief and/or decision on Submission
					<p>or minimising the adverse effects on the environment having regard, among other things, to—</p> <p>(a) the nature of the discharge or emission and the sensitivity of the receiving environment to adverse effects; and</p> <p>(b) the financial implications, and the effects on the environment, of that option when compared with other options; and</p> <p>(c) the current state of technical knowledge and the likelihood that the option can be successfully applied</p>
	Definition & Maps 26 and 27 a, b, and c.		Oppose	The Council seeks confirmation that the locations shown on the stated maps and schedules are correct and that all current permits are included. The current mapping is difficult to interpret and inconsistent.	That the Maps 26 and 27 a, b, and c are amended to more clearly define the physical extent of the community drinking water supply areas.
	Definition		Oppose	The term 'Maori Customary Use' is used extensively throughout the policy framework and where resource consent is required, has the need to be clearly articulated and determined in order to enable plan users and applicants to ascertain consistency with those policies. As proposed, the definition contains uncertainty, and will be open to variable interpretation over the life of the plan, for example, the definition of the term 'Maori practices'. Council does not oppose the provision for customary rights within the Plan, but where it has such significant implications on Plan interpretation there must be an appropriate level of certainty in its interpretation.	Amend the definition of Maori Customary Use to provide greater certainty to its meaning.
19	Definition	Category 2 surface water body	Oppose	The Plan has inappropriately included water within drains and water supply races within the regulatory framework for freshwater. Drains and water races have specific functions requirements and should not be subjected to the same framework at natural water bodies.	Delete reference to drains and water races until such time as the appropriate regulatory framework for Stormwater and water races has been confirmed and defined within the plan using the stated other methods and/or relief sought by other parts of this submission granted.
	Definition	Regionally Significant Infrastructure	Oppose	The Council is concerned that the current definition of Regionally Significant Infrastructure fails to specifically include the district road network. The district road network is a considerable physical resource which is significant for efficient and effective operation of the road network throughout the Region, and the wellbeing of communities. This is particularly the case in the Wairarapa where there is only limited alternative transportation available, and where rural economies rely on that infrastructure.	That the following sub-definition be added to the definition of Regionally Significant Infrastructure: "Local Authority Roads, including culverts, bridges, and any other support structures or ancillary infrastructure"

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Suggested relief and/or decision on Submission
	Definition	Reticulated stormwater network is defined as: <i>The network of devices designed to capture, detain, treat, transport and discharge stormwater, including but not limited to kerbs, intake structures, pipes, soak pits, sumps, swales and constructed ponds and wetlands, and that serves more than one property or—a state highway.</i>	Oppose	The proposed definition of "Reticulated Stormwater Network" is ambiguous. It is not clear how roads, drains, or natural or partially modified water courses intercepting stormwater fit within this definition, and what the implications on the stormwater network are as a result, potentially with regards to the management of surface water bodies as currently included within the rules, policies, and objectives. It is also of concern that the definition fails to recognise the difference in operational requirements and effects of stormwater management in small rural towns such as the Wairarapa, as opposed to the large fully reticulated networks in large urban areas in other parts of the Region. The current rules and policy framework has significant cost implications for the Wairarapa towns, without any justification from an effects perspective.	Amend the definition of "Reticulated Stormwater Network" to provide certainty and clarity to all Plan users, and recognise the differences between the operational requirements (and associated effects) of large urban stormwater networks, and the stormwater management practices in small rural townships.
	Definition	Soil Moisture Deficit <i>'When the soil moisture is below field capacity. Also see deficit irrigation.'</i>	Oppose	The definition is potentially ambiguous, particularly when read in conjunction with the rules and policies relating to the discharge of treated wastewater to land.	Review and rewrite the definition to avoid ambiguity.
	Definition	Field Capacity: <i>The moisture content of soil when the addition of further water would result in saturation and/or drainage of water from the soil.</i>	Oppose	The definition is potentially ambiguous, particularly when read in conjunction with the rules and policies relating to the discharge of treated wastewater to land.	Review and rewrite the definition to avoid ambiguity.
	Definition	Deficit Irrigation: <i>Designing, operating and monitoring the irrigation system so that an irrigation event does not result in the soil moisture going above field capacity.</i>	Oppose	The definition is potentially ambiguous, particularly when read in conjunction with the rules and policies relating to the discharge of treated wastewater to land.	Review and rewrite the definition to avoid ambiguity, including provision for "pseudo-deficit" irrigation.
	Definition	Distribution Uniformity: <i>The ratio of the average depth of irrigation water applied minus the average deviation from this depth, divided by the average depth applied, as would occur with overlapped areas wetted with irrigation water, expressed as a percentage.</i>	Oppose	The definition is potentially ambiguous, particularly when read in conjunction with the rules and policies relating to the discharge of treated wastewater to land.	Review and rewrite the definition to avoid ambiguity.
	Definition	Saturated Conductivity: <i>Hydraulic conductivity is the rate of water movement</i>	Oppose	The definition is potentially ambiguous, particularly when read in conjunction with the rules and policies relating to the discharge of treated wastewater to land.	Review and rewrite the definition to avoid ambiguity.

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Suggested relief and/or decision on Submission
		through the soil. In soils this is usually expressed as mm/hr or m/d. Saturated hydraulic conductivity relates to the rate of movement when measured within freestanding water, i.e. ponded water.			
	Definition	Low Pressure Spray Irrigation: Irrigation at a pressure less than 30m water head (300kPa or 3 bars).	Oppose	The definition is potentially ambiguous, particularly when read in conjunction with the rules and policies relating to the discharge of treated wastewater to land.	Review and rewrite the definition to avoid ambiguity.
	Definition	Upgrade is defined as: Use and development to bring existing structures or facilities up to modern standards provided that the effects of the activity are the same or similar in character, intensity and scale as the existing structure and activity.	Oppose	The definition of Upgrade is supported in intent, but the use of the word 'modern' is potentially open to further interpretation.	Amend the definition by replacing the word 'modern' with 'current accepted standard or accepted industry practice standard (where defined in an adopted industry standard or similar)' or similar with the same effect.
	Definition	Emerging Contaminants: Any synthetic or naturally occurring chemical, substance or microbial contaminant whose presence and significance were not previously detected (or were found in far lesser concentrations) in the environment but have the potential to cause adverse ecological and (or) human health effects. Includes; pharmaceutical products, disinfectants, antibiotics, antibiotic resistant genes, some viruses, hormones and endocrine disruptors.	Oppose	The definition is potentially ambiguous, particularly when read in conjunction with the rules and policies relating to the discharge of treated wastewater to land.	Review and rewrite the definition to avoid ambiguity.
	Definition	Existing Discharge: In the context of wastewater discharged into fresh water from a wastewater treatment plant or a wastewater network means a discharge already authorised by resource consent at the time of application for a new resource consent relating	SUPPORT, with Amendments	The proposed definition fails to provide for any minor changes to the existing discharge, or any improvements.	Amend the definition as follows: Existing Discharge: In the context of wastewater discharged into fresh water from a wastewater treatment plant or a wastewater network means a discharge already authorised by resource consent at the time of application for a new resource consent relating to the consented discharge same

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Suggested relief and/or decision on Submission
	Definition	<p>to the same activity.</p> <p>New Discharge: A discharge of wastewater from a wastewater treatment plant not previously authorised by resource consent. In the context of wastewater discharged to fresh water from a wastewater treatment plant or a wastewater network means a discharge not authorised by resource consent at the time of application for a resource consent, or a discharge that was authorised by a resource consent at the time of application for a new consent but is to be increased or otherwise altered by a new resource consent.</p>	OPPOSE	<p>The scope of the definition captures any and all changes to existing discharges and may have the perverse outcome of discouraging or penalising beneficial changes to the treatment or disposal method for existing discharges.</p> <p>The suggested amendments make the definition more consistent with the proposed policy framework.</p>	<p>activity.</p> <p>Amend the definition of New Discharge as follows (deletions in strikethrough, additions <u>underlined</u>):</p> <p>New Discharge: A discharge of wastewater from a wastewater treatment plant not previously authorised by resource consent, and does not include a previously authorised discharge from any part of a <u>wastewater network which has been or is subject to an upgrade, or where the volume of discharge and/or mass load of nutrients and/or concentration of nutrients is proposed to be reduced or maintained at current levels.</u> In the context of wastewater discharged to fresh water from a wastewater treatment plant or a wastewater network means a discharge not authorised by resource consent at the time of application for a resource consent, or a discharge that was authorised by a resource consent at the time of application for a new consent but is to be increased or otherwise altered by a new resource consent.</p> <p>Delete the words "but excluding stormwater" from the definition of wastewater.</p>
	Definition	<p>Wastewater Liquid waste (and liquids containing waste solids) from domestic, industrial or commercial premises, including, but not limited to, human effluent, grey water sillage and trade wastes, but excluding stormwater.</p>	OPPOSE	<p>It is noted that the definition excludes stormwater. The need to manage stormwater separately from wastewater is acknowledged, and Council is actively working towards excluding inflow and infiltration from its wastewater reticulation where possible. However, all municipal wastewater reticulation systems will at some stage and with even the best controls in place contain some stormwater. In this respect, the definition doesn't match reality for all of the region's territorial local authorities, and is inconsistent with the measures anticipated in the policy framework. The words 'but excluding stormwater' are potentially problematic depending on how the rules relating to wastewater are framed. Council requests deletion of the words 'but excluding stormwater'.</p>	<p>Delete the words "but excluding stormwater" from the definition of wastewater.</p>
	Definition	<p>Drain</p>	Oppose	<p>For clarity, the definition of Drain, including for the purpose of Rule R121 should specifically exclude "Water Races"</p>	<p>Insert the following phrase at the end of the existing definition of "Drain"</p> <p><u>"For certainty, a Water Race is not a Drain for the purposes of this Plan."</u></p>
	Definition	<p>Stormwater network</p>	Oppose	<p>The definition of Stormwater Network is wide, and effectively includes roads, roadside drains, and water races.</p>	<p>Confirm that the water race network is part of the Stormwater Network for the purpose of this Plan by including "water races" in the list of devices included within the definition.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
37	Objective O2	<i>The importance and contribution of land and water to the social, economic and cultural well-being of the community are recognised.</i>	Oppose with amendments	Objective O2 appropriately recognises the balance of importance of land and water anticipated by the Act. The importance of land and water equally to economic, social, and cultural well-being of the community. However, whilst the importance is recognised, the Plan should also specifically require these matters to be 'provided for' in making decisions on resource consent applications	Retain Objective O2 with the addition of the words <i>"and provided for:"</i> following the existing text.
37	Objective 5(a)	Objective O5 <i>Fresh water bodies and the coastal marine area, as a minimum, are managed to:</i> <i>(a) safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai, and</i> <i>(b) provide for contact recreation and Māori customary use, and</i> <i>(c) in the case of fresh water, provide for the health needs of people.</i>	Oppose/Amend	The intent of the Objective is supported, that water quality is managed to appropriately safeguard aquatic ecosystem health. It is not clear however that the specific recognition of mahinga kai is necessary in this Objective. Achieving aquatic ecosystem health and access to rivers and lakes (which is provided for throughout the policy framework), in addition to the intent of Objective 5(b) will ensure safeguarding mahinga kai is also achieved.	Delete the words "...and mahinga kai" from Objective 5(a).
38	Objective O5(c)		Support	Provision for the health needs of people is a legislative requirement for District Councils, and it is important and appropriate the regulatory framework recognises this.	Retain Objective 5(c).
38	Objective O6	<i>Sufficient water of a suitable quality is available for the health needs of people.</i>	Support	Provision for the health needs of people is a legislative requirement for District Councils, and it is important and appropriate the regulatory framework recognises this.	Retain Objective O6.
38	Objective O7	<i>Fresh water is available in quantities and is of a suitable quality for the reasonable needs of livestock.</i>	Support	Provision of stock water is an important matter in rural areas such as the Wairarapa. The Wairarapa TLA's provide for this by means including water races. The intent of the objective is supported.	Retain Objective O7
38	Objective O8	<i>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</i>	Support	The social and economic benefits of taking and using water are appropriately recognised within this objective as being of equivalent value to environmental and cultural values.	Retain Objective O8
38	Objective O11	<i>Opportunities for Māori customary use of the coastal marine area, rivers and lakes and their margins and natural wetlands for cultural purposes are</i>	Oppose	The Objective creates significant uncertainty for Plan users, providing an open-ended requirement to "recognise, maintain, and improve" opportunities for 'Māori customary use' and 'cultural purposes' across every water resource in the Region. This will be very difficult to quantify for planning purposes. See also the submission on the definition of	Delete Objective O11, or define 'Māori customary use' to provide certainty as to the implications of the definition.

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
38	Objective O12	<i>recognised, maintained and improved.</i> The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities are recognised.	Amend	"Maori Customary Use". The intent of the Objective is supported, that the benefits of regionally significant infrastructure is recognised. It is also necessary for the Plan to "provide for" these benefits in addition to just recognising them. See also the submission of Regionally Significant Infrastructure to include local authority road assets.	Retain Objective O12 with the addition of the words "and provided for." following the existing text.
38	Objective O13	The use and ongoing operation of regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities in the coastal marine area are protected from new incompatible use and development occurring under, over, or adjacent to the infrastructure or activity.	Amend	The wording suggests that only renewable energy generation activities in the coastal marine area should be protected from reverse sensitivity. All regionally significant infrastructure should be protected from reverse sensitivity. In addition, the wording also suggests that only the protection of regionally significant infrastructure from reverse sensitivity from new incompatible use and development occurring "under, over, or adjacent to" the activity. Protection should be provided against all activities, including existing incompatible activities in recognition of the role of regionally significant infrastructure.	Reword Objective O13 to read: <i>The use, and ongoing operation, and upgrade of regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities in the coastal marine area are protected from new incompatible use and development occurring under, over, or adjacent to the infrastructure or activity.</i>
39	Objective O18	The ecological, recreational, mana whenua , and amenity values of estuaries including their sensitivity as low energy receiving environments are recognised, and their health and function is restored over time.	Support	The intent of the Objective is supported, in particular the recognition that restoration of health and function can appropriately occur over time.	Retain the intent of Objective O18
39	Objective O20	The risk, residual risk , and adverse effects from natural hazards and climate change on people, the community and infrastructure are acceptable.	Oppose	The use of the term "are acceptable" creates significant uncertainty to Plan users in its interpretation. Unacceptable to whom?	Replace the words "are acceptable" with "identified, and where necessary, appropriately managed"
39	Objective O23	The quality of water in the region's rivers, lakes, natural wetlands , groundwater and the coastal marine area is maintained or improved.	Support	Council supports the intent of the Objective. In particular the recognition within the policy that it is appropriate to "maintain or improve" water quality in this respect.	Retain Objective O23.
39	Objective O24 / Table 3.1		Oppose	The inclusion of standards for Maori customary use and toxicants and irritants in table 3.1 is potentially prohibitive. The balance of objectives and policy frameworks provides sufficiently for the management of these potential effects, and	Delete the columns for Maori Customary Use and Toxicants and Irritants from Table 3.1 and Objective O24, recognising these are provided for in other Objectives and policies.

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
				<p>the inclusion of them in Objective O24 and Table 3.1 without interpretive guidance and clear definition creates significant uncertainty for Plan users.</p> <p>In addition the Objective applies at all flows, including flows when contact recreation is unlikely to occur and where other uses of water rely on those higher flows for their effective operation, including Regionally Significant Infrastructure.</p>	<p>Amend Objective O24 and Table 3.1 to confirm that contact recreation standards only apply during periods where contact recreation will occur, for example at flows below 3 x median flow and during the period November - April, or similar.</p>
41	Objective O25		Oppose	<p>By definition mahinga kai will be safeguarded where aquatic ecosystem health is safeguarded. The inclusion of mahinga kai, which by definition includes undefined geographical extents, creates significant uncertainty in the interpretation of the policy framework of the Plan.</p>	<p>Delete "mahinga kai" from Objective O25, or amend the definition of "mahinga kai" to provide absolute certainty to plan users, and delete the "mahinga kai" column from Table 3.4 and Table 3.7.</p>
41	Objective O25 (Note)	<p>Where the relevant <i>whaitua</i> sections of the Plan contain an objective on the same subject matter as Objective O25 (water quality, biological and habitat outcomes), the more specific <i>whaitua</i> objective will take precedence.</p>	Support (with confirmation sought)	<p>Council supports the intent that <i>Whaitua</i> objectives (in regards Obj O25) take precedence. Council does however seek clarification that this includes a relative relaxing of any standard where that may occur through the <i>Whaitua</i> process.</p>	<p>Delete reference to the <i>Whaitua</i> sections of the Plan until they are confirmed, so the implications can be discussed with iwi and fully understood, and to avoid replication of plan development process or</p> <p>Confirm within the Plan that where the <i>Whaitua</i> process relaxes relevant standards, with the exception of prescribed National Baselines, those lower standards will apply within the relevant <i>Whaitua</i>.</p>
45	Objective O26	<p>The availability of <i>mahinga kai</i> species to support Māori customary harvest is increased, in quantity, quality and diversity.</p>	Oppose	<p>The Objective as proposed is potentially prohibitive, in particular at a localised level, and is contrary to the provision for beneficial use of water provisions, including in particular as they relate to the health needs of people and provision for the needs of Regionally Significant Infrastructure.</p> <p>The existing Objectives and policies within the Plan provide sufficiently for the intent of this Objective, and it is superfluous.</p>	<p>Delete Objective O26.</p>
45	Objective O27	<p>Vegetated riparian margins are established and maintained.</p>	Oppose	<p>This Objective fails to recognise that there may be situations where establishing riparian planting may be inappropriate or unnecessary, or counterproductive to the requirements of other activities. This is recognised in Policy P31 & P101 which recognise this, and also encourage riparian planting for specific purposes, rather than infer it is compulsory.</p>	<p>Amend Objective O27 to read: "Vegetated riparian margins are established and maintained, where appropriate and necessary."</p>
45	Objective O29	<p>Use and development provides for the passage of fish and koura, and the passage of indigenous fish</p>	Oppose	<p>This objective requires fish passage to be restored in all waterways. This may not be possible in some situations, and as proposed the Objective fails to recognise the operational requirements of large-scale infrastructure, and the ability within the Plan to the use offsetting, where effects cannot be</p>	<p>Amend Objective O29 to read: Where practicable, and beneficial to use and development provide for the passage of fish and koura, and the passage of indigenous fish and</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		and koura is restored.		avoided, remedied, or mitigated.	koura is restored.
45	Objective O31	Outstanding water bodies and their significant values are protected.	Oppose	The Objective as proposed provides a blanket protection, effectively requiring all effects to be avoided. It would be appropriate that this protection be from "inappropriate use and development", similar to natural features and landscapes otherwise the Objective will be very difficult to achieve consistency with.	Amend Objective O31 to read <u>Outstanding water bodies (Schedule A) and their significant values are protected from inappropriate use and development.</u>
45	Objectives O31 – O38		Oppose	Specify the identified features and matters intended to be protected are those identified within the Schedules.	Amend Objectives O31 to O38 (inclusive) to clearly identify that the protective requirements of those provisions only relate to the identified features and matters determined to be of value within that relevant Schedule. Delete and redline maps to provide certainty as to the extent and location of scheduled items, including provision for reach specific values to be determined, rather than generic values.
46	Objective O46	Discharges to land are managed to reduce the runoff or leaching of contaminants to water.	Oppose	The current Objective requires a continual reduction of runoff or leaching of contaminants to water without any reference to the effects of those contaminants on the receiving water body.	Amend Objective O46 to read as follows: <u>Discharges to land are managed to reduce the adverse effects of runoff or leaching of contaminants to water.</u>
46	Objective O48	Stormwater networks and urban land uses are managed so that the adverse quality and quantity effects of discharges from the networks are improved over time.	Oppose in part	The current objective encapsulates all effects, including temporary and minor effects. The Objective should only apply to effects of significance, not infer a "zero-net effect" outcome is required. The inclusion of the concept of improvement over time is appropriate and supported.	Amend Objective O48 to read as follows: <u>Stormwater networks and urban land uses are managed so that proven inappropriate or significant adverse quality and quantity effects of discharges from the networks are improved over time.</u>
46	Objective O49 & O50	Objective O49 Discharges of wastewater to land are promoted over discharges to fresh water and coastal water.	Support, with amendments	The intent of the Objective is supported. I this important however, that the 'promotion' of land discharge necessarily requires the framework of the Plan not to place impediments on land discharge, including on irrigation of treated effluent to private land for productive use. Currently, the rules relating to land discharge are unnecessarily prescriptive and onerous. This is the specific subject of a separate submission.	Retain Objective O49. Provide a proactive regulatory framework with regards to discharge to land in order to encourage this to occur.
46	Objective O50	Objective O50 Discharges of wastewater to fresh water are progressively	Support, with amendments	Council understands the intent of Objective O50, and has committed a significant capital programme to do so. However, it must be recognised that there are operational and financial constraints to small communities to reduce wastewater discharges in a short time frame. The intent of	Confirm in the Plan that the term "progressively reduced" does not necessarily mean within the life of this Plan, and can in fact be up to 35 years, where appropriate.

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
47	Objective O53	Use and development in the coastal marine area has a functional or operational requirement to be located there.	Support with amendments	the Objective is not opposed, however, the term "progressively reduced" is not defined. Council has a number of activities, including some Regionally Significant Infrastructure, which has a functional need and operational requirement to be located in the Coastal Marine Area.	Amend Objective O53 to read: <i>Use and development in the coastal marine area has a functional or historical need or operational requirement to be located there.</i>
48	Objective O59	The <i>efficient and safe passage of vessels and aircraft that support the movement of people, goods and services is provided for</i> in the coastal marine area.	Support, with amendments	The efficient and safe passage of aircraft that support the movement of people, goods, and services is equally important at inland air transport infrastructure as in the coastal environment. For example, the Hood Aerodrome in Masterton and the Greytown Gliding Club are substantial existing physical infrastructure supporting this purpose. It is not clear what the intent of this Objective is by restricting this objective to the CMA.	Amend Objective O59 to read: <i>The efficient and safe passage of vessels and aircraft that support the movement of people, goods and services is provided for in the coastal marine-area.</i>
49	Policy P1	Land and water resources will be managed recognising <i>ki uta ki tai</i> by using the principles of integrated catchment management. These principles include: (a) <i>decision-making using the catchment as the spatial unit, and</i> (b) <i>applying an adaptive management approach to take into account the dynamic nature and processes of catchments, and</i> (c) <i>coordinated management, with decisions based on best available information, and</i> (d) <i>taking into account the connected nature of resources and natural processes within a catchment, and</i> (e) <i>recognising links between environmental, social, cultural and economic sustainability</i>	Support	The intent of the Plan regarding of integrated management is supported, and in particular the recognition that adaptive management is appropriate, and that social and economic wellbeing are equally recognised.	Retain Policy P1

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
50	Policy P3	Use and development shall be managed with a precautionary approach where there is limited information regarding the receiving environment and the adverse effects the activity may have on this environment.	Support with amendments	The need for a precautionary approach is acknowledged in the absence of relevant information. However, this should be considered in the context of the likely potential effects of the activity on the environment, and the relative risk associated with the proposed activity.	Amend Policy P3 to read: <u>"Where there is a high likelihood and consequence of potential adverse effect, use and development shall be managed taking into account precautionary principles and practices where there is limited information regarding the receiving environment and the adverse effects the activity may have on this environment."</u>
50	Policy P4	Where minimisation of adverse effects is required by policies in the Plan, minimisation means reducing adverse effects of the activity to the smallest amount practicable and shall include: (a) consideration of alternative locations and methods for undertaking the activity that would have less adverse effects, and (b) locating the activity away from areas identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies), Schedule C (mana whenua), Schedule E (historic heritage), Schedule F (indigenous biodiversity), and (c) timing the activity, or the adverse effects of the activity, to avoid times of the year when adverse effects may be more severe, or times when receiving environments are more sensitive to adverse effects, and (d) using good management practices for reducing the adverse	Support, with amendments	Policy P4 assists in the interpretation of the intent of policies where minimisation of effects is required. This is very useful for Plan user certainty, however it is not clear whether this is intended to apply to Objectives (O19, O44), as well as Policies in the Plan. In addition, there is no recognition in Policy P4 criteria of the functional or operational needs of Regionally Significant Infrastructure. It would be appropriate for Policy P4 to recognise this to be consistent with the intent of Objective O12, and O53, as well as the relevant supporting policies. The Policy also fails to consider the economic costs to communities or individuals when considering the alternative locations and methods for "minimising" adverse effects, which is appropriate and necessary under the provisions of the Act.	Amend criteria (a) and insert the following as a new criteria (b), and renumbering as appropriate: <u>"(a) consideration of the effects and benefits arising from using alternative locations and methods for undertaking the activity (including the costs and benefits) that would have less adverse effects, and (b) consideration of the effects of the functional or operational needs of Regionally Significant Infrastructure, and the means by which any identified adverse effects can be practicably avoided, remedied, or mitigated, and."</u>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
50/51	Policy P7	<p>effects of the activity, and</p> <p>(e) designing the activity so that the scale or footprint of the activity is as small as practicable</p> <p>Policy P7: Uses of land and water</p> <p>The cultural, social and economic benefits of using land and water for:</p> <p>(a) aquaculture, and</p> <p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(c) industrial processes and commercial uses associated with the potable water supply network, and</p> <p>(d) community and domestic water supply, and</p> <p>(e) electricity generation, and</p> <p>(f) food production and harvesting, and</p> <p>(g) gravel extraction from rivers for flood protection and control purposes, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p> <p>(i) firefighting, and</p> <p>(j) contact recreation and Māori customary use, and</p> <p>(k) transport along, and access to, water bodies shall be recognised.</p>	Support with amendments.	<p>The recognition of the cultural, social and economic benefits of using land and water is supported. It is however considered that the current framework elevates all environmental benefits above these through 'recognising' these benefits, rather than 'recognising and providing for' them. It is considered that the policy should also provide for these benefits to be consistent with Section 5 of the Act.</p>	<p>Amend P7(k) to read: <i>Transportation, including along, and access to, water bodies</i></p> <p>Amend the last phrase of Policy P7 to read <i>"...shall be recognised and provided for"</i></p>
52	Policy P9	<p>Reduction in the extent or quality of public access to and along the coastal marine area and the beds of lakes and rivers shall be avoided except where it is necessary to:</p> <p>(a) protect the values of</p>	Support, with amendments	<p>Policy P9(b) recognises that the need to protect public health and safety can require the restriction of access to the CMA and the beds of lakes and rivers. This is a particularly relevant matter where Regionally Significant Infrastructure, and is supported.</p> <p>The Policy also however compulsorily requires mitigation or offset where access is restricted. This compulsion is inappropriate, particularly for local authorities who provide</p>	<p>Retain Policy P9(b), and amend the last paragraph of Policy P9 to read as follows:</p> <p><i>"...with respect to (a), (b) and (c), where it is necessary to permanently restrict or remove existing public access, the loss of public access shall be mitigated or offset by providing enhanced public access at a similar or nearby location where a practicable alternative does not</i></p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>estuaries, sites with significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C (mana whenua), sites with significant historic heritage value identified in Schedule E (historic heritage) and sites with significant indigenous biodiversity value identified in Schedule F (indigenous biodiversity), or</p> <p>(b) protect public health and safety, or</p> <p>(c) provide for a temporary activity such as construction, a recreation or cultural event or stock movement, and where the temporary restrictions shall be for no longer than reasonably necessary before access is fully reinstated, and</p> <p>with respect to (a), (b) and (c), where it is necessary to permanently restrict or remove existing public access, the loss of public access shall be mitigated or offset by providing enhanced public access at a similar or nearby location.</p>		<p>and maintain significant public access and recreational resources across their district, at significant cost. The policy as drafted does not enable consideration of these existing activities, potentially requiring additional areas of access to be established, or enhanced. This could be a considerable and unnecessary expense to local communities.</p>	<p><u>already exist.</u>"</p>
53	Policy P12	<p>The benefits of regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities are recognised by having regard to:</p> <p>(a) the strategic integration of infrastructure and land</p>	Support, with amendment.	<p>The recognition and requirement to have regard to functional need and operational requirements associated with Regionally Significant Infrastructure is supported.</p>	<p>Retain Policy P12, with the addition of the words "the functional need and..." before "operational requirements..." in P12(e)</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>use, and</p> <p>(b) the location of existing and infrastructures, and</p> <p>(c) the need for renewable energy generation activities to locate where the renewable energy resources exist, and</p> <p>(d) the functional need for port activities to be located within the coastal marine area, and</p> <p>(e) operational requirements associated with developing, operating, maintaining and upgrading regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities.</p>			
53	Policy P13	The use, operation, maintenance, and upgrade of existing regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities are beneficial and generally appropriate.	Support	It is appropriate that the Plan recognise the benefits and appropriateness of regionally significant infrastructure.	Retain Policy P13.
53	Policy P14	Regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities shall be protected from new incompatible use and development occurring under, over or adjacent to it, by locating and designing any new use and development to avoid, remedy or mitigate any reverse sensitivity effects.	Support, with amendments	The intent of Policy P14 is supported, but it is unclear why the protection should only be from new activities, rather than all activities. It is appropriate that existing activities which are changing their character, intensity, or scale should also be considered in terms of potential reverse sensitivity effects.	<p>Retain the intent of Policy P14, but amend to read as follows:</p> <p>Regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities shall be protected from new incompatible use and development occurring under, over or adjacent to it, by locating and designing any new or changing use and development to avoid, remedy or mitigate any reverse sensitivity effects.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
53	Policy P15	<i>The use, maintenance and ongoing operation of existing catchment based flood and erosion risk management activities which manage the risk of flooding to people, property, infrastructure and communities are beneficial and generally appropriate.</i>	Support	The recognition of the protection of people, communities, and infrastructure is supported.	Retain Policy P15
54	Policy P16	<i>Policy P16: New flood protection and erosion control The social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of new catchment based flood and erosion risk management activities are recognised.</i>	Support with amendments	The protection of social, cultural, economic, and environmental benefits from large scale flood and erosion risk are important, and the policy is supported.	Retain Policy P16, with the addition of the following at the end of the existing policy "... <u>and provided for.</u> "
56	Policy P27	<i>Policy P27: High hazard areas Use and development, including hazard mitigation methods, in high hazard areas shall be avoided except where: (a) they have a functional need or operational requirement or there is no practicable alternative to be so located, and (b) the risk to the development and/or residual risk after hazard mitigation measures, assessed using a risk-based approach, is low, and (c) the development does not cause or exacerbate natural hazards in other areas, and (d) interference with natural processes (coastal, fluvial and lacustrine</i>	Support, with amendments.	The recognition of functional need or operational requirement in P27(a) is supported. In terms of P27(b), it is accepted that a risk-based approach is reasonable, however there may be situations where a level of risk greater than "low" is acceptable. The Plan should recognise these situations. In terms of P27(c), the proposed policy is an absolute with the inclusion of the term "does not". The policy should recognise that there may be situations where prioritisation of protection may be reasonable and necessary.	Amend Policy P27(a) to read: <i>they have a functional need or historical need, or operational requirement or there is no practicable alternative to be so located, and</i> Amend Policy P27(b) to read: <i>the risk to the development and/or residual risk after hazard mitigation measures, assessed using a risk-based approach, is acceptable low, and</i> Amend Policy P27(c) to read: <i>the development, unless unavoidable, and as far as is practicable in the specific circumstances, does not cause or exacerbate natural hazards in other areas, and</i>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>processes) is minimised, and</p> <p>(e) natural cycles of erosion and accretion and the potential for natural features to fluctuate in position over time, including movements due to climate change and sea level rise, are taken into account.</p>			
57	Policy P28	<p>Policy P28: Hazard mitigation measures</p> <p>Hard engineering mitigation and protection methods shall be avoided except where it is necessary to protect existing development from unacceptable risk, assessed using the risk-based approach, and the works either form part of a hazard management strategy or the environmental effects are considered to be no more than minor.</p>	Oppose	<p>The policy as drafted fails to recognise the capital and operational cost of the default expectation of alternative hazard mitigation (i.e. avoid hard engineering) in particular in the coastal environment. The policy also fails to recognise the functional need of Regionally Significant infrastructure in the coastal environment, as does the definition of 'risk' and 'risk-based approach' in interpreting this policy. In addition, the Policy fails to recognise engineering mitigation which is programmed or planned by road control authority, for which an equal amount of certainty is required.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P28 to read:</p> <p>Hard engineering mitigation and protection methods shall be avoided except where it is necessary to protect existing and planned for development from unacceptable risk, assessed using the risk-based approach, and the works either form part of a hazard management strategy; or the works are required to protect the safe and efficient operation of Regionally Significant Infrastructure; or the environmental effects are considered to be acceptable, taking into account the assessment of risk no more than minor.</p>
59	Policy P33	<p>Policy P33: Protecting indigenous fish habitat</p> <p>The more than minor adverse effects of activities on the species known to be present in any water body identified in Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes) as habitat for indigenous fish species, and Schedule F1b (inanga habitats), spawning particularly at the relevant spawning and migration times identified in Schedule F1a (fish spawning/migration) for those species, shall be avoided. These activities include the following:</p> <p>(a) discharges of</p>	Oppose	<p>The policy sets an unnecessarily high bar with the policy direction to 'avoid' any effects which are more than minor. This is inconsistent with the approach adopted in Policy P32 which sets out a cascading policy framework of avoiding significant adverse effects, and remedying, mitigating, or offsetting other adverse effects.</p>	<p>Rewrite Policy P33 to provide for a cascading of intervention which is relevant to the significance of actual or potential adverse effect.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
60	Policy P41	<p>contaminants, including sediment, and</p> <p>(b) disturbance of the bed or banks that would significantly affect spawning habitat at peak times of the year, and</p> <p>(c) damming, diversion or taking of water which leads to significant loss of flow or which makes the river impassable to migrating indigenous fish.</p>	Oppose	<p>Policy P40 seeks protection and restoration of ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values (identified in Schedule F1). The approach is supported as being reasonable.</p> <p>Policy P41 seeks that activities other than those carried out in accordance with a restoration management plan avoid, in the first instance, the habitats. The policy then provides for the 'cascading' approach whereby adverse effects that are more than minor are remedied, then mitigated, then offset – but only if the ecosystem or habitat 'cannot be avoided'.</p> <p>The cascading policy framework is supported. If the Plan is to retain the concept of "minimising" effects, this should also be incorporated into the Policy.</p>	<p>Amend paragraph 1 of Policy P41 to read:</p> <p><i>In order to protect the ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in Policy P40, in the first instance activities, other than activities carried out in accordance with a restoration management plan, shall, as far as is practicable, and within a reasonable timeframe, avoid these ecosystems and habitats.</i></p> <p>and,</p> <p>Amend the last paragraph of Policy P41 to read</p> <p><i>Where more than minor adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in Policy P40 cannot be avoided, remedied, mitigated, minimised or redressed through biodiversity offsets, the activity is inappropriate.</i></p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>them, and</p> <p>(d) where residual adverse effects remain it is appropriate to consider the use of biodiversity offsets.</p> <p>Proposals for mitigation and biodiversity offsets will be assessed against the principles listed in Schedule G (biodiversity offsetting). A precautionary approach shall be used when assessing the potential for adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values.</p> <p>Where more than minor adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in Policy P40 cannot be avoided, remedied, mitigated or redressed through biodiversity offsets, the activity is inappropriate.</p>			
	Policy P62 & P63	<p>Policy P62: Promoting discharges to land</p> <p>The discharge of contaminants to land is promoted over direct discharges to water, particularly where there are significant adverse effects on:</p> <p>(a) aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai, or</p> <p>(b) contact recreation and Māori customary use.</p> <p>Policy P63: Improving water quality for contact recreation and Māori customary use</p>	Neutral, with amendments	<p>The intent of the policy is acknowledged, and the commitment of MDC and SWDC to work towards them is reiterated, however the Plan must also acknowledge that achieving these standards and developing strategies will take time and will have potentially significant economic impacts on small communities. Some context is also required to enable interpretation to the policy regarding the extent of effect in order to ensure the policy is not read unnecessarily restrictively, i.e. to avoid all effects, especially those which are insignificant</p>	<p>Retain the recognition that significant improvements will take time for small communities, including in particular recognizing that this will likely not be achieved within the lifetime of this Plan.</p> <p>and,</p> <p>Amend Policy 62 and 63 as outlined below</p> <p>Policy P62: Promoting discharges to land</p> <p>The discharge of contaminants to land is promoted over direct discharges to water, particularly where there are significant adverse effects on:</p> <p>(d) aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai, or</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
	<p>The water quality of water bodies identified as priorities for improvement for contact recreation and Māori customary use in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) shall be improved to meet, over time and as a minimum, the objectives in Table 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3, including by:</p> <p>(a) improving water quality in all first priority water bodies for secondary contact with water in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) in accordance with Method M27, and</p> <p>(b) Stormwater Management Strategies having particular regard to improving water quality in fresh water bodies and coastal water identified in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) that are known to have significant adverse effects by discharges from stormwater networks, and</p> <p>(c) having particular regard to improving water quality in fresh water bodies and coastal water identified in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) that are significantly adversely affected by discharges from wastewater networks and wastewater treatment plants.</p> <p>Note Whaitua committees will identify methods and timeframes to improve water quality in all first and second</p>				<p>(e) contact recreation and Māori customary use.</p> <p>Policy P63: Improving water quality for contact recreation and Māori customary use</p> <p>The water quality of water bodies identified as priorities for improvement for contact recreation and Māori customary use in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) shall be improved to meet, over time and as a minimum, the objectives in Table 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3, including by:</p> <p>(f) improving water quality in all first priority water bodies for secondary contact with water in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) in accordance with Method M27, and</p> <p>(g) Stormwater Management Strategies having particular regard to improving water quality in fresh water bodies and coastal water identified in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) that are known to have significant adverse effects by discharges from stormwater networks, and</p> <p>(h) having particular regard to improving water quality in fresh water bodies and coastal water identified in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) that are significantly adversely affected by discharges from wastewater networks and wastewater treatment plants.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
69	Policy P70 & 71	<p>priority water bodies listed in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) within their <i>whaitua</i>. These may be incorporated into the Plan by a future plan change or variation.</p> <p>Policy P70: Managing point source discharges for aquatic ecosystem health and <i>mahinga kai</i></p> <p>Where an objective in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 of Objective O25 is not met, point source discharges to water shall be managed in the following way:</p> <p>(a) for an existing activity that contributes to the objective not being met, the discharge is only appropriate if:</p> <p>(i) the application for resource consent includes a defined programme of work for upgrading the activity, in accordance with good management practice, including at least some reduction in actual effects within the term of the resource consent, and</p> <p>(ii) conditions on the resource consent require the reduction of adverse effects of the activity in order to improve reduce the actual effects of water quality from the discharge in relation to the objective within the term of the consent in comparison to proven adverse effects, and</p> <p>(b) for a new activity, the discharge is only appropriate if the activity would not directly cause the water quality within the catchment affected receiving fresh water body or area of coastal water to be further from the water quality parameters identified within some comparison to the situation existing at the time of application.</p> <p>In assessing the appropriateness of a new or existing discharge, the ability to offset residual adverse effects may will be considered.</p> <p>Amend Policy P71 as follows:</p> <p>Policy P71: Quality of discharges</p> <p>The adverse effects of point source discharges</p>	Oppose	<p>There are ambiguities within these proposed policies which may result in interpretation being particularly, and unnecessarily, restrictive.</p> <p>In addition, the water quality standards will generate significant monitoring costs. Whilst the Councils acknowledge that reasonable monitoring is required, Policy P71 introduces significant costs, in particular with regards to QMCI monitoring. QMCI monitoring is very expensive to undertake, and the policy will effectively force this monitoring upon every individual discharge.</p> <p>The Councils consider this could more reasonably be provided on a catchment basis, undertaken by WRC as part of its wider general reporting and State of the Environment reporting, rather than on each individual discharge.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P70 to read as follows:</p> <p>Where an objective in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 of Objective O25 is not met, point source discharges to water shall be managed in the following way:</p> <p>(a) for an existing activity that contributes to the objective not being met, the discharge is only appropriate if:</p> <p>(i) the application for resource consent includes a defined programme of work for upgrading the activity, in accordance with good management practice, including at least some reduction in actual effects within the term of the resource consent, and</p> <p>(ii) conditions on the resource consent require the reduction of adverse effects of the activity in order to improve reduce the actual effects of water quality from the discharge in relation to the objective within the term of the consent in comparison to proven adverse effects, and</p> <p>(b) for a new activity, the discharge is only appropriate if the activity would not directly cause the water quality within the catchment affected receiving fresh water body or area of coastal water to be further from the water quality parameters identified within some comparison to the situation existing at the time of application.</p> <p>In assessing the appropriateness of a new or existing discharge, the ability to offset residual adverse effects may will be considered.</p> <p>Amend Policy P71 as follows:</p> <p>Policy P71: Quality of discharges</p> <p>The adverse effects of point source discharges</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>affected fresh water body or area of coastal water to become any worse in relation to the objective.</p> <p>In assessing the appropriateness of a new or existing discharge, the ability to offset residual adverse effects may be considered.</p> <p>Policy P71: Quality of discharges</p> <p>The adverse effects of point source discharges to rivers shall be minimised by the use of measures that result in the discharge meeting the following water quality standards in the zone of reasonable mixing:</p> <p>(a) below the discharge point compared to above the discharge point:</p> <p>(i) a decrease in the Quantitative Macroinvertebrate Community Index of no more than 20%, and</p> <p>(ii) a change in pH of no more than ± 0.5, and</p> <p>(iii) a decrease in water clarity of no more than:</p> <p>2. 20% in River class 1, or</p> <p>33% in River classes 2 to 6, and</p> <p>(iv) a change in temperature of no more than:</p> <p>3. 2°C in River classes 1 or 2, or</p> <p>2°C in any river identified as having high macroinvertebrate community health in Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes), or</p> <p>3°C in any other river, and</p> <p>(b) a 7-day mean minimum dissolved oxygen concentration of no lower than 5mg/L, and</p> <p>(c) a daily minimum dissolved oxygen concentration of no lower than 4mg/L.</p> <p>All water quality standards apply at all flows except (a)(iii) which applies at less than median flows. (a) applies at all times of the year, (b) and (c) apply only between 1 November and 30 April each year.</p> <p>Standard (a)(i) above is a target only to be used in State of the Environment Monitoring on a catchment basis by WRC on a condition of consent and will not be applied as a condition of consent to individual discharges, or used specifically for compliance of enforcement purposes.</p>			<p>to rivers shall be minimised by the use of measures that, as far as reasonably practicable, result in the discharge meeting the following water quality standards in the receiving water after the zone of reasonable mixing:</p> <p>(a) below the discharge point compared to above the discharge point:</p> <p>(i) a decrease in the Quantitative Macroinvertebrate Community Index of no more than 20%, and</p> <p>(ii) a change in pH of no more than ± 0.5, and</p> <p>(iii) a decrease in water clarity of no more than:</p> <p>2. 20% in River class 1, or</p> <p>33% in River classes 2 to 6, and</p> <p>(iv) a change in temperature of no more than:</p> <p>3. 2°C in River classes 1 or 2, or</p> <p>2°C in any river identified as having high macroinvertebrate community health in Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes), or</p> <p>3°C in any other river, and</p> <p>(b) a 7-day mean minimum dissolved oxygen concentration of no lower than 5mg/L, and</p> <p>(c) a daily minimum dissolved oxygen concentration of no lower than 4mg/L.</p> <p>All water quality standards apply at all flows except (a)(iii) which applies at less than median flows. (a) applies at all times of the year, (b) and (c) apply only between 1 November and 30 April each year.</p> <p>Standard (a)(i) above is a target only to be used in State of the Environment Monitoring on a catchment basis by WRC on a condition of consent and will not be applied as a condition of consent to individual discharges, or used specifically for compliance of enforcement purposes.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>1. 2°C in River classes 1 or 2, or</p> <p>2°C in any river identified as having high macroinvertebrate community health in Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes), or</p> <p>3°C in any other river, and</p> <p>(b) a 7-day mean dissolved oxygen concentration of no lower than 5mg/L, and</p> <p>(c) a daily minimum dissolved oxygen concentration of no lower than 4mg/L.</p> <p>All water quality standards apply at all flows except (a)/(iii) which applies at less than median flows, (a) applies at all times of the year, (b) and (c) apply only between 1 November and 30 April each year.</p>			
70	Policy P73-P79	Stormwater policies,	OPPOSE	<p>This suite of policies imposes a significant work programme on TLA's over a short timeframe, providing the rationale and framework for the stormwater network consents rules. The policies (and rules) do not integrate particularly well with "Other Method M15 – Regional Stormwater Working Group", effectively putting all responsibility for reducing the effects (actual or perceived) of stormwater discharge back to the TLA's.</p> <p>The current framework is highly regulatory, and there is no detail on how Method M15 would be implemented but GWRC. Until that is the clarified, the existing regulatory framework for stormwater network consents should be opposed in its entirety. It simply devolves all responsibility to TLA's. A request for Method M15 (Stormwater Working Group) to be the principle method for stormwater management would be appropriate, lead by the Regional</p>	<p>Delete Policy P74, P75, and P76</p> <p>Rename P78 to "Managing Stormwater from a port, airport, or state highway"</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
74	Policy P83	<p>P83: Avoiding new wastewater discharges to fresh water</p> <p>New discharges of wastewater to fresh water are avoided.</p>	Oppose	<p>Council and recognising the specific needs of rural urban centre network managements.</p> <p>Also recommend a submission to seek renaming of Policy P78 from "Managing stormwater from large sites" to "Managing stormwater from a port, airport, or state highway" to better reflect its subject matter and intent.</p> <p>The policy as proposed will discourage material improvements of existing discharges and the Councils question whether this outcome is intended.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P83 to read:</p> <p><i>Significant adverse effects from New discharges of wastewater to fresh water are avoided, as far as is practicable.</i></p>
75	Policy P85	<p>Policy P85: Biosolids and treated wastewater to land</p> <p>The adverse effects on fresh water, including groundwater and coastal water and on soil from the application of biosolids or treated wastewater to land shall be minimised. The application of biosolids shall be managed in accordance with Guidelines for the safe application of biosolids to land in New Zealand, 2003.</p>	Oppose	<p>The Standard contained within the policy is too stringent, containing the highest standards in the world. As written it is unworkable, and as a result it is currently being reviewed.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P85 to read:</p> <p><i>The adverse effects on fresh water, including groundwater and coastal water and on soil from the application of biosolids or treated wastewater to land shall be minimised, or avoided, remedied, or mitigated. The application of biosolids shall be managed in accordance with Guidelines for the safe application of biosolids to land in New Zealand, 2003.</i></p>
77	Policy P95	<p>Policy P95: Discharges to land</p> <p>The discharge of contaminants to land shall be managed by:</p> <p>(a) ensuring the discharge does not result in more than minor adverse effects to soil health, and</p> <p>(b) avoiding discharges that would create contaminated land, and</p> <p>(c) not exceeding the natural capacity of the soil to treat, use or remove the contaminant, and</p> <p>(d) not exceeding the available capacity of the soil to absorb and infiltrate the</p>	Oppose	<p>The policy as written, when read in conjunction with the definitions, is ambiguous and provides uncertainty.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P95 to remove ambiguities, including redefining key terms, as outlined earlier in this submission.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
78	Policy P99	<p>discharge, and (e) minimising effects on public health and amenity, and (f) not resulting in a discharge that enters water.</p> <p>Policy P99: Livestock access to surface water bodies Sedimentation, the direct discharge of contaminants and the disturbance to the banks and beds (including plants and habitats in, on or under the bed) of surface water bodies and the coastal marine area resulting from livestock access shall be managed to:</p> <p>(a) protect aquatic habitat and water quality, and (b) protect the significant values of Category 1 surface water bodies.</p> <p>Where livestock are not excluded from the bed (including the banks) of surface water bodies, the adverse effects of access are avoided, remedied or mitigated by methods, such as, but not limited to:</p> <p>(c) restricting the types of livestock, and (d) restricting the numbers of animals, and (e) limiting the density, frequency and duration of access, and (f) providing sufficient alternative sources of drinking water, shade and grazing outside of the banks and beds.</p>	Oppose	<p>This policy is restrictive by nature and is contrary to the purpose for which the Waitarapa plains water race network was established. Of particular concern is the cost to Councils and landowners of restricting access, but also the availability of alternative water supply to those in fully or over allocated catchments.</p> <p>The policy is definitive stating disturbance shall be managed to protect aquatic habitat and water quality, which could be cost prohibitive to Council when renewing water race takes.</p> <p>It then however provides a management regime for stock access where exclusion is not provided. This could create uncertainty.</p> <p>This does need discussion however, as water for stock watering purposes is available under the rules of the plan in all catchments, albeit at a cost.</p> <p>Consider a submission inserting a stock access criteria which recognises the purpose of the water race. GW unlikely to accept this – needs a decision on how hard you each want to push on protecting the functional purpose of water races.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P99 by inserting a new Policy P99(g) after P99(f), as follows:</p> <p>(f) <u>providing sufficient alternative sources of drinking water, shade and grazing outside of the banks and beds, or</u></p> <p>(g) <u>in the case of a water race limiting the intensity, frequency, and duration of stock access to the extent practicable.</u></p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
79	Policy P101	<p>Policy P101: Management of riparian margins</p> <p><i>In order to maintain or restore aquatic ecosystem health and natural character, and reduce the amount of sediments and nutrients entering surface water bodies, good management of riparian margins shall be encouraged including:</i></p> <p>(a) <i>the exclusion of livestock, and</i></p> <p>(b) <i>the planting of appropriate riparian vegetation, and</i></p> <p>(c) <i>the management of pest plants and animals.</i></p>	Oppose	<p>The Council's have raised concerns regarding the extent of riparian planting and maintenance this policy may require, in particular where operationally required. The policy does only "encourage" these practices, but there is a (small) risk it could be interpreted as more of an operational requirement when considered in conjunction with policies regarding protection of aquatic ecosystem health and natural character, and also require offset of effects where this "encouragement" is not taken up.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P101 to read as follows:</p> <p><i>In order to maintain or restore aquatic ecosystem health and natural character, and reduce the amount of sediments and nutrients entering surface water bodies, unless there is a specific functional or historic need or operational requirement not to, good management of riparian margins shall be encouraged including:</i></p> <p>(a) <i>the exclusion of livestock, and</i></p> <p>(b) <i>the planting of appropriate riparian vegetation, and</i></p> <p>(c) <i>the management of pest plants and animals.</i></p>
79	Policy P102	<p>Policy P102: Reclamation or drainage of the beds of lakes and rivers</p> <p><i>The reclamation or drainage of the beds of lakes and rivers and natural wetlands shall be avoided except where the reclamation or drainage is:</i></p> <p>(a) <i>partial reclamation of a river bank for the purposes of flood prevention or erosion control, or</i></p> <p>(b) <i>associated with a qualifying development within a special housing area, or</i></p> <p>(c) <i>associated with a growth and/or development framework or strategy approved by a local authority under the Local Government Act 2002, or</i></p>	Oppose	<p>Policy P102(d) is appropriate and necessary for the efficient and effective delivery of Regionally Significant Infrastructure.</p> <p>For the sake of certainty however, it is recommended that the wording be slightly amended to include maintaining access to Regionally Significant Infrastructure.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P102(d) as follows (additions underlined):</p> <p><i>necessary to enable the development, operation, maintenance and/or upgrade of regionally significant infrastructure (including access to regionally significant infrastructure), or</i></p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>(d) necessary to enable the development, operation, maintenance and upgrade of regionally significant infrastructure, or</p> <p>(e) associated with the creation of a new river bed and does not involve piping of the river, and</p> <p>(f) in respect of (a) to (e) there are no other practicable alternative methods of providing for the activity, or</p> <p>(g) the reclamation or drainage is of an ephemeral flow path.</p> <p>For the purpose of this policy the piping or covering of a stream for a distance greater than that required to form a reasonable crossing point is considered to be reclamation of the river bed.</p>			
80	Policy P103	<p>Policy P103: Management of gravel extraction</p> <p>The extraction of gravel, sand or rock from the beds of rivers shall be managed so that:</p> <p>(a) the extraction does not result in an increase in flooding or erosion either at the site of extraction or across the wider river catchment, including any erosion of existing structures, and</p> <p>(b) the flow of sediment and gravel to the coast is not reduced to the extent it would contribute to coastal</p>	SUPPORT	The Policy appropriately recognises the appropriate extraction of gravel.	Retain Policy P103

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
84	Policy P115	<p>erosion, and</p> <p>(c) the rate of gravel extraction does not exceed the natural rates of gravel deposition, unless this is required to manage aggradation.</p> <p>Policy P115: Authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>The take and use of water may be authorised below minimum flows or lake levels established in whatitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7-11) for:</p> <p>(a) the health needs of people as part of group drinking water supply or community drinking water supply, and</p> <p>(b) the water used by industry from a community drinking water supply for a period of seven years from the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation take restrictions are</p>		Support the intent of Policy P115(a) to prioritise the health needs of people and community water drinking supplies.	Retain Policy 115(a).

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p> <p>(ii) the amount of water needed shall be determined following consideration of the extent and type of crop(s) and the risk of crop death in drought situations, and</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(e) category B groundwater (directly connected), category B groundwater (not directly connected) and category C groundwater.</p>			
84	Policy P118	<p>Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use</p> <p>The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of:</p> <p>(a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made</p>	Oppose	The proposed Policy introduces a time component which is unnecessary and unreasonable within the policy framework, being 4 years for existing users. Schedule Q should contain any timeframes for application of efficient use (refer separate submission on Schedule Q).	<p>Amend Policy P118(a) to read:</p> <p>(a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made operative to meet the criteria, and</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
87	Policy P132	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p> <p>(b) maximising the efficient use of water when designing systems to convey or apply water, and</p> <p>(c) industry guidelines, and</p> <p>(d) water use records.</p> <p>Policy P132: Functional need and efficient use</p> <p>Use and development in the coastal marine area shall:</p> <p>(a) have a functional need, or</p> <p>(b) have an operational requirement to locate within the coastal marine area, and no reasonable or practicable alternative to locating in the coastal marine area, or</p> <p>(c) for any other activity, it shall have no reasonable or practicable alternative to locating in the coastal marine area, and in respect of (a), (b) and (c):</p> <p>(d) only use the minimum area necessary, and</p> <p>(e) be made available for public or multiple use where appropriate, and</p> <p>(f) result in the removal of structures once redundant, and</p> <p>(g) concentrate in locations where similar use and</p>	Support, with amendments.	The intent of the policy is supported, but recognition must also be made where there is a need determined by historic asset decisions, which still have a functional need and provide the best practicable option or avoid unnecessary costs being incurred unnecessarily.	<p>Retain Policy P132, with the following amendments:</p> <p>Policy P132: <u>Functional</u>, <u>historical need</u> and <u>efficient use</u></p> <p>Use and development in the coastal marine area shall:</p> <p>(a) have a <u>functional need</u> or <u>historical need</u>, or</p> <p>...</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		development already exists where practicable.			
89	Policy P139	<p>Policy P139: Seawalls <i>The construction of a new seawall is inappropriate except where the seawall is required to protect:</i></p> <p>(a) <i>existing, or upgrades to, infrastructure, or</i> (b) <i>new regionally significant infrastructure,</i> and in respect of (a) and (b): (c) <i>there is no reasonable or practicable alternative means, and</i> (d) <i>suitably located, designed and certified by a qualified, professional engineer, and</i> (e) <i>designed to incorporate the use of soft engineering options where appropriate.</i></p>	Support		Retain Policy P139

PART 'D': RULES

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
94	Rule Interpretation (each chapter)	Each Chapter of the Plan starts by providing that: "If an activity is covered by more than one rule, then the rule that applies is the rule that is more specific for the relevant activity, area or resource. This does not apply where a proposal includes a number of activities which trigger separate specific rules. In that case, all rules are considered when assessing the proposal."	Support intent, with request to clarify implementation.	The intent of ensuring unintended consent applications are not required where there is uncertainty in rule interpretation is supported. However this statement as drafted provides no certainty to plan users regarding the process to determine which rule is "more specific". In particular it is not clear how the more specific activity, area or resource would be determined; the relative relevance or priority of the activity against "area" against "resource"; and whether rules developed through a whatua process would become "more relevant", and under what circumstances.	That the Plan be amended to provide certainty as to the intent of the relative prioritisation of determining "more specific"
107	Rule R27	Rule R27: Handling of aggregate – permitted activity The discharge of contaminants into air from the handling of aggregate (rock, sand and shingle) including blasting, extraction, crushing, screening, processing, stockpiling, handling, conveyance and storage is a permitted activity, provided the following condition is met: (a) the discharge shall not cause noxious, dangerous, offensive or objectionable odour, dust, particulate, smoke, vapours, droplets or ash beyond the boundary of the property.	Support intent, with request to clarify implementation.	The intent of this Rule is supported. What is not clear from the rule however is how gravel extraction activities in riverbeds are provided for by this rule under the definition of "property". For the sake of certainty this should be clarified.	That R27(a) is amended as follows (additions in underline: (a) the discharge shall not cause noxious, dangerous, offensive or objectionable odour, dust, particulate, smoke, vapours, droplets or ash beyond the boundary of the property, <u>or</u> (b) where the discharge emanates from a riverbed, the discharge shall not cause noxious, dangerous, offensive or objectionable odour, dust, particulate, smoke, vapours, droplets or ash within 500m of the activity. or an alternative relief with the same intent.
107	Rule R31	Rule R31: Food, animal or plant matter manufacturing and processing – discretionary activity The discharge of contaminants into air from food, animal or plant matter manufacturing and processing including: (c) drying of milk products to produce milk powders of more than 2 tonnes per hour, or (d) extraction, distillation or purification of vegetable oils or fats, or (e) manufacture of animal casings, or (f) manufacture of yeast or starch, or (g) preservation of animal hides or skins or	Oppose	The Plan does not define "food, animal, or plant matter manufacturing and processing" and the use of the word "including" means the list is not exclusive, and therefore the rule becomes a catch-all discretionary activity rule for food processing. As currently proposed, this rule would, in practice, potentially require every cooking activity except those provided for specifically under R29 & R30, including a domestic meal, to require a resource consent. If the intent of the rule is to regulate large-scale commercial processing activities, then appropriate thresholds need to be determined with industry, and a permitted activity rule included in the Plan. The unnecessary regulation of domestic and small-business activities is opposed. It is also unclear as to how this regulation is intended	That the following is provided: Include a new permitted activity Rule as a default activity for small scale and domestic discharges to air; and Confirm the thresholds at which the Discretionary Activity status applies for Rule R31 ; and Confirm how this regulation is intended to integrate with local authority by-laws and regulatory function.

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
		<p>the removal of hair, wool or feathers (including tanneries and felmongeries) by chemical or heat treatment, or</p> <p>(h) refinement of sugars, roasting or drying of berries, grains or plant matter (except roasting of green coffee beans in Rule R30), curing by smoking, flour or grain milling, baking, roasting, deep fat or oil frying exceeding 250kg/hour of product, or</p> <p>(i) rendering, reduction or drying of animal matter through the application of heat, or</p> <p>(j) wool scouring operations or dag washing is a discretionary activity.</p>		to integrate with existing TLA bylaws and regulatory functions.	
108	Rule R34	<p>Rule R34: Gas, water and wastewater – permitted activity</p> <p>The discharge of contaminants into air from the storage, conveyance and pumping of gas, water and wastewater is a permitted activity, provided the following condition is met:</p> <p>(a) the discharge shall not cause offensive or objectionable odour at the boundary of a sensitive activity.</p>	Support	Support the intent of this rule.	Retain rule R34 and its intent.
117	Rule R45	<p>The discharge of potable water, including scouring water, into water, or onto or into land where it may enter water, for the purpose of draining pipelines or water reservoirs for inspection, repair, maintenance or upgrade is a permitted activity provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(a) if the discharge is to a tidally-influenced environment, the discharge occurs during the time between three hours before and three hours after high tide, unless the discharge occurs directly into open water without disturbing sediment, and</p>		<p>The Standards for free or combined residual chlorine (c) are too stringent. The NZ Drinking Water standard contains a recommended range for drinking water of 0.6 – 1.0g/m³.</p> <p>The current permitted activity standard is unachievable.</p>	<p>Amend Rule R45 (c) to read</p> <p><i>the concentration of free or combined residual chlorine in the discharge shall not exceed 1.50.3g/m³, and</i></p>

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
120	Rule R50 & R51	<p>(b) the discharge shall not contain backwash water from a water treatment plant, and</p> <p>(c) the concentration of free or combined residual chlorine in the discharge shall not exceed 0.3g/m³, and</p> <p>(d) the concentration of fluoride in the discharge shall not exceed 1.5g/m³, and</p> <p>(e) the discharge shall not cause any conspicuous change in the colour or visual clarity in the receiving water after the zone of reasonable mixing, and</p> <p>(f) the discharge shall not cause any erosion of the channel or banks of the receiving water body or the coastal marine area.</p> <p>Rules relating to a stormwater discharge from territorial authority network.</p>	Oppose	<p>The regulatory controls impose a significant work programme on local authorities in the Wairarapa. It is not clear what the intent of this regulatory framework is, and in particular what effects it is intended to avoid, remedy, or mitigate in Wairarapa waterways. The scale and nature of the stormwater networks and infrastructure in the Wairarapa town's are such that adverse effects are minimised. Improving water quality in the region does little to suggest there is any current significant issue with adverse effects from urban stormwater in the Wairarapa urban areas. The stormwater networks and discharges in the Wairarapa are significantly differently and lower in scale and character than those in the large and highly urbanised catchments within the region which may have a far greater potential for adverse effects on receiving water.</p> <p>The Wairarapa local authorities support the intent of Method M15 of the Plan (the "Stormwater Working Group") and working with GWRC to agree an appropriate management framework, but oppose in full the premature inclusion of the regulatory framework to be applied to the Wairarapa region as currently imposed under the proposed Plan as a default response.</p>	<p>a) Delete Rule R50 and R51 in their entirety and note within Method M15 that a plan change may result from the implementation of Method M15 where appropriate and necessary following its conclusion;</p> <p>or</p> <p>b) Amend Rule R50 and R51 to specifically exclude the discharge of stormwater within the Wairarapa local authority areas from the scope of the Rule, until such time as the requirements and outcomes of the working group proposed by Method M15 are known, and include a permitted activity rule for the interim period.</p>
121	Rule R52	Stormwater from large sites	Support,	The intent of the rule in not applying to TLA roads is	Amend the heading to Rule R52 to "Stormwater from a

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
123	Rule R58	<i>The discharge of water or contaminants into water from a water race shown on Map 28 is a discretionary activity</i>	Oppose	The Proposed Plan contained a heavily regulatory approach toward the ongoing use and management of the Wairarapa's water race system, with an apparent intent to work towards its closure. As with the framework relating to urban stormwater discharge, the regulatory approach is out of scale with the effect. The Plan contains a positive alternative non-regulatory framework whereby GWRC will work with local authorities to consider the future of the water race network, including water use groups (Method M18); exploring alternative options and management of the water race system, including offline storage (Method M19: Water Management); and considering the efficient use of water (Schedule Q). The intent of these non-regulatory approaches lead by GWRC (potentially through the Whatitua framework) on a catchment basis are supported by the local authorities, but the effectiveness will be watered down by the current regulatory framework, which is contrary to the collaborative intent discussed through the Plan, unnecessary and excessively costly to ratepayers. The local authorities consider a collaborative and non-regulatory approach to the water race network in the Wairarapa region be adopted, and a more suitable regulatory framework be incorporated into the Plan within an appropriate timeframe (7-years after the notification date of the Plan).	Delete Rule 58 from the Plan, and any consequential amendments so as to provide for the ongoing use of the water race network within the Wairarapa as a permitted activity (where the quantity of water taken into the water race network is not increased over that rate existing at the time of notification of the Proposed NRP), until such time as the outcomes of a Water Race working group (Method M18) are confirmed and a Plan Change process initiated.
124	Rule R61	<i>Rule R61: Existing wastewater – discretionary activity The discharge of wastewater: (a) into coastal water, or (b) that is an existing discharge into fresh water is a discretionary activity.</i>	Support, with amendments	This Rule reflects the existing regime, which is considered by the Wairarapa local authorities to be reasonable.	Retain the intent of Rule R61, with an amendment to include provision for all wastewater to fall within this Rule, as follows (deletions in strikethrough): <i>Rule R61: Existing Discharge of wastewater – discretionary activity The discharge of wastewater: (c) into coastal water, or (d) that is an existing discharge into fresh water is a discretionary activity.</i>
124	Rule R62	New discharges of wastewater to water are non-complying activities.	Oppose	The Wairarapa local authorities have invested heavily on behalf of their communities to long-term wastewater management programmes which treat and responsibly manage and discharge wastewater.	Delete Rule R62.

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
				<p>The current rule, with the proposed definition of 'new discharge' captures even positive improvements to existing discharges and therefore is unnecessarily punitive, making even incremental improvements a non-complying activity. When read in tandem with Policy P83 ('avoid' new wastewater discharge) this framework will make it very difficult to achieve incremental improvement programmes in the discharge of treated wastewater to water.</p> <p>It is also considered the non-complying status of treated wastewater discharge is unnecessarily restrictive and fails to recognise the fact that small communities need sufficient time to make significant infrastructural changes, which is also in part recognised in the policy framework of this proposed Plan. In most cases this is simply not achievable within the 'life' of a single regional plan.</p> <p>The effects of treated wastewater from municipal wastewater treatment plants should be provided for as a Restricted Discretionary Activity. This status still provides the ability for GWRC to decline consent, and also provides certainty by limiting the consent process only to those relevant matters, which are well known.</p>	
125	Rule R67	<p><i>Rule R67: Discharges inside sites of significance – non-complying activity</i></p> <p><i>The discharge of water or contaminants into water, or onto or into land where it may enter water:</i></p> <p><i>(a) inside a site or habitat identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies), Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes), Schedule F3 (significant wetland), or Schedule F4 (coastal sites), and</i></p> <p><i>(b) that is not permitted by Rules R42, R43, R44 or R45</i></p> <p><i>is a non-complying activity.</i></p>		<p>Rule R67 becomes a catch-all non-complying rule for all contaminants within scheduled sites.</p> <p>The effects of discharges associated with treated wastewater are already provided for within the Plan (including Rule R61: R62; and the submitters proposed new rule "R62A"). This appropriately recognises the potential effects of these activities, and enables the full consideration of those effects through the resource consent process.</p>	<p>Amend Rule R67 to read as follows (additional text <u>underlined</u>):</p> <p><i>The discharge of water or contaminants into water, or onto or into land where it may enter water (except for treated wastewater. (Rule R62)): ...</i></p>
129	Rule R72	Composting toilets - permitted activity	Oppose	<p>The current permitted activity standard for a discharge to land from any composting toilet requires a 50m setback to potentially sensitive water bodies, which is significantly greater than the setback required for greywater. It is appropriate that the buffer be consistent.</p>	<p>Amend Rule R72(c) to require a 20m setback, not a 50m setback.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
133	Rule R76	New or upgraded domestic wastewater systems within a community drinking water supply protection area is a controlled activity.	Support	The Council's support the reasonable protection of water quality within community drinking water supply protection areas.	Retain Rule R76
136	Rule R79	The discharge of treated wastewater onto or into land,	Oppose	<p>The intent of this rule is supported, that the discharge to land of appropriately treated municipal wastewater can be undertaken, subject to reasonable conditions.</p> <p>The intent of the rule is not to allow mass volume land discharge of treated effluent as a controlled activity. Irrespective, the proposed rule is highly regulated by conditions which will restrict the ability of many discharges to comply. This is contrary to the apparent intent of the policy framework, to encourage land discharges over water discharges.</p> <p>For this to be provided for, and given the level of regulation within the Rule, it is considered more appropriate that a cascading rule framework be provided whereby</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> seasonal or short-term discharges are permitted activities (subject to reasonable standards); discharges of treated municipal wastewater to land are controlled activities, with control retained over direct actual and potential effects on the <p>The proposed Matters of Control within the Rule are not actually matters of control. They are prescription operational requirements which dictate how an operator shall manage their asset. This is unnecessary and inappropriate.</p> <p>While the proposed Plan attempts to be permissive in this respect, the effect of the Rules as they stand are unworkable.</p> <p>The rule also fails to recognise there are other methods of treatment available, the current Rule prescriptively provides for one method. This is contrary to effects-based management.</p> <p>The Council's would welcome the opportunity to work with WRC to redefine how these Rules can be applied.</p>	<p>Delete Rule R79 and rewrite to provide for a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permitted activity rule land discharge of treated effluent; Controlled activity for all other land discharges, subject to reasonable matters of control, not prescriptive operational and asset management directives. Provision for alternative discharge designs and methods, not a prescriptive standard based on a single method.
141	Rule R80	Discharge of treated wastewater to land – Restricted Discretionary Activity	Oppose	Refer Above	Delete Rule R80, and rewrite in conjunction with rewrite of Rule R79.

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
143	Rule R83	Discharge of collected animal effluent	Neutral	The Councils query whether the potential effects of enabling the discharge of effluent within 30m of a property boundary has potential human health effects and reverse sensitivity effects where a residential activity can be established near that common boundary on the adjoining lot.	Clarification that the consideration of human health impacts and reverse sensitivity effects have been fully considered.
146	Rule R89	Farm refuse dumps - permitted activity		<p>Farm refuse dumps are an integral part of the rural environment. While it is accepted that some limits on the size and location of these facilities is required, the proposed rule is unnecessarily restrictive.</p> <p>In particular, the requirement for every landowner to GPS and map their farm dump (R89(h)) is considered excessive, and unenforceable within the life of the Plan. In addition the threshold beyond which a farm dump requires consent is inconsistent with the provisions of the Combined Waitarapa District Plan for the Rural Zone, where the minimum lot size in the majority of the Rural Zone, unless special circumstances apply, is 4ha. A 20ha minimum threshold would generate the need for a significant number of resource consents where the effect on the environment from the nature, scale, and type of refuse being discharged is likely to be negligible. This 'belts and braces' approach in this respect is unnecessary.</p> <p>It is also considered that the 50m setback is excessive, for the same reasons as outlined in the submission on R81.</p> <p>There are sufficient regulations within the remainder of the Plan and also the RMA to undertake enforcement where required without requiring these unnecessarily restrictive permitted activity standards.</p>	<p>That the following changes be made to Rule R89:</p> <p>Amend R89(c)(i) to read "...on a property that is over 20ha 4ha, or"</p> <p>Amend R89(d)(i) to read "50m 20m of a surface water body..."</p> <p>Delete R89(h) (GPS location and mapping) in its entirety</p>
148	Rule R92	All discharges within community drinking water supply area are restricted discretionary activity.	Oppose	<p>A reasonable level of protection of Drinking Water Supply Areas from contamination is supported. However, the level of protection should reflect the level of risk. For example, the Te Ore Ore supply is only an emergency take, and doesn't currently require that level of protection. Limitations in the vicinity of Water supply bores are supported, but the extensive areas currently identified in the Maps to which the restrictions apply are questioned. Risk Management Plans are in place for each take, which identify the risk and management response required.</p> <p>The restrictions relevant to each area should be</p>	<p>Review all of the relevant Maps relating to this rule, and confirm the level of regulation proposed (including activity status) is appropriate for the respective risk.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
165	Rule R113	Diversion or Flood water by existing structures – permitted activities	Oppose	<p>reviewed individually with the relevant authority prior to confirming the Rule and the relevant Maps. Significant discharges which actually pose a risk should be regulated, but not every discharge, which the current framework effectively does.</p> <p>This Rule provides for the diversion of water by a structure or stopbank where that structure is existing, including provision for minor upgrade to those structures.</p> <p>It is assumed that this Rule would currently provide for an existing road structure. What is not clear though is that this rule would apply equally to a road upgrade required to alter the alignment or elevation or a road structure in a manner which may technically exceed the permitted activity standard at Rule R113 (a) which provides for a 5% increase in cross sectional area.</p> <p>Ensuring this incidental diversion is provided for as a permitted activity for local authority roads in rural areas is important for ensuring the road network can be operated efficiently. The requested relief only relates to flood water diversion. Any effects from significant changes in scale, location or character would trigger other consents, either under this Plan or the relevant District Plan. Failure to include this rule, or something similar as a new rule in the Plan will require every such activity to gain resource consent, even where effects are insignificant.</p>	<p>Confirm that the permitted activity applies to diversion of flood waters by a road structure;</p> <p>and</p> <p>include a new permitted activity standard following R113(a), which reads as follows:</p> <p><u>"or</u></p> <p><u>(b) where the structure is Regionally Significant Infrastructure or a local authority road, the structure may be increased in size or realigned and/or relocated where that increase shall not exacerbate the risk or potential effects of flooding on any neighbouring property"</u></p>
166	Rule R115	Rule R115: Culverts	Oppose	<p>The current permitted activity standard limits culverts provided for by Rule R115 to 20m in length. This length will have limitations on rural roads, where a road corridor can typically be 20m in width, and some extension on either end is required to ensure effective operation of the culvert.</p> <p>To provide for this, an additional 5m on either end would be sufficient, or a total of up to 30m in length. Provided the remaining standards are complied with, it is not anticipated this will have any additional adverse effect on the environment.</p>	<p>Amend Rule R115(h)(i) to provide for a culvert of up to 30m in length, where the culvert is associated with a public road.</p>
170	Rule R119 & R120	Clearing Flood Debris and Minor Sand and Gravel Extraction	Oppose	<p>The proposed Plan provides for Beach Recontouring (R119) and for Minor Sand and Gravel Extraction (R120) as permitted activities, subject to conditions. However, it is noted that the extraction of gravel from Wairarapa's aggrading rivers in accordance with an approved flood management plan would require resource consent as a Discretionary Activity under the</p>	<p>Amend Rule R119 for a Permitted Activity, which provides as follows:</p> <p><i>The excavation or disturbance of the bed of a river, including the removal of excavated material, in accordance with an approved GWRC Flood Management Plan is a permitted activity.</i></p>

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
				default Rule R129. Provision should be made for such extraction to be undertaken as a permitted activity.	
	NEW RULE	Flood Management Activities		Flood management activities are extremely important to managing the risk and consequence of floods on people and property. The proposed Rules R119 and R120 do not sufficiently provide for flood management activities as a permitted activity, and in particular the removal of gravel for productive use as a flood management tool.	If Rule R119 is not amended as above, insert a new rule enabling flood management practices as a permitted activity similar to the framework adopted in the Hawkes Bay Regional Council, including relevant and reasonable standards and guidelines.
172	Rule R121	Drain clearance	Oppose	<p>Rule R121, aside from being unnecessarily complex and unworkable, is ambiguous as to whether it is intended to apply to local authority drainage and water races. As proposed, the Rule effectively provides a prescriptive work programme for drain maintenance which is overly prescribed, impractical, and unnecessary.</p> <p>In addition, the Rule confuses drains and rivers and streams. The proposed Rule applies to "farm drains" and to "highly modified river or streams". Neither of these definitions include either Council stormwater drains (by definition Regionally significant infrastructure), including roadside drainage, or water supply races. The proposed Plan could however be interpreted to require that the maintenance of these drains and races would be a discretionary activity under the catchall Rule R129. This would be a significant operational impact upon the essential maintenance of this infrastructure, which is assumed to be an oversight.</p> <p>It is noted that the Proposed Plan includes an alternative Method (Method M14) committing GWRC to "an education programme including practices, procedures and tools in accordance with industry, relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the implementation of Rule R121."</p> <p>The intent of Method M14 is generally supported, but the permitted activity standards of Rule R121 are impractical and will result in significant and unnecessary costs to local authorities. In particular, the requirement to maintain no more than half of the channel at a time will significantly increase maintenance costs and timeframes for Wairarapa Councils.</p>	That Rule R121 be amended to provide for reasonable permitted activity standards, and that Method M14 be amended to provide for the establishment of a working group which can work to define reasonable and workable maintenance standards and protocols which differentiate between a drain and a river (or stream), reflect the purpose of the drain, the risk of adverse effect, and accepted efficient and effective maintenance practice.

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
174	Rule R122	Removing Vegetation – permitted activity	Oppose	<p>These provisions also fail to recognise the exclusion of water supply races from the definition of River in the Act (which was also recognised specifically in the Regional Freshwater Plan definition of "River")</p> <p>The maintenance of roadside drains in rural areas of the Wairarapa is critically important to ensure its efficient and effective operation, especially for rural communities and ratepayers. In order to ensure this infrastructure is able to be managed, the ability to maintain these drains must be provided for as a permitted activity.</p> <p>Water races area also important in supplying water to rural areas where alternative water sources for stock watering are over allocated or unavailable.</p> <p>The Council's query the need for the highly prescriptive standards proposed for routine drain cleaning and requests they be amended so that they are practical and achievable with usual machinery and work programmes.</p>	<p>Delete the Rule and provide an alternative workable rule as part of the review process requested for Rule R121 above;</p> <p>or</p> <p>Exclude local authority activities from the need to comply with this rule, providing an alternative permitted activity rule subject to workable, reasonable, and cost efficient standards.</p>
181	Rule R136	Minor abstractions limited to 20m ³ per property per day provided that property is over 20 ha but reduced to 10m ³ for properties under 20 ha.	Oppose	<p>As with the Rules for drain clearance, the standards contained within the Rule are unnecessarily complex and prescriptive, effectively dictating how an operator is to undertake work. Of particular concern are the standards relating to restriction on clearing on only one side of the drain at one time and the limits on contiguous area of vegetation removal, which are impractical and disproportionate compared to the actual and potential environmental effects.</p> <p>This Rule significantly reduces the amount of water able to be taken for an individual's reasonable use. The Regional Freshwater Plan enables up to 20m³ per Certificate of Title per day (Rule 7). The proposed Plan significantly alters this framework, limiting takes firstly through the delineation of "reasonable needs" based on property area, and secondly restricting reasonable needs to a property, rather than for each Certificate of Title.</p> <p>Rural properties are generally not reticulated, and as such rely on the supply of water to meet their reasonable needs. The arbitrary nomination of a 20ha threshold is unfounded and unnecessary. The balance of the permitted activity standards are sufficient to minimise the inefficient use of water.</p>	<p>That Rule R136(a) be deleted and replaced with the following:</p> <p><i>The total take and use per property shall not exceed 20m³ per day, at a rate not exceeding 2.5/s.</i></p>

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
183	Rule R140	De-watering of a site for the purpose of excavation, construction or geotechnical testing and associated diversion and discharge is permitted subject to conditions.	Support	The Councils support the rule.	Retain Rule R140
224	Rule R193:	River and Mouth cutting	Support amendments with	The intent of the rule is supported. It is requested that the Okau Stream be added to the list of rivers to which the rule applies, at Rule R193(e), to enable management of the effects of closure on the road at Sandy Bay.	Insert "Okau Stream" into the list at Rule R193(e)
243	Method M15	Regional Stormwater Working Group	Support	The Wairarapa Councils acknowledge the commitment of GWRC to work collaboratively on the issue of stormwater management in the Wairarapa. As outlined elsewhere in this submission, it is considered that the most effective approach is to defer the implementation of Rules R50, R51, and R53 until this method has progressed these key matters sufficiently.	Retain the intent of Method M15, and give effect to the submissions seeking deferral of regulation relating to Stormwater discharges until that collaborative process has been completed and determined the best long term strategy for the management of stormwater in smaller urban areas within the region, including the Wairarapa towns.

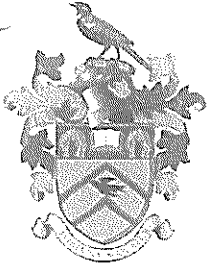
Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Masterton District Council

Submitter Number:

S367



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**Proposed Natural Resources Plan
for the Wellington Region**

Submission by:



Masterton District Council

30 October 2015

14

**Submission on the
Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington
Region under Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource
Management Act 1991**

To: Greater Wellington Regional Council ("WRC")
Name of Submitter: Masterton District Council ("the Council")

The Council is making a submission on the **Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region** in accordance with Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991.

The Council confirm that individually or collectively they:


- a) will not gain any advantage in terms of trade competition as a result of the contents or relief sought in this submission; and
- b) wish to be heard in support of the submission; and
- c) would be prepared to consider presenting a joint submission

The general and specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region that the Council's submission relates to are included in the attached ("**Schedule A**").

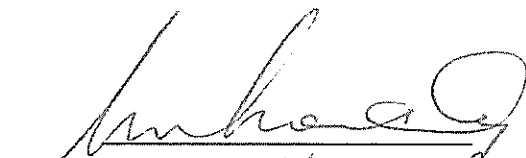
Address for Service:

**Masterton District Council
C/ Geange Consulting
PO Box 213
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Signed for and on behalf of the submitters:



Manager Assets & Operations



Manager Planning & Regulatory Services

1. Local Government in the Wairarapa

The purpose of local government under the Local Government Act 2002 is

- To enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities
- To meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses. (Local Government Act 2002, section 10 (1)).

“Good quality” is defined in this respect to mean infrastructure, local public services and performance of regulatory functions that are:

- efficient,
- effective, and
- appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

The role of local authorities is to lead and represent their communities. They must engage with their communities and encourage community participation in decision-making, while considering the needs of people currently living in communities and those who will live there in the future.

The Local Government Act 2002, section 12(2), gives councils wide scope to do anything within the context of the purpose of local government.

The Act requires all councils to –

- Separate policy setting from operational functions as far as possible.
- Prepare long-term plans (LTPs), annual plans and budgets in consultation with their communities.
- Report annually on performance in relation to their plans.
- Prepare long-term financial strategies including funding, financial management and investment policies.

The Local Government Act 2002 also makes it clear that councils have a variety of other statutory responsibilities. These are mostly in other Acts such as the Resource Management Act 1991, the Building Act 2004, and the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Territorial authorities’ responsibilities include:

- Sustainable district well-being.

- The provision of local infrastructure, including water, sewerage, stormwater, roads.
- Environmental safety and health, district emergency management and civil defence preparedness, building control, public health inspections and other environmental health matters.
- Controlling the effects of land use (including hazardous substances, natural hazards and indigenous biodiversity), noise, and the effects of activities on the surface of lakes and rivers.

In order to achieve this purpose and role, regional policy provides the basis on which to achieve certainty, in both **regional** and district plans. Regional Plans must not introduce significant changes in regulation outside of the RPS and in general over short periods of time. This is particularly relevant in small communities who are required to fund such changes within a wide range of demands upon their rating bases, such as those in the Wairarapa.

The local authorities in the Wairarapa appreciate that, in some cases, regulation is a necessary tool. However, it is one tool available to the regional council, and should not be the default method. Regulation should not be adopted at the scale and range proposed in the NRP unless other alternatives have been considered, and shown to be unworkable, but more importantly, only where justifiable by well-founded scientific evidence and in terms of quantifiable costs and benefits, including economic costs and benefits.

The Wairarapa is a significant contributor to the productive base of the Wellington Region, supporting a significant productive agricultural industry, timber and forestry industry, and continuing to be regionally and nationally significant for recreation and tourism.

The Proposed Natural Resources Plan has the potential to either support these industries and the communities of the Wairarapa, while ensuring environmental and cultural values are appropriately provided for, or to stifle growth and development through over regulation and an unnecessarily restrictive policy and rule framework. The Council's consider that the Proposed NRP will stifle growth and development by over regulation.

2. Key legislation required to be given effect to in the Proposed NRP.

Section 67(3) of the RMA provides that the PNRP must give effect to the following

- Any national policy statement; and
- the New Zealand coastal policy statement; and
- any regional policy statement.

a) National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014

The NPSFM 2014 provides a national policy framework assisting and directing regional councils on how to set the objectives, policies, and rules within their regional plans. The intent of the NPSFM2104 is to assist regional councils and communities to *“more consistently and transparently plan for freshwater objectives”* and to *“underpin community discussions about the desired state of fresh water relative to the current state.”* (NPS preamble)

Key stated philosophies of the NPSFM2014 include the following:

- Freshwater planning will require an iterative approach that tests a range of possible objectives and methods for their achievement, including different timeframes for achieving objectives.
- The national policy statement sets national bottom lines for two compulsory values – ecosystem health and human health for recreation – and minimum acceptable states for other national values.
- National bottom lines in the national policy statement are not standards that must be achieved immediately.
- Where changes in community behaviours are required, adjustment timeframes should be decided based on the economic effects that result from the speed of change. Improvements in freshwater quality may take generations depending on the characteristics of each freshwater management unit.
- Monitoring plans are intended to be practical and affordable.

b) New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (“NZCPS”)

The NZCPS sets out the national policy framework for the management of activities and resources within the coastal environment.

The NZCPS includes a balanced approach to the management of the coastal environment, providing for both the protection of specified values, but also, and importantly, for the

- Recognition of infrastructure as an activity with an important purpose to achieve the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of communities (Policy 6.1a);
- Recognition that some activities have a functional dependency on a coastal marine area location, and where appropriate, those activities should be provided for (Policy 6.2c);
- Recognition that public expectation of both walking and vehicle access can, in cases, be appropriate (Policy 19 and 20).

The NZCPS is particularly relevant to the Councils for ensuring the efficient use, maintenance, and upgrade of existing infrastructure in the coastal environment and the Coastal Marine Area. In particular, the Council’s have an extensive length of highly dynamic and exposed coastline which includes

critical access infrastructure to rural and coastal ratepayers, and provides significant recreational and tourism opportunities for residents of the Wairarapa, the Wellington Region, and national and international visitors.

Of particular note is the outcome of the decision of the Supreme Court in the 'King Salmon' case - regarding the importance of the NZCPS2014 where it seeks to 'avoid' adverse effects, and potentially the policy framework intended to implement the NZCPS2014 (i.e. regional and district policy frameworks).

c) Wellington Regional Policy Statement (2013)

The Regional Policy Statement 2013 (RPS) identifies the regionally significant issues in managing the use and development of natural and physical resources within the Wellington Region.

The RPS recognizes the following in terms of Infrastructure (3.3(b)):

The roading network, airports, the port, telecommunication facilities, the rail network and other utilities and infrastructure, including energy generation, transmission and distribution networks, are significant physical resources. This infrastructure forms part of national or regional networks and enables communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural wellbeing and their health and safety.

Objective 10 requires the following when preparing regional or district plans:

The social, economic, cultural and environmental, benefits of regionally significant infrastructure are recognised and protected.

This is supported by Policy 7, Policy 8, and Policy 39, which specifically require these benefits to be recognised and protected.

The RPS also recognises the important role of the small urban and rural service areas, including the Wairarapa. The RPS recognises (2.3 Community Outcomes) that:

The rural production activities that occur in and around the rural and small township areas provide economic, social, cultural, and environmental benefits for the region as a whole, and contribute to the achievement of the community outcomes.

In order to achieve the regionally defined community outcomes, it is important that the Regional Plan enables local authorities to continue to operate without undue regulation, and communities to provide for their cultural, economic and social wellbeing equally while still protecting key environmental baselines.

The RPS recognises the importance of this balance, and of providing for beneficial and economic use of resources throughout its framework, including

the allocation of scarce resources, which by definition includes “*economic, technical, and dynamic efficiency*”.

3. General Submission of the Masterton and South Wairarapa District Councils

The Council’s submission is intended to assist the Regional Council in ensuring the Natural Resources Plan is as effective as possible, and meets the relevant requirements of the Act, including supporting the functions of Regional Council as specified by s30 of the Act.

The Council’s note that they have invested significant time and energy in reviewing the draft plan, attending information sessions, and preparing submissions on the draft plan. Equally, significant time, effort and cost has gone into this submission. The Councils are frustrated at the lack of communication from Wellington Regional Council on key issues, and on key matters which have been retained in the Proposed Plan despite the Councils initial submissions on the Draft Plan.

Given the importance and complexity of the documents and their potential implications for the Masterton and South Wairarapa Districts, we do not believe that the submission time has been long enough to enable us to fully contemplate and comment on the documents. We do note that we have been granted an extension of time, but still do not consider this sufficient.

The attached **Schedule A** includes the specific provisions upon which this submission relates, and the relief sought. The submission also seeks any consequential amendments required as a result of granting the relief sought on each submission point.

In summary, the Council’s submission is predicated on achieving a Plan which appropriately provides for the following:

- certainty to all plan users, and enables certainty of investment by local authorities, businesses, communities and individuals without undue regulation or restriction;
- an appropriate balance between beneficial use of natural and physical resources and the need to protect or enhance environments;
- provides sufficient time for the achievement of “strategic” environmental outcomes, particularly where there is existing significant capital investment in physical resources and where the cost of short term upgrade of significant infrastructure on communities would be potentially prohibitive;
- A full suite of methods and clear environmental leadership by WRC, and doesn’t default to regulation as a matter of course;

- Recognition of the importance of the local road network to communities, that is it being equally as important as any other Infrastructure, especially in small communities;
- Appropriately recognises and provides for the significant difference between the needs and effects of rural communities and small urban areas, and the needs and effects of large urban areas within the region.

In reviewing firstly the Working Draft for Discussion, the draft NRP and more recently the Proposed NRP, the Councils have identified the following key issues on which clarification or amendment (or other relief) have been sought in the submissions detailed in Schedule A. These relate to the following:

Complexity of the Plan

- The Proposed NRP is significantly more complex in its regulatory framework than the existing suite of regional plans, making it difficult to interpret and to use, in particular for non-technical plan users.
- This complexity inevitably requires users to obtain professional assistance in using the plan, even for very simple matters, including determining whether an activity is permitted under the Plan.
- This will have a significant cost implication to users over the life of the Plan.

Regulatory Focus of Proposed Plan Framework

- The regulatory focus of the Proposed Plan is a significant concern, with regulation clearly evident as the preferred approach of WRC. The regulatory framework is much heavier and far more prescriptive than current regional plans, and in many cases unnecessarily so and not supported by sufficient evidence and analysis of the respective costs and benefits;
- The comprehensive range of "Other Methods" contained within the Plan is supported in principle; however the following comments are made:
 - the "Other Methods" are clearly secondary to regulation. Many of these other methods should necessarily inform the appropriate level of regulation. Regulation should not be the 'default' position, particularly where there is insufficient evidence to justify doing so. As an example, this is evident and of concern in the regulatory framework proposed for Stormwater Networks.
 - The regulatory framework, in places, is inconsistent with the requirements and intent of the Regional Policy Statement;
 - This level of regulation will create significant work programmes for local authorities, which will have cost implications and potentially divert key staff from operational priorities and adversely affect communities; and,

- Will create a significant programme of work in a short period of time for which there will be a significant cost to WRC (WRC staff or contractor resourcing; monitoring; capital investment) which can only be put on local authorities, local communities, ratepayers and consent holders. Plan users are already experiencing significantly increasing costs for resource consent processes from WRC.
- The intent of the Plan to effect change is supported where justifiable on the basis of evidence; the current Framework is too heavily reliant on unsupported opinion and beliefs and is attempting to condense too much change into a single Plan cycle (10yrs). The evidence does not support the need for driving such an extent and pace of change where the costs will be significant, and are not appropriately defined or assessed under s32 of the Act;
- It is inequitable to require local communities to remedy effects which have been created over generations, (not all of which are having significant adverse effects), and to undertake significant environmental monitoring programmes to fill data and information gaps in WRC information. It is WRC's obligation to assess and justify its regulatory interventions through evidence of effect, not for applicants and communities to do so. Regulation should only be implemented where justified, and where reasonable alternatives do not exist. If a change can be technically justified, then a well-defined and prioritised programme over 20 years (or more) would be more appropriate. The Proposed Plan is only a first step, not the only step;
- The regulatory framework is overly conservative. The unnecessarily prescriptive and overly regulated requirements around the discharge of treated effluent to land will limit the effectiveness of the policy direction (which encourages the transfer of treated wastewater from water to land) and render it unaffordable.
- The level of regulation will drive a significant increase in the need for complex resource consent processes in cases where actual and potential adverse effects on the environment do not necessarily support such a process. WRC has recently significantly increased its consent administration and processing fees, which in combination with the highly regulatory nature of the Plan, will be a significant cost to individuals and the wider community. The clear intent to require additional monitoring will have further and additional significant cost implications for consent holders on an ongoing basis.

Scope of the Regulatory Framework.

- The Proposed Plan goes beyond the legislative purpose for a regional plan, in prescribing work programmes and operational matters which are the responsibility of local authorities.
- The Council's acknowledge a catchment based policy framework to achieve consistency and balance at a regional level is appropriate, but the Proposed Plan has gone too far. Examples include the framework associated with stormwater management, water efficiency, and treated

effluent discharge to land. The Plan goes beyond the “end of pipe” effects, and effectively seeks to regulate local authority operational requirements. This is inappropriate.

Cultural and Environmental Effects Framework

- The Council’s acknowledge the need to provide for cultural values;
- The Council’s are already working with tangata whenua to achieve a collaborative and shared outcome (along with all stakeholders), as outlined in respective policies and regulatory documents;
- The Council’s are however concerned that the resulting policy framework appears to establish a priority for cultural and environmental values over reasonable beneficial use, and economic and social wellbeing. This is inconsistent with Part II of the Act. The proposed policy framework, in places, appears to provide tangata whenua with a “veto” over critical activities including the operation of regionally significant infrastructure required of TLA’s under the Local Government Act; this is contrary to the RPS;
- These “out of plan” determinations create significant uncertainty, and Council request clarification that they are not *ultra vires*;
- As a result, and as outlined above, the Proposed Plan introduces a significant level of “red tape” and uncertainty, increasing costs for the Council’s that have not been anticipated or are affordable. If implemented by WRC, there will be significant impact upon levels of service (for example critical infrastructure and rates), particularly in Wairarapa’s small communities, where there will be no clearly determined benefit or reason;
- The “tone” of the Proposed Plan, and its use of language and context is unnecessarily negative toward the balanced use of natural and physical resources, both through its narrative description of resources in the region, and through the lack of recognition of and provision for beneficial use. The Plan needs to provide for appropriate balance in consumptive resource use and protection.

Section 32 Reporting

- The Councils have a major concern at the general lack of assessment undertaken in the section 32 reports, including the lack of supporting technical documents, no substantive analysis, and lack of fiscal costing of alternatives;
- The Council’s are particularly concerned at the lack of consideration of actual and potential costs to communities and individuals within the s32 reports of implementing the regulatory framework;
- In addition the Council’s are also concerned at the process of identification of significant resources, features, and areas appear to be developed using insufficient information. A clear process of assessment and identification should be undertaken prior to inclusion in Schedules subject to regulation. This includes, for example, providing for “all tributaries” to identified waterbodies as being of

significance, considerably increasing the level of regulation throughout catchments on a widespread basis.

- Significant regulatory interventions have been proposed on the basis of this inappropriate level of evidential analysis, which have major cost implications on communities, and is likely to fall short of the requirements of s32 of the Act.
- The Council's do not consider the requirements of s32 have been met.

Planning Maps and Schedules

- The Plan contains planning maps which are not at a scale enabling them to be accurately read or used with certainty. It is impossible to determine from the current maps whether a property is included within a specified area. The Proposed Plan maps should be deleted, revised, and redrafted to provide Map users with certainty.
- The Plan suggests that the GIS is the definitive location for determining these mapped areas. However, the GIS is, at least in part, inaccurate, incomplete, and difficult to use. The Council's question whether the Proposed Plan is actually 'vires' in this respect.
- The Proposed Plan contains extensive schedules listing features, places, areas and resources which are then often subject to regulation. Because of the restrictive nature of the plan and the uncertainty of the schedules in many cases quite simple activities will become non-complying.
- The Policy Framework then requires a restrictive application of use within those areas, including regularly requiring activities to "avoid" effects on undefined and ambiguous terms; or areas to be "restored" to undefined levels; or for poorly defined values, attributes, and uses within those areas to be 'protected'. This sets a very high bar for consistency with policy frameworks, which will prove to be unattainable or cost prohibitive for plan users, and their communities.
- In many cases, the Schedules contain areas and features which have not been appropriately assessed in terms of their value to justify their inclusion for protection. Affected land owners and resource users have not been suitably consulted or advised of the implications of the Schedules within the current Plan framework, and will face significant costs.
- Significant land owners, including the Councils, need sufficient time to confirm the accuracy of the areas and determine the implications of the scheduling and maps. The current information, including the manner in which it has been prepared, in combination with the complexity of the proposed Plan means the submission period has been insufficient to enable a comprehensive consideration and submission process.

Other issues:

The following issues have also been identified by the Council's:

- There is uncertainty as to how any Plan Change emanating from the Whaitua processes will change other parts of the NRP. This may create a need for review of provisions already fully considered through this plan development process.
- It is uncertain as to how the Proposed Plan will deal with situations where the Whaitua process identifies a relaxation of regulations and/or standards is appropriate.
- This Whaitua process will undoubtedly and unnecessarily increase time and financial cost associated with the Plan development process, both for Wellington Regional Council and users/submitters.
- The Plan must clearly provide for sufficient time for operators and Plan users to implement significant change; providing sufficient time for change is a clear direction in the NPS and the RPS.
- The Plan should provide a regulatory framework for Regionally Significant Infrastructure and local authority roading (including earthworks and ancillary activities) which is based on a Controlled, Restricted Discretionary Activity or Discretionary status, not a default to non-complying activities. This is unnecessarily restrictive and has significant cost implications.
- There is a need to provide for activities with significant benefits and acceptable adverse effects as permitted activities. Examples include existing structures, roading and tracking activities, vegetation removal, minor discharges and gravel extraction (undertaken in accordance with an approved WRC flood management plan) and the implementation of flood protection works (also in accordance with an approved Flood Management Plan).
- The policy framework is unnecessarily restrictive, in many cases requiring “avoidance” “protection”, or “restoration” of environments without any context to any actual identified adverse effect on that environment. Interpretation of this policy framework will be out of context, unnecessarily restrictive, and in some cases, bordering on prohibitive.
- The cascading hierarchy of the policy framework is supported in places, but is not used consistently. The policy framework should incorporate the cascading policy framework of the RMA – based on “avoiding, remedying, or mitigating” adverse effects and/or inappropriate use and development.
- The current policy framework fails to provide a clear framework for adopting the Best Practicable Option, which is important for the Council’s when undertaking large infrastructure and community facility projects in a manner envisaged under the RMA for large projects.
- The Proposed Plan is introducing a framework for the Wairarapa’s network of Water Races which appears to be leading to their managed disestablishment. The Plan fails to recognise the important role the water races play in water supply to rural areas in South Wairarapa, and their important part in the existing stormwater network, making them (by definition) Regionally Significant Infrastructure.

4. General Relief Sought

In light of the above general issues and shortcomings of the Plan, the Councils request the Plan be comprehensively reviewed with key stakeholders prior to submissions being heard, including in particular:

- A full review of the scope of the Plan, including in particular regulation and policy relating to “up the pipe” operational matters;
- A full review of anticipated timeframes for completion of key strategic outcomes, including stormwater management, water efficiency, from a geographical perspective (intra-regional), a cost of implementation perspective, and an effects based needs perspective;
- A full review of the s32 reports, in particular the costs associated with the proposed regulatory framework;
- A full review of the policy framework of the Plan against the policy framework of the Regional Policy Statement to ensure consistency;
- A full review of all scheduled areas, sites, and features, including provision of evidence and the process by which sites are included;
- A full review of all “out of plan” determinations;
- A full review of the appropriateness of the balance between the environmental, cultural, social, and economic use of resources within the Proposed Plan, including the costs to communities from the policy and regulatory frameworks;
- A full review of the potential effects of the proposed regulatory frameworks on small communities, such as those in the Wairarapa, with particular regard given to the effects of those activities on the receiving environment, the actual benefits of regulation, and the costs of that regulation to plan users;
- A full review of the accuracy of all maps, the GIS, and the reliance placed on the GIS system;
- Inclusion of the outcomes of the Ruamahanga Whaitua process, which has significant implications for the entire Wairarapa region, and,
- Full consultation with all key stakeholders on all of the above.

5. Detailed Submission Points

Please refer to **Schedule A** for the detailed submission points of the Councils, and specific relief sought. This applies in conjunction with and in addition to the general relief sought above.

Masterton District Council / South Wairarapa District Council: Submission on Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Schedule A:

DETAILED SUBMISSION POINTS

PART 'A': SCHEDULES IDENTIFYING SIGNIFICANT VALUES

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support/Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Suggested relief and/or decision on Submission
387	Schedule F2c; Rule R198 and Rule R190.	Inclusion of "Stony Bay" in Schedule F2c as a Habitat for indigenous birds in the Coastal Marine Area (SWDC)	Oppose	The area identified Stony Bay in Schedule F2c includes two boat-launching facilities that have been in existence and used for over 60 years. These are used both for recreational fishers and for three commercial operators. While Rule R190 appears not to preclude boat launching in the scheduled area, Rule R198 makes the operation of motor vehicles in areas identified within Schedule F2c a non-complying activity. This will have a significant impact on safe recreational boat launching in the Tora coast area. Schedule F2c and the associated Map and GIS should be updated to identify the existing boat launch sites, including access; and excluded from the provisions in Rule R198; and provided for as a permitted activity in Rule R190.	Schedule F2c and the associated Map and GIS be updated to identify the existing boat launch sites, including access; and excluded from the provisions in Rule R198; and provided for as a permitted activity in Rule R190.
300	Schedule C5: Sites of significance to Ngati Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangiane o Wairarapa	Inclusion of Henley Lake in Schedule C5	Oppose	Henley Lake is a recently formed man-made lake created from the rehabilitation of a former quarry site. It is not clear to the submitter how these values have been determined for inclusion in the Plan. The inclusion in the Schedule has the potential to create a significant additional work programme for Council.	Delete Henley Lake from Schedule C5
395	Schedule F3: Identified Significant Natural Wetlands	Inclusion of "Henley Lakes A" in Schedule F3	Oppose	Henley Lake is a recently formed man-made lake created from the rehabilitation of a former quarry site. It is not clear to the submitter how these values have been determined for inclusion in the Plan. The inclusion in the Schedule has the potential to create a significant additional work programme for Council.	Delete "Henley Lakes A" from Schedule F3.
349/350	Schedule E5: Historic heritage Freshwater sites	Inclusion of the Parawhaiti Stream Bridge, Tauweru Bridge and The Swing Bridge in the schedule	Oppose	The Parawhaiti Stream Bridge, Tauweru Bridge and The Swing Bridge are all listed as historic freshwater sites in the Plan. It is not clear to the submitter why the Plan is concerning itself with physical historic structures, considering these heritage matters best dealt with through the District Plan. In addition, the Schedule is entitled "Historic heritage freshwater sites". It is not clear to the submitter how a bridge asset can be a freshwater site. The upgrading of The Parawhaiti Stream Bridge and Tauweru Bridge in the future would be beneficial to road users, and the inclusion creates uncertainty as to the ability to plan for any required upgrade.	Delete the Parawhaiti Stream Bridge, Tauweru Bridge and The Swing Bridge from Schedule E5.
349	Schedule E5: Historic heritage Freshwater sites	Inclusion of the Ruakokoputuna and Waihenga Bridge in the schedule	Oppose	The Waihenga and Ruakokoputuna Bridges are both listed as historic freshwater sites in the Plan. It is not clear to the submitter why the Plan is concerning itself with physical historic structures, considering these heritage matters best dealt with through the District Plan. In addition, the Schedule	Delete both the Ruakokoputuna Bridge and the Waihenga Bridge from Schedule E5.

					is entitled "Historic heritage freshwater sites". It is not clear to the submitter how a bridge asset can be a freshwater site.
					The Waihenga Bridge is narrow and is often required to be closed during flood events. The Ruakopuuna Bridge is a one laned bridge. The upgrading of both these bridges would be beneficial to road users, and the inclusion creates uncertainty as to the ability to plan for any required upgrade.
431	Schedule N	'Stormwater Management Strategy'	Management	Oppose	Section 101B of the Local Government Act 2002 separately requires the preparation of infrastructure strategies for all community infrastructure assets including stormwater. The proposed Plan risks the requirement to prepare two separate strategies as currently written. In addition, the proposed Schedule N fails to identify that some local authority stormwater networks do not have adverse effects on the environment, in particular small urban areas and settlements. There needs to be a definitive threshold included in the Plan based on effects (or at least network size, volumes, or population beyond which the preparation of this strategy is beneficial.
436	Schedule Q	Criteria for reasonable and efficient use of water	Management	Oppose	Group or community water supplies Schedule Q and the associated policy and regulation within the Plan effectively seek to provide WRC with the ability to review and approve District Council's water asset management function. Rather, it would be more appropriate for this Plan to incorporate a fixed per capita per day rate of supply, and include provision for commercial and industrial use, and reasonable growth. A figure of 500l/person/day could be used for example as a target for domestic use from urban supplies, plus provision for other uses. Comparatively in the rural zone, the Plan anticipates up to 20,000 litres per day per property being "reasonable use". In this respect urban use is considerably lower. <u>Water Races</u> Schedule Q (Water Races) requires local authorities to undertake significant work on the efficiency of the water race systems of a section-by-section basis, and to identify alternative water supply options. The Council's suggest it would be premature to undertake such a significant piece of work prior to Method M13 being implemented, which will enable a collaborative approach toward informed decision-making on the future and specified function of the water race network.
442	Schedule U	Trigger Levels for River and Stream Mouth Cutting	Management	Oppose	The Okau Stream on the Matakona coast also blocks and requires cutting to manage erosion of the road asset. Some investigation may be required, but it is requested that the Okau Stream is included in Schedule U.

PART '2': INTRODUCTION & DEFINITIONS

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Suggested relief and/or decision on Submission
14	2.1.3	Rule 'bundling' – GWRC's stated intention to combine several permissions which may be required under sections 9, 13 to 15 into one rule – such	Oppose, with amendments	The Council's acknowledge that the Proposed NRP is intending to combine activities into single application processes where appropriate. Whilst the intent is supported, the Council's request clarification that this approach will not be able to result in unnecessary consent requirements "by association" for activities, by for example, making a controlled activity a discretionary or non-complying activity by	Retain the intent of combining activities under a single rule for activities otherwise regulated by s9 and ss12-15 of the RMA.

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Suggested relief and/or decision on Submission
15	2.1.3	that only one application will be required to be lodged. Second sentence: All rules (and definitions and maps) have immediate effect under section 86B (3) of the RMA from the date of public notification of the proposed NRP (31.07.15).	Oppose	<p>adopting an unnecessarily conservative view of what a more "relevant" activity, area, or resource may be, and therefore increasing regulation unnecessarily.</p> <p>It is not clear whether this is an error – because s. 86B(3) applies only to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Water, air, soil (for soil conservation) (b) Areas of significant indigenous vegetation (c) Areas of significant habitats of indigenous fauna (d) Historic heritage or (e) Aquaculture activities. <p>It is noted that s.86B(3) applies automatically anyway to the above matters (it is a provision set by the RMA and not really open to opposition in this respect).</p> <p>s.86B (3) does not apply, for example, to activities in the beds of rivers where none of the above values exist. There is provision in s.86B(1)(c) to enable any and all rules to have immediate legal effect if that decision is made prior to public notification (as is the case for the proposed NRP). However that isn't the section referred to.</p> <p>Importantly, in relation to activities involving water, the rules have immediate effect regardless of what is stated in the proposed NRP.</p>	<p>Confirm within the Plan that minor activities will not be required to obtain more restrictive consents where there is any uncertainty in interpretation.</p> <p>Clarify whether s.86B(3) is the correct reference and clarification of why the text refers to 'all' rules when s. 86B (3) is more limited in scope.</p>
16	2.1.6	Reference to and reliance upon the on-line GIS facility.	Oppose	<p>Having trialled the on-line GIS mapping function, it is evident to Council that the information boxes in that system are not all accurate and do not consistently link automatically to the PNRP Schedule referenced. The text in 2.1.6 says that the printed (pdf) maps contained in the PNRP should not be relied on and refers users to the on-line GIS facility. If the on-line GIS mapping system is to be relied on, it needs to be accessible, reliable and accurate.</p> <p>The Council's question whether this approach is viable in any case, as the proposed Plan regulation relies heavily on locations, areas, and maps referenced in the Plan, and the current mapping mechanisms contains errors making for considerable uncertainty. The maps in cases are at insufficient scale for any plan user to interpret and use with confidence, and are therefore unreliable.</p> <p>The Plan uses the term "best practicable option" in its policy framework, the intent of which is generally supported by Council. However the Plan does not support this with an appropriate definition. For certainty, it would assist Plan users, particularly non-technical plan users, to replicate the definition of Best Practicable Option as provided for in s2 of the Resource Management Act.</p>	<p>That all maps be deleted, revised for scale and accuracy, and renotified for consideration.</p> <p>That the potential unreliability of the on-line GIS system be comprehensively reviewed and</p> <p>WRC ensure that, if GIS is to be relied upon, that it is made accessible, reliable and accurate, and confirm how this will be achieved with the necessary level of certainty.</p>
	Definition	Best Practicable Option	Oppose		<p>Include a new Definition in the Plan for Best Practicable Option.</p> <p><i>best practicable option, in relation to a discharge of a contaminant or an emission of noise, means the best method for preventing or minimising the adverse effects on the environment having regard, among other things, to—</i></p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Suggested relief and/or decision on Submission
					<p>(a) the nature of the discharge or emission and the sensitivity of the receiving environment to adverse effects; and</p> <p>(b) the financial implications, and the effects on the environment, of that option when compared with other options; and</p> <p>(c) the current state of technical knowledge and the likelihood that the option can be successfully applied</p>
	Definition & Maps 26 and 27 a, b, and c.		Oppose	The Council seeks confirmation that the locations shown on the stated maps and schedules are correct and that all current permits are included. The current mapping is difficult to interpret and inconsistent.	<p>That the Maps 26 and 27 a, b, and c are amended to more clearly define the physical extent of the community drinking water supply areas.</p> <p>That all maps be deleted, revised for scale and accuracy, and renotified for consideration.</p>
	Definition		Oppose	<p>The term 'Maori Customary Use' is used extensively throughout the policy framework and where resource consent is required, has the need to be clearly articulated and determined in order to enable plan users and applicants to ascertain consistency with those policies. As proposed, the definition contains uncertainty, and will be open to variable interpretation over the life of the plan, for example, the definition of the term "Maori practices". Council does not oppose the provision for customary rights within the Plan, but where it has such significant implications on Plan interpretation there must be an appropriate level of certainty in its interpretation.</p> <p>Council is not in a position to provide an alternative definition, but requests certainty through an amended definition if the term is to remain in the Plan.</p>	Amend the definition of Maori Customary Use to provide greater certainty to its meaning.
19	Definition	Category 2 surface water body	Oppose	The Plan has inappropriately included water within drains and water supply races within the regulatory framework for freshwater. Drains and water races have specific functions requirements and should not be subjected to the same framework at natural water bodies.	Delete reference to drains and water races until such time as the appropriate regulatory framework for Stormwater and water races has been confirmed and defined within the plan using the stated other methods and/or relief sought by other parts of this submission granted.
	Definition	Regionally Significant Infrastructure	Oppose	The Council is concerned that the current definition of Regionally Significant Infrastructure fails to specifically include the district road network. The district road network is a considerable physical resource which is significant for efficient and effective operation of the road network throughout the Region, and the wellbeing of communities. This is particularly the case in the Wairarapa where there is only limited alternative transportation available, and where rural economies rely on that infrastructure.	<p>That the following sub-definition be added to the definition of Regionally Significant Infrastructure:</p> <p>"Local Authority Roads, including culverts, bridges, and any other support structures or ancillary infrastructure"</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Suggested relief and/or decision on Submission
	Definition	Reticulated stormwater network is defined as: <i>The network of devices designed to capture, detain, treat, transport and discharge stormwater, including but not limited to kerbs, intake structures, pipes, soak pits, sumps, swales and constructed ponds and wetlands, and that serves more than one property or a state highway.</i>	Oppose	The proposed definition of "Reticulated Stormwater Network" is ambiguous. It is not clear how roads, drains, or natural or partially modified water courses intercepting stormwater fit within this definition, and what the implications on the stormwater network are as a result, potentially with regards to the management of surface water bodies as currently included within the rules, policies, and objectives. It is also of concern that the definition fails to recognise the difference in operational requirements and effects of stormwater management in small rural towns such as the Waikarapa, as opposed to the large fully reticulated networks in large urban areas in other parts of the Region. The current rules and policy framework has significant cost implications for the Waikarapa towns, without any justification from an effects perspective.	Amend the definition of "Reticulated Stormwater Network" to provide certainty and clarity to all Plan users, and recognise the differences between the operational requirements (and associated effects) of large urban stormwater networks, and the stormwater management practices in small rural townships.
	Definition	Soil Moisture Deficit <i>"When the soil moisture is below field capacity. Also see deficit irrigation."</i>	Oppose	The definition is potentially ambiguous, particularly when read in conjunction with the rules and policies relating to the discharge of treated wastewater to land.	Review and rewrite the definition to avoid ambiguity.
	Definition	Field Capacity: <i>The moisture content of soil when the addition of further water would result in saturation and/or drainage of water from the soil.</i>	Oppose	The definition is potentially ambiguous, particularly when read in conjunction with the rules and policies relating to the discharge of treated wastewater to land.	Review and rewrite the definition to avoid ambiguity.
	Definition	Deficit irrigation: <i>Designing, operating and monitoring the irrigation system so that an irrigation event does not result in the soil moisture going above field capacity.</i>	Oppose	The definition is potentially ambiguous, particularly when read in conjunction with the rules and policies relating to the discharge of treated wastewater to land.	Review and rewrite the definition to avoid ambiguity, including provision for "pseudo-deficit" irrigation.
	Definition	Distribution Uniformity: <i>The ratio of the average depth of irrigation water applied minus the average deviation from this depth, divided by the average depth applied, as would occur with overlapped areas wetted with irrigation water, expressed as a percentage.</i>	Oppose	The definition is potentially ambiguous, particularly when read in conjunction with the rules and policies relating to the discharge of treated wastewater to land.	Review and rewrite the definition to avoid ambiguity.
	Definition	Saturated Hydraulic Conductivity: <i>Hydraulic conductivity is the rate of water movement through the soil. In soils this is usually</i>	Oppose	The definition is potentially ambiguous, particularly when read in conjunction with the rules and policies relating to the discharge of treated wastewater to land.	Review and rewrite the definition to avoid ambiguity.

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Suggested relief and/or decision on Submission
		expressed as mm/hr or m/d. Saturated hydraulic conductivity relates to the rate of movement when measured within free-standing water, i.e. ponded water.			
	Definition	Low Pressure Spray Irrigation: Irrigation at a pressure less than 30m water head (300kPa or 3 bars).	Oppose	The definition is potentially ambiguous, particularly when read in conjunction with the rules and policies relating to the discharge of treated wastewater to land.	Review and rewrite the definition to avoid ambiguity.
	Definition	Upgrade is defined as: Use and development to bring existing structures or facilities up to modern standards provided that the effects of the activity are the same or similar in character, intensity and scale as the existing structure and activity.	Oppose	The definition of Upgrade is supported in intent, but the use of the word 'modern' is potentially open to further interpretation.	Amend the definition by replacing the word 'modern' with 'current accepted standard or accepted industry practice standard (where defined in an adopted industry standard or similar)' or similar with the same effect.
	Definition	Emerging Contaminants: Any synthetic or naturally occurring chemical, substance or microbial contaminant whose presence and significance were not previously detected (or were found in far lesser concentrations) in the environment but have the potential to cause adverse ecological and (or) human health effects. Includes: pharmaceutical products, disinfectants, antibiotics, antibiotic resistant genes, some viruses, hormones and endocrine disruptors.	Oppose	The definition is potentially ambiguous, particularly when read in conjunction with the rules and policies relating to the discharge of treated wastewater to land.	Review and rewrite the definition to avoid ambiguity.
	Definition	Existing Discharge: In the context of wastewater discharged into fresh water from a wastewater treatment plant or a wastewater network means a discharge already authorised by resource consent at the time of application for a new resource consent relating to the same activity.	SUPPORT, with Amendments	The proposed definition fails to provide for any minor changes to the existing discharge, or any improvements.	Amend the definition as follows: Existing Discharge: In the context of wastewater discharged into fresh water from a wastewater treatment plant or a wastewater network means a discharge already authorised by resource consent at the time of application for a new resource consent relating to the <u>consented discharge same</u> activity.

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Suggested relief and/or decision on Submission
	Definition	<p>New Discharge: A discharge of wastewater from a wastewater treatment plant not previously authorised by resource consent. In the context of wastewater discharged to fresh water from a wastewater treatment plant or a wastewater network means a discharge not authorised by resource consent at the time of application for a resource consent, or a discharge that was authorised by a resource consent at the time of application for a new consent but is to be increased or otherwise altered by a new resource consent.</p>	OPPOSE	<p>The scope of the definition captures any and all changes to existing discharges and may have the perverse outcome of discouraging or penalising beneficial changes to the treatment or disposal method for existing discharges.</p> <p>The suggested amendments make the definition more consistent with the proposed policy framework.</p>	<p>Amend the definition of New Discharge as follows (deletions in strikethrough, additions <u>underlined</u>):</p> <p>New Discharge: A discharge of wastewater from a wastewater treatment plant not previously authorised by resource consent, and does not include a previously authorised discharge from any part of a wastewater network which has been or is subject to an upgrade, or where the volume of discharge and/or mass load of nutrients and/or concentration of nutrients is proposed to be reduced or maintained at current levels, in the context of wastewater discharged to fresh water from a wastewater treatment plant or a wastewater network means a discharge not authorised by resource consent at the time of application for a resource consent, or a discharge that was authorised by a resource consent at the time of application for a new consent but is to be increased or otherwise altered by a new resource consent.</p>
	Definition	<p>Wastewater Liquid waste (and liquids containing waste solids) from domestic, industrial or commercial premises, including, but not limited to, human effluent, grey water, sewage and trade wastes, but excluding stormwater.</p>	OPPOSE	<p>It is noted that the definition excludes stormwater. The need to manage stormwater separately from wastewater is acknowledged, and Council is actively working towards excluding inflow and infiltration from its wastewater reticulation where possible. However, all municipal wastewater reticulation systems will at some stage and with even the best controls in place contain some stormwater. In this respect, the definition doesn't match reality for all of the region's territorial local authorities, and is inconsistent with the measures anticipated in the policy framework. The words 'but excluding stormwater' are potentially problematic depending on how the rules relating to wastewater are framed. Council requests deletion of the words 'but excluding stormwater'.</p>	<p>Delete the words "but excluding stormwater" from the definition of wastewater.</p>
	Definition	<p>Drain</p>	Oppose	<p>For clarity, the definition of Drain, including for the purpose of Rule R121 should specifically exclude "Water Races"</p>	<p>Insert the following phrase at the end of the existing definition of "Drain"</p> <p><u>"For certainty, a Water Race is not a Drain for the purposes of this Plan"</u>.</p>
	Definition	<p>Stormwater network</p>	Oppose	<p>The definition of Stormwater Network is wide, and effectively includes roads, roadside drains, and water races.</p>	<p>Confirm that the water race network is part of the Stormwater Network for the purpose of this Plan by including "water races" in the list of devices included within the definition.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
37	Objective O2	<i>The importance and contribution of land and water to the social, economic and cultural well-being of the community are recognised.</i>	Oppose with amendments	Objective O2 appropriately recognises the balance of importance of land and water equality to economic, social, and cultural well-being of the community. However, whilst the importance is recognised, the Plan should also specifically require these matters to be 'provided for' in making decisions on resource consent applications	Retain Objective O2 with the addition of the words "and provided for." following the existing text.
37	Objective 5(a)	Objective O5 Fresh water bodies and the coastal marine area, as a minimum, are managed to: (a) safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai, and (b) provide for contact recreation and Māori customary use, and (c) in the case of fresh water, provide for the health needs of people.	Oppose/Amend	The intent of the Objective is supported, that water quality is managed to appropriately safeguard aquatic ecosystem health. It is not clear however that the specific recognition of mahinga kai is necessary in this Objective. Achieving aquatic ecosystem health and access to rivers and lakes (which is provided for throughout the policy framework), in addition to the intent of Objective 5(b) will ensure safeguarding mahinga kai is also achieved.	Delete the words "...and mahinga kai" from Objective 5(a).
38	Objective O5(c)		Support	Provision for the health needs of people is a legislative requirement for District Councils, and it is important and appropriate the regulatory framework recognises this.	Retain Objective 5(c).
38	Objective O6	Sufficient water of a suitable quality is available for the health needs of people.	Support	Provision for the health needs of people is a legislative requirement for District Councils, and it is important and appropriate the regulatory framework recognises this.	Retain Objective O6.
38	Objective O7	Fresh water is available in quantities and is of a suitable quality for the reasonable needs of livestock.	Support	Provision of stock water is an important matter in rural areas such as the Wairarapa. The Wairarapa TLA's provide for this by means including water races. The intent of the objective is supported.	Retain Objective O7
38	Objective O8	The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.	Support	The social and economic benefits of taking and using water are appropriately recognised within this objective as being of equivalent value to environmental and cultural values.	Retain Objective O8
38	Objective O11	Opportunities for Māori customary use of the coastal marine area, rivers and lakes and their margins and natural wetlands for cultural purposes are recognised, maintained and improved.	Oppose	The Objective creates significant uncertainty for Plan users, providing an open-ended requirement to "recognise, maintain, and improve" opportunities for 'Maori customary use' and 'cultural purposes' across every water resource in the Region. This will be very difficult to quantify for planning purposes. See also the submission on the definition of "Maori Customary Use".	Delete Objective O11, or define 'Maori customary use' to provide certainty as to the implications of the definition.

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
38	Objective O12	The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities are recognised.	Amend	The intent of the Objective is supported, that the benefits of regionally significant infrastructure is recognised. It is also necessary for the Plan to "provide for" these benefits in addition to just recognising them. See also the submission of Council seeking the amendment of the definition of Regionally Significant Infrastructure to include local authority road assets.	Retain Objective O12 with the addition of the words "and provided for." following the existing text.
38	Objective O13	The use and ongoing operation of regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities in the coastal marine area are protected from new incompatible development occurring under, over, or adjacent to the infrastructure or activity.	Amend	The wording suggests that only renewable energy generation activities in the coastal marine area should be protected from reverse sensitivity. All regionally significant infrastructure should be protected from reverse sensitivity. In addition, the wording also suggests that only the protection of regionally significant infrastructure from reverse sensitivity from new incompatible use and development occurring "under, over, or adjacent to" the activity. Protection should be provided against all activities, including existing incompatible activities in recognition of the role of regionally significant infrastructure.	Reword Objective O13 to read: <i>The use, and-ongoing operation, and upgrade of regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities in the coastal marine area are protected from new incompatible use and development-occurring-under-,over-,or-adjacent-to the-infrastructure-or-activity."</i>
39	Objective O18	The ecological, recreational, mana whenua, and amenity values of estuaries including their sensitivity as low energy receiving environments are recognised, and their health and function is restored over time.	Support	The intent of the Objective is supported, in particular the recognition that restoration of health and function can appropriately occur over time.	Retain the intent of Objective O18
39	Objective O20	The risk, residual risk, and adverse effects from natural hazards and climate change on people, the community and infrastructure are acceptable.	Oppose	The use of the term "are acceptable" creates significant uncertainty to Plan users in its interpretation. Unacceptable to whom?	Replace the words "are acceptable" with "identified, and where necessary, appropriately managed"
39	Objective O23	The quality of water in the region's rivers, lakes, natural wetlands, groundwater and the coastal marine area is maintained or improved.	Support	Council supports the intent of the Objective. In particular the recognition within the policy that it is appropriate to "maintain or improve" water quality in this respect.	Retain Objective O23.
39	Objective O24 / Table 3.1		Oppose	The inclusion of standards for Maori customary use and toxicants and irritants in table 3.1 is potentially prohibitive. The balance of objectives and policy frameworks provides sufficiently for the management of these potential effects, and the inclusion of them in Objective O24 and Table 3.1 without	Delete the columns for Maori Customary Use and Toxicants and Irritants from Table 3.1 and Objective O24, recognising these are provided for in other Objectives and policies.

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
				<p>interpretive guidance and clear definition creates significant uncertainty for Plan users.</p> <p>In addition the Objective applies at all flows, including flows when contact recreation is unlikely to occur and where other uses of water rely on those higher flows for their effective operation, including Regionally Significant Infrastructure.</p>	<p>Amend Objective O24 and Table 3.1 to confirm that contact recreation standards only apply during periods where contact recreation will occur, for example at flows below 3 x median flow and during the period November - April, or similar.</p>
41	Objective O25		Oppose	<p>By definition mahinga kai will be safeguarded where aquatic ecosystem health is safeguarded. The inclusion of mahinga kai, which by definition includes undefined geographical extents, creates significant uncertainty in the interpretation of the policy framework of the Plan.</p>	<p>Delete "mahinga kai" from Objective O25, or amend the definition of "mahinga kai" to provide absolute certainty to plan users, and delete the "mahinga kai" column from Table 3.4 and Table 3.7.</p>
41	Objective O25 (Note)	<p>Where the relevant <i>whaitua</i> sections of the Plan contain an objective on the same subject matter as Objective O25 (water quality, biological and habitat outcomes), the more specific <i>whaitua</i> objective will take precedence.</p>	Support (with confirmation sought)	<p>Council supports the intent that <i>Whaitua</i> objectives (in regards Obj. O25) take precedence. Council does however seek clarification that this includes a relative relaxing of any standard where that may occur through the <i>Whaitua</i> process.</p>	<p>Delete reference to the <i>Whaitua</i> sections of the Plan until they are confirmed, so the implications can be discussed with Iwi and fully understood, and to avoid replication of plan development process or</p> <p>Confirm within the Plan that where the <i>Whaitua</i> process relaxes relevant standards, with the exception of prescribed National Baselines, those lower standards will apply within the relevant <i>Whaitua</i>.</p>
45	Objective O26	<p>The availability of <i>mahinga kai</i> species to support Māori customary harvest is increased, in quantity, quality and diversity.</p>	Oppose	<p>The Objective as proposed is potentially prohibitive, in particular at a localised level, and is contrary to the provision for beneficial use of water provisions, including in particular as they relate to the health needs of people and provision for the needs of Regionally Significant Infrastructure.</p> <p>The existing Objectives and policies within the Plan provide sufficiently for the intent of this Objective, and it is superfluous.</p>	<p>Delete Objective O26.</p>
45	Objective O27	<p>Vegetated riparian margins are established and maintained.</p>	Oppose	<p>This Objective fails to recognise that there may be situations where establishing riparian planting may be inappropriate or unnecessary, or counterproductive to the requirements of other activities. This is recognised in Policy P31 & P101 which recognise this, and also encourage riparian planting for specific purposes, rather than infer it is compulsory.</p>	<p>Amend Objective O27 to read: "Vegetated riparian margins are established and maintained, where appropriate and necessary."</p>
45	Objective O29	<p>Use and development provides for the passage of fish and koura, and the passage of indigenous fish and koura is restored.</p>	Oppose	<p>This objective requires fish passage to be restored in all waterways. This may not be possible in some situations, and as proposed the Objective fails to recognise the operational requirements of large-scale infrastructure, and the ability within the Plan to the use offsetting, where effects cannot be avoided, remedied, or mitigated.</p>	<p>Amend Objective O29 to read: <i>Where practicable, and beneficial to use and development provide for the passage of fish and koura, and the passage of indigenous fish and koura is restored.</i></p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
45	Objective O31	Outstanding water bodies and their significant values are protected.	Oppose	The Objective as proposed provides a blanket protection, effectively requiring all effects to be avoided. It would be appropriate that this protection be from "inappropriate use and development", similar to natural features and landscapes otherwise the Objective will be very difficult to achieve consistency with.	Amend Objective O31 to read <u>Outstanding water bodies (Schedule A) and their significant values are protected from inappropriate use and development.</u>
45	Objectives O31 – O38		Oppose	Specify the identified features and matters intended to be protected are those identified within the Schedules.	Amend Objectives O31 to O38 (inclusive) to clearly identify that the protective requirements of those provisions only relate to the identified features and matters determined to be of value within that relevant Schedule. Delete and redefine maps to provide certainty as to the extent and location of scheduled items, including provision for reach specific values to be determined, rather than generic values.
46	Objective O46	Discharges to land are managed to reduce the runoff or leaching of contaminants to water.	Oppose	The current Objective requires a continual reduction of runoff or leaching of contaminants to water without any reference to the effects of those contaminants on the receiving water body.	Amend Objective O46 to read as follows: <u>Discharges to land are managed to reduce the adverse effects of runoff or leaching of contaminants to water.</u>
46	Objective O48	Stormwater networks and urban land uses are managed so that the adverse quality and quantity effects of discharges from the networks are improved over time.	Oppose in part	The current objective encapsulates all effects, including temporary and minor effects. The Objective should only apply to effects of significance, not infer a "zero-net effect" outcome is required. The inclusion of the concept of improvement over time is appropriate and supported.	Amend Objective O48 to read as follows: <u>Stormwater networks and urban land uses are managed so that proven inappropriate or significant adverse quality and quantity effects of discharges from the networks are improved over time.</u>
46	Objective O49 & O50	Objective O49 Discharges of wastewater to land are promoted over coastal water.	Support, with amendments	The intent of the Objective is supported. I this important however, that the 'promotion' of land discharge necessarily requires the framework of the Plan not to place impediments on land discharge, including on irrigation of treated effluent to private land for productive use. Currently, the rules relating to land discharge are unnecessarily prescriptive and onerous. This is the specific subject of a separate submission.	Retain Objective O49. Provide a proactive regulatory framework with regards to discharge to land in order to encourage this to occur.
46	Objective O50	Objective O50 Discharges of wastewater to fresh water are progressively reduced.	Support, with amendments	Council understands the intent of Objective O50, and has committed a significant capital programme to do so. However, it must be recognised that there are operational and financial constraints to small communities to reduce wastewater discharges in a short time frame. The intent of the Objective is not opposed, however, the term "progressively reduced" is not defined.	Confirm in the Plan that the term "progressively reduced" does not necessarily mean within the life of this Plan, and can in fact be up to 35 years, where appropriate.

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
47	Objective O53	Use and development in the coastal marine area has a functional or operational requirement to be located there.	Support with amendments	Council has a number of activities, including some Regionally Significant Infrastructure, which has a functional need and operational requirement to be located in the Coastal Marine Area.	Amend Objective O53 to read: <i>Use and development in the coastal marine area has a functional or historical need or operational requirement to be located there.</i>
48	Objective O59	The efficient and safe passage of vessels and aircraft that support the movement of people, goods and services is provided for in the coastal marine area.	Support, with amendments	The efficient and safe passage of aircraft that support the movement of people, goods, and services is equally important at inland air transport infrastructure as in the coastal environment. For example, the Hood Aerodrome in Masterton and the Greytown Gliding Club are substantial existing physical infrastructure supporting this purpose. It is not clear what the intent of this Objective is by restricting this objective to the CMA.	Amend Objective O59 to read: <i>The efficient and safe passage of vessels and aircraft that support the movement of people, goods and services is provided for in the coastal marine area.</i>
49	Policy P1	Land and water resources will be managed recognising ki uta ki tai by using the principles of integrated catchment management. These principles include: (a) decision-making using the catchment as the spatial unit, and (b) applying an adaptive management approach to take into account the dynamic nature and processes of catchments, and (c) coordinated management, with decisions based on best available information, and (d) taking into account the connected nature of resources and natural processes within a catchment, and (e) recognising links between environmental, social, cultural and economic sustainability of the catchment.	Support	The intent of the Plan regarding of integrated management is supported, and in particular the recognition that adaptive management is appropriate, and that social and economic wellbeing are equally recognised.	Retain Policy P1

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
50	Policy P3	Use and development shall be managed with a precautionary approach where there is limited information regarding the receiving environment and the adverse effects the activity may have on this environment.	Support with amendments	The need for a precautionary approach is acknowledged in the absence of relevant information. However, this should be considered in the context of the likely potential effects of the activity on the environment, and the relative risk associated with the proposed activity.	Amend Policy P3 to read: "Where there is a high likelihood and consequence of potential adverse effect, use and development shall be managed taking into account precautionary principles and practices where there is limited information regarding the receiving environment and the adverse effects the activity may have on this environment."
50	Policy P4	Where minimisation of adverse effects is required by policies in the Plan, minimisation means reducing adverse effects of the activity to the smallest amount practicable and shall include: (a) consideration of alternative locations and methods for undertaking the activity that would have less adverse effects, and (b) locating the activity away from areas identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies), Schedule C (mana whenua), Schedule E (historic heritage), Schedule F (indigenous biodiversity), and (c) timing the activity, or the adverse effects of the activity, to avoid times of the year when adverse effects may be more severe, or times when receiving environments are more sensitive to adverse effects, and (d) using good management practices for reducing the adverse	Support, with amendments	Policy P4 assists in the interpretation of the intent of policies where minimisation of effects is required. This is very useful for Plan user certainty, however it is not clear whether this is intended to apply to Objectives (O19, O44), as well as Policies in the Plan. In addition, there is no recognition in Policy P4 criteria of the functional or operational needs of Regionally Significant Infrastructure. It would be appropriate for Policy P4 to recognise this to be consistent with the intent of Objective O12, and O63, as well as the relevant supporting policies. The Policy also fails to consider the economic costs to communities or individuals when considering the alternative locations and methods for "minimising" adverse effects, which is appropriate and necessary under the provisions of the Act.	Amend criteria (a) and insert the following as a new criteria (b), and renumbering as appropriate: "(a) consideration of the effects and benefits arising from using alternative locations and methods for undertaking the activity (including the costs and benefits) that would have less adverse effects, and (b) consideration of the effects of the functional or operational needs of Regionally Significant Infrastructure, and the means by which any identified adverse effects can be practicably avoided, remedied, or mitigated, and;

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>effects of the activity, and</p> <p>(e) designing the activity so that the scale or footprint of the activity is as small as practicable</p>			
50/51	Policy P7	<p>Policy P7: Uses of land and water</p> <p>Section 4</p> <p>The cultural, social and economic benefits of using land and water for:</p> <p>(a) aquaculture, and</p> <p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(c) industrial processes and commercial uses associated with the potable water supply network, and</p> <p>(d) community and domestic water supply, and</p> <p>(e) electricity generation, and</p> <p>(f) food production and harvesting, and</p> <p>(g) gravel extraction from rivers for flood protection and control purposes, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p> <p>(i) firefighting, and</p> <p>(j) contact recreation and Maori customary use, and</p> <p>(k) transport along, and access to, water bodies shall be recognised.</p>	Support with amendments.	<p>The recognition of the cultural, social and economic benefits of using land and water is supported. It is however considered that the current framework elevates all environmental benefits above these through 'recognising' these benefits, rather than 'recognising and providing for' them. It is considered that the policy should also provide for these benefits to be consistent with Section 5 of the Act.</p>	<p>Amend P7(k) to read:</p> <p><i>Transportation, including along, and access to, water bodies</i></p> <p>Amend the last phrase of Policy P7 to read "<i>...shall be recognised and provided for</i>"</p>
52	Policy P9	<p>Reduction in the extent or quality of public access to and along the coastal marine area and the beds of lakes and rivers shall be avoided except where it is necessary to:</p>	Support, with amendments	<p>Policy P9(b) recognises that the need to protect public health and safety can require the restriction of access to the CMA and the beds of lakes and rivers. This is a particularly relevant matter where Regionally Significant Infrastructure, and is supported.</p>	<p>Retain Policy P9(b), and amend the last paragraph of Policy P9 to read as follows:</p> <p><i>"...with respect to (a), (b) and (c), where it is necessary to permanently restrict or remove existing public access, the loss of public access shall be mitigated or offset by providing enhanced</i></p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>(a) protect the values of estuaries, sites with significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C (mana whenua), sites with significant historic heritage value identified in Schedule E (historic heritage) and sites with significant indigenous biodiversity value identified in Schedule F (indigenous biodiversity), or</p> <p>(b) protect public health and safety, or</p> <p>(c) provide for a temporary activity such as construction, a recreation or cultural event or stock movement, and where the temporary restrictions shall be for no longer than reasonably necessary before access is fully reinstated, and with respect to (a), (b) and (c), where it is necessary to permanently restrict or remove existing public access, the loss of public access shall be mitigated or offset by providing enhanced public access at a similar or nearby location.</p>		<p>The Policy also however compulsorily requires mitigation or offset where access is restricted. This compulsion is inappropriate, particularly for local authorities who provide and maintain significant public access and recreational resources across their district, at significant cost. The policy as drafted does not enable consideration of these existing activities, potentially requiring additional areas of access to be established, or enhanced. This could be a considerable and unnecessary expense to local communities.</p>	<p>public access at a similar or nearby location where a practicable alternative does not already exist."</p>
53	Policy P12	<p>The benefits of regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities are recognised by having regard to:</p>	Support, with amendment.	<p>The recognition and requirement to have regard to functional need and operational requirements associated with Regionally Significant Infrastructure is supported.</p>	<p>Retain Policy P12, with the addition of the words "the functional need and..." before "operational requirements..." in P12(e)</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>(a) the strategic integration of infrastructure and land use, and</p> <p>(b) the location of existing infrastructure and structures, and</p> <p>(c) the need for renewable energy generation activities to locate where the renewable energy resources exist, and</p> <p>(d) the functional need for port activities to be located within the coastal marine area, and</p> <p>(e) operational requirements associated with developing, operating, maintaining and upgrading regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities.</p>			
53	Policy P13	The use, operation, maintenance, and upgrade of existing regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities are beneficial and generally appropriate.	Support	It is appropriate that the Plan recognise the benefits and appropriateness of regionally significant infrastructure.	Retain Policy P13.
53	Policy P14	Regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities shall be protected from new incompatible use and development occurring under, over or adjacent to it, by locating and designing any new use and development to avoid,	Support, with amendments	The intent of Policy P14 is supported, but it is unclear why the protection should only be from new activities, rather than all activities. It is appropriate that existing activities which are changing their character, intensity, or scale should also be considered in terms of potential reverse sensitivity effects.	<p>Retain the intent of Policy P14, but amend to read as follows:</p> <p>Regionally significant infrastructure and renewable energy generation activities shall be protected from new incompatible use and development occurring under, over or adjacent to it, by locating and designing any new or changing use and development to avoid, remedy or mitigate any reverse sensitivity effects.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
53	Policy P15	remedy or mitigate any reverse sensitivity effects. The use, maintenance and ongoing operation of existing catchment based flood and erosion risk management activities which manage the risk of flooding to people, property, infrastructure and communities are beneficial and generally appropriate.	Support	The recognition of the protection of people, communities, and infrastructure is supported.	Retain Policy P15
54	Policy P16	Policy P16: New flood protection and erosion control The social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of new catchment based flood and erosion risk management activities are recognised.	Support with amendments	The protection of social, cultural, economic, and environmental benefits from large scale flood and erosion risk are important, and the policy is supported.	Retain Policy P16, with the addition of the following at the end of the existing policy "... and provided for."
56	Policy P27	Policy P27: High hazard areas Use and development, including hazard mitigation methods, in high hazard areas shall be avoided except where: (a) they have a functional need or operational requirement or there is no practicable alternative to be so located, and (b) the risk to the development and/or residual risk after hazard mitigation measures, assessed using a risk-based approach, is low, and (c) the development does not cause or exacerbate	Support, with amendments.	The recognition of functional need or operational requirement in P27(a) is supported. In terms of P27(b), it is accepted that a risk-based approach is reasonable, however there may be situations where a level of risk greater than "low" is acceptable. The Plan should recognise these situations. In terms of P27(c), the proposed policy is an absolute with the inclusion of the term "does not". The policy should recognise that there may be situations where prioritisation of protection may be reasonable and necessary.	Amend Policy P27(a) to read: <i>they have a functional need or historical need, or operational requirement or there is no practicable alternative to be so located, and</i> Amend Policy P27(b) to read: <i>the risk to the development and/or residual risk after hazard mitigation measures, assessed using a risk-based approach, is acceptable low, and</i> Amend Policy P27(c) to read: <i>the development, unless unavoidable, and as far as is practicable in the specific circumstances, does not cause or exacerbate natural hazards in other areas, and</i>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
57	Policy P28	<p>natural hazards in other areas, and</p> <p>(d) interference with natural processes (coastal, fluvial and lacustrine processes) is minimised, and</p> <p>(e) natural cycles of erosion and accretion and the potential for natural features to fluctuate in position over time, including movements due to climate change and sea level rise, are taken into account.</p>	Oppose	<p>The policy as drafted fails to recognise the capital and operational cost of the default expectation of alternative hazard mitigation (i.e. avoid hard engineering) in particular in the coastal environment. The policy also fails to recognise the functional need of Regionally Significant Infrastructure in the coastal environment, as does the definition of 'risk' and 'risk-based approach' in interpreting this policy. In addition, the Policy fails to recognise engineering mitigation which is programmed or planned by road control authority, for which an equal amount of certainty is required.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P28 to read:</p> <p><i>Hard engineering mitigation and protection methods shall be avoided except where it is necessary to protect existing and planned for development from unacceptable risk, assessed using the risk-based approach, and the works either form part of a hazard management strategy or the works are required to protect the safe and efficient operation of Regionally Significant Infrastructure, or the environmental effects are considered to be acceptable. Taking into account the assessment of risk no more than three.</i></p>
59	Policy P33	<p>Policy P33: Protecting indigenous fish habitat</p> <p>The more than minor adverse effects of activities on the species known to be present in any water body identified in Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes) as habitat for indigenous fish species, and Schedule F1b (manga spawning habitats), particularly at the relevant spawning and migration times identified in Schedule F1a (fish spawning/migration)</p>	Oppose	<p>The policy sets an unnecessarily high bar with the policy direction to 'avoid' any effects which are more than minor. This is inconsistent with the approach adopted in Policy P32 which sets out a cascading policy framework of avoiding significant adverse effects, and remedying, mitigating, or offsetting other adverse effects.</p>	<p>Rewrite Policy P33 to provide for a cascading of intervention which is relevant to the significance of actual or potential adverse effect.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
60	Policy P41	<p>those species, shall be avoided. These activities include the following:</p> <p>(a) discharges of contaminants, including sediment, and</p> <p>(b) disturbance of the bed or banks that would significantly affect spawning habitat at peak times of the year, and</p> <p>(c) damming, diversion or taking of water which leads to significant loss of flow or which makes the river impassable to migrating indigenous fish.</p>	Oppose	<p>Policy P40 seeks protection and restoration of ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values (identified in Schedule F1). The approach is supported as being reasonable.</p> <p>Policy P41 seeks that activities other than those carried out in accordance with a restoration management plan avoid, in the first instance, the habitats. The policy then provides for the 'cascading' approach whereby adverse effects that are more than minor are remedied, then mitigated, then offset – but only if the ecosystem or habitat 'cannot be avoided'.</p> <p>The cascading policy framework is supported. If the Plan is to retain the concept of "minimising" effects, this should also be incorporated into the Policy.</p>	<p>Amend paragraph 1 of Policy P41 to read:</p> <p><i>In order to protect the ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in Policy P40, in the first instance activities, other than activities carried out in accordance with a restoration management plan, shall, as far as is practicable, and within a reasonable timeframe, avoid these ecosystems and habitats.</i></p> <p>and,</p> <p>Amend the last paragraph of Policy P41 to read</p> <p><i>Where more than minor adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in Policy P40 cannot be avoided, remedied, mitigated, minimised or redressed through biodiversity offsets, the activity is inappropriate.</i></p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>be avoided, remedying them, and</p> <p>(c) where more than minor adverse effects cannot be remedied, mitigating them, and</p> <p>(d) where residual adverse effects remain it is appropriate to consider the use of biodiversity offsets.</p> <p>Proposals for mitigation and biodiversity offsets will be assessed against the principles listed in Schedule G (biodiversity offsetting). A precautionary approach shall be used when assessing the potential for adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values.</p> <p>Where more than minor adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in Policy P40 cannot be avoided, remedied, mitigated or redressed through biodiversity offsets, the activity is inappropriate.</p>	Neutral, with amendments	<p>The intent of the policy is acknowledged, and the commitment of MDC and SWDC to work towards them is reiterated, however the Plan must also acknowledge that achieving these standards and developing strategies will take time and will have potentially significant economic impacts on small communities. Some context is also required to enable interpretation to the policy regarding the extent of effect in order to ensure the policy is not read unnecessarily restrictively, i.e. to avoid all effects, especially those which are insignificant</p>	
	Policy P62 & P63	<p>Policy P62: Promoting maimaiti discharges to land</p> <p>The discharge of contaminants to land is promoted over direct discharges to water, particularly where there are significant adverse effects on:</p> <p>(a) aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai, or</p>	Neutral, with amendments	<p>The intent of the policy is acknowledged, and the commitment of MDC and SWDC to work towards them is reiterated, however the Plan must also acknowledge that achieving these standards and developing strategies will take time and will have potentially significant economic impacts on small communities. Some context is also required to enable interpretation to the policy regarding the extent of effect in order to ensure the policy is not read unnecessarily restrictively, i.e. to avoid all effects, especially those which are insignificant</p>	<p>Retain the recognition that significant improvements will take time for small communities, including in particular inserting recognition that this will likely not be achieved within the lifetime of this Plan.</p> <p>and,</p> <p>Amend Policy 62 and 63 as outlined below</p> <p>Policy P62: Promoting discharges to land maimaiti</p> <p>The discharge of contaminants to land is promoted over direct discharges to water.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>(b) contact recreation and Māori customary use.</p> <p>Policy P63: Improving water quality for contact recreation and Māori customary use</p> <p>The water quality of water bodies identified as priorities for improvement for contact recreation and Māori customary use in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) shall be improved to meet, over time and as a minimum, the objectives in Table 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3, including by:</p> <p>(a) improving water quality in all first priority water bodies for secondary contact with water in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) in accordance with Method M27, and</p> <p>(b) Stormwater Management Strategies having particular regard to improving water quality in fresh water bodies and coastal water identified in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) that are known to have significant adverse effects by discharges from stormwater networks, and</p> <p>(c) having particular regard to improving water quality in fresh water bodies and coastal water identified in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) that are significantly adversely affected by discharges from wastewater networks and</p>			<p>particularly where there are significant adverse effects on:</p> <p>(d) aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai, or</p> <p>(e) contact recreation and Māori customary use.</p> <p>Policy P63: Improving water quality for contact recreation and Māori customary use</p> <p>The water quality of water bodies identified as priorities for improvement for contact recreation and Māori customary use in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) shall be improved to meet, over time and as a minimum, the objectives in Table 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3, including by:</p> <p>(f) improving water quality in all first priority water bodies for secondary contact with water in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) in accordance with Method M27, and</p> <p>(g) Stormwater Management Strategies having particular regard to improving water quality in fresh water bodies and coastal water identified in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) that are known to have significant adverse effects by discharges from stormwater networks, and</p> <p>(h) having particular regard to improving water quality in fresh water bodies and coastal water identified in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) that are significantly adversely affected by discharges from wastewater networks and wastewater treatment plants.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
69	Policy P70 & 71	<p>wastewater treatment plants.</p> <p>Note <i>Whaitua</i> committees will identify methods and timeframes to improve water quality in all first and second priority water bodies listed in Schedule H2 (priority water bodies) within their <i>whaitua</i>. These may be incorporated into the Plan by a future plan change or variation.</p> <p>Policy P70: Managing point source discharges for aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai</p> <p>Where an objective in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 of Objective O25 is not met, point source discharges to water shall be managed in the following way:</p> <p>(a) for an existing activity that contributes to the objective not being met, the discharge is only appropriate if:</p> <p>(i) the application for resource consent includes a defined programme of work for upgrading the activity, in accordance with good management practice, including at least some reduction in actual effects within the term of the resource consent, and</p> <p>(ii) conditions on the resource consent require the reduction of adverse effects of the activity in order to improve/reduce the actual effects—or water quality from the discharge in relation to the objective within the term of the consent in comparison to proven adverse effects, and</p> <p>(b) for a new activity, the discharge is only appropriate if the activity would not directly cause the water quality within the cause-the affected receiving fresh water body or area of coastal water to be further from the water quality parameters identified within become any—in relation to the objective, in comparison to the situation existing at the time of application.</p>	<p>Oppose</p> <p>There are ambiguities within these proposed policies which may result in interpretation being particularly, and unnecessarily, restrictive.</p> <p>In addition, the water quality standards will generate significant monitoring costs. Whilst the Councils acknowledge that reasonable monitoring is required, Policy P71 introduces significant costs, in particular with regards to QMCI monitoring. QMCI monitoring is very expensive to undertake, and the policy will effectively force this monitoring upon every individual discharge.</p> <p>The Councils consider this could more reasonably be provided on a catchment basis, undertaken by WRC as part of its wider general reporting and State of the Environment reporting, rather than on each individual discharge.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P70 to read as follows:</p> <p>Where an objective in Table 3.4, Table 3.5, Table 3.6 or Table 3.8 of Objective O25 is not met, point source discharges to water shall be managed in the following way:</p> <p>(a) for an existing activity discharge that contributes to the objective not being met, the discharge is only appropriate if:</p> <p>(i) the application for resource consent includes a defined programme of work for upgrading the activity, in accordance with good management practice, including at least some reduction in actual effects within the term of the resource consent, and</p> <p>(ii) conditions on the resource consent require the reduction of adverse effects of the activity in order to improve/reduce the actual effects—or water quality from the discharge in relation to the objective within the term of the consent in comparison to proven adverse effects, and</p> <p>(b) for a new activity, the discharge is only appropriate if the activity would not directly cause the water quality within the cause-the affected receiving fresh water body or area of coastal water to be further from the water quality parameters identified within become any—in relation to the objective, in comparison to the situation existing at the time of application.</p>	

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>within the term of the consent, and</p> <p>(b) for a new activity, the discharge is only appropriate if the activity would not cause the affected fresh water body or area of coastal water to become any worse in relation to the objective.</p> <p>In assessing the appropriateness of a new or existing discharge, the ability to offset residual adverse effects may be considered.</p> <p>Policy P71: Quality of discharges</p> <p>The adverse effects of point source discharges to rivers shall be minimised by the use of measures that, as far as reasonably practicable, result in the discharge meeting the following water quality standards in the receiving water after the zone of reasonable mixing:</p> <p>(a) below the discharge point compared to above the discharge point:</p> <p>(i) a decrease in the Quantitative Macroinvertebrate Community Index of no more than 20%, and</p> <p>(ii) a change in pH of no more than ± 0.5, and</p> <p>(iii) a decrease in water clarity of no more than:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. 20% in River class 1, or 33% in River classes 2 to 6, and <p>(iv) a change in temperature of no more than:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. 2°C in River classes 1 or 2, or 2°C in any river identified as having high macroinvertebrate community health in Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes), or 3°C in any other river, and <p>(b) a 7-day mean minimum dissolved oxygen concentration of no lower than 5mg/L, and</p> <p>(c) a daily minimum dissolved oxygen concentration of no lower than 4mg/L.</p> <p>All water quality standards apply at all flows except (a)(iii) which applies at less than median flows, (a) applies at all times of the year, (b) and</p>			<p>In assessing the appropriateness of a new or existing discharge, the ability to offset residual adverse effects may be considered.</p> <p>Amend Policy P71 as follows:</p> <p>Policy P71: Quality of discharges</p> <p>The adverse effects of point source discharges to rivers shall be minimised by the use of measures that, as far as reasonably practicable, result in the discharge meeting the following water quality standards in the receiving water after the zone of reasonable mixing:</p> <p>(a) below the discharge point compared to above the discharge point:</p> <p>(i) a decrease in the Quantitative Macroinvertebrate Community Index of no more than 20%, and</p> <p>(ii) a change in pH of no more than ± 0.5, and</p> <p>(iii) a decrease in water clarity of no more than:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. 20% in River class 1, or 33% in River classes 2 to 6, and <p>(iv) a change in temperature of no more than:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. 2°C in River classes 1 or 2, or 2°C in any river identified as having high macroinvertebrate community health in Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes), or 3°C in any other river, and <p>(b) a 7-day mean minimum dissolved oxygen concentration of no lower than 5mg/L, and</p> <p>(c) a daily minimum dissolved oxygen concentration of no lower than 4mg/L.</p> <p>All water quality standards apply at all flows except (a)(iii) which applies at less than median flows, (a) applies at all times of the year, (b) and</p>

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		<p>33% in River classes 2 to 6, and</p> <p>(iv) a change in temperature of no more than:</p> <p>1. 2°C in River classes 1 or 2, or</p> <p>2°C in any river identified as having high macroinvertebrate community health in Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes), or</p> <p>3°C in any other river, and</p> <p>(b) a 7-day mean minimum dissolved oxygen concentration of no lower than 5mg/L, and</p> <p>(c) a daily minimum dissolved oxygen concentration of no lower than 4mg/L.</p> <p>All water quality standards apply at all flows except (a)(iii) which applies at less than median flows, (a) applies at all times of the year, (b) and (c) apply only between 1 November and 30 April each year.</p>	OPOSE	This suite of policies imposes a significant work programme on TLA's over a short timeframe, providing the rationale and framework for the stormwater network consents rules. The policies (and rules) do not integrate particularly well with "Other Method M15 – Regional Stormwater Working Group", effectively putting all responsibility for reducing the effects (actual or perceived) of stormwater discharge back to the TLA's.	<p>(c) apply only between 1 November and 30 April each year.</p> <p>Standard (a)(i) above is a target only to be used in State of the Environment Monitoring on a catchment basis by WRC on a catchment basis and will not be applied as a condition of consent to individual discharges, or used specifically for compliance of enforcement purposes.</p>
70	Policy P73-P79	Stormwater policies,			<p>Delete Policy P74, P75, and P76</p> <p>Rename P78 to "Managing Stormwater from a port, airport, or state highway"</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
74	Policy P83	<p>P83: Avoiding new wastewater discharges to fresh water</p> <p>New discharges of wastewater to fresh water are avoided.</p>	Oppose	<p>The current framework is highly regulatory, and there is no detail on how Method M15 would be implemented but GWRC. Until that is clarified, the existing regulatory framework for stormwater network consents should be opposed in its entirety. It simply devolves all responsibility to TLA's. A request for Method M15 (Stormwater Working Group) to be the principle method for stormwater management would be appropriate, lead by the Regional Council and recognising the specific needs of rural urban centre network managements.</p> <p>Also recommend a submission to seek renaming of Policy P78 from "Managing stormwater from large sites" to "Managing stormwater from a port, airport, or state highway" to better reflect its subject matter and intent.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P83 to read:</p> <p><u>Significant adverse effects from New discharges of wastewater to fresh water are avoided, as far as is practicable.</u></p>
75	Policy P85	<p>Policy P85: Biosolids and treated wastewater to land</p> <p>The adverse effects on fresh water, including groundwater and coastal water and on soil from the application of biosolids or treated wastewater to land shall be minimised. The application of biosolids shall be managed in accordance with Guidelines for the safe application of biosolids to land in New Zealand, 2003.</p>	Oppose	<p>The Standard contained within the policy is too stringent, containing the highest standards in the world. As written it is unworkable, and as a result it is currently being reviewed.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P85 to read:</p> <p><u>The adverse effects on fresh water, including groundwater and coastal water and on soil from the application of biosolids or treated wastewater to land shall be minimised, or avoided, remedied, or mitigated. The application of biosolids shall be managed in accordance with Guidelines for the safe application of biosolids to land in New Zealand, 2003.</u></p>
77	Policy P95	<p>Policy P95: Discharges to land</p> <p>The discharge of contaminants to land shall be managed by:</p> <p>(a) ensuring the discharge does not result in more than minor adverse effects to soil health, and</p> <p>(b) avoiding discharges that would create contaminated land, and</p>	Oppose	<p>The policy as written, when read in conjunction with the definitions, is ambiguous and provides uncertainty.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P95 to remove ambiguities, including redefining key terms, as outlined earlier in this submission.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
78	Policy P99	<p>(c) not exceeding the natural capacity of the soil to treat, use or remove the contaminant, and</p> <p>(d) not exceeding the available capacity of the soil to absorb and infiltrate the discharge, and</p> <p>(e) minimising effects on public health and amenity, and</p> <p>(f) not resulting in a discharge that enters water.</p> <p>Policy P99: Livestock access to surface water bodies and Sedimentation, the direct discharge of contaminants and the disturbance to the banks and beds (including plants and habitats in, on or under the bed) of surface water bodies and the coastal marine area resulting from livestock access shall be managed to:</p> <p>(a) protect aquatic habitat and water quality, and</p> <p>(b) protect the significant values of Category 1 surface water bodies.</p> <p>Where livestock are not excluded from the bed (including the banks) of surface water bodies, the adverse effects of access are avoided, remedied or mitigated by methods, such as, but not limited to:</p> <p>(c) restricting the types of livestock, and</p> <p>(d) restricting the numbers of animals, and</p>	Oppose	<p>This policy is restrictive by nature and is contrary to the purpose for which the Waitarapa plains water race network was established. Of particular concern is the cost to Councils and landowners of restricting access, but also the availability of alternative water supply to those in fully or over allocated catchments.</p> <p>The policy is definitive stating disturbance shall be managed to protect aquatic habitat and water quality, which could be cost prohibitive to Council when renewing water race takes.</p> <p>It then however provides a management regime for stock access where exclusion is not provided. This could create uncertainty.</p> <p>This does need discussion however, as water for stock watering purposes is available under the rules of the plan in all catchments, albeit at a cost.</p> <p>Consider a submission inserting a stock access criteria which recognises the purpose of the water race. GW unlikely to accept this – needs a decision on how hard you each want to push on protecting the functional purpose of water races.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P99 by inserting a new Policy P99(g) after P99(f), as follows:</p> <p>(f) <u>providing sufficient alternative sources of drinking water, shade and grazing outside of the banks and beds, or</u></p> <p>(g) <u>in the case of a water race limiting the intensity, frequency, and duration of stock access to the extent practicable.</u></p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
79	Policy P101	<p>(e) limiting the density, frequency and duration of access, and</p> <p>(f) providing sufficient alternative sources of drinking water, shade and grazing outside of the banks and beds.</p> <p>Policy P101: Management of riparian margins</p> <p><i>In order to maintain or restore aquatic ecosystem health and natural character, and reduce the amount of sediments and nutrients entering surface water bodies, good management of riparian margins shall be encouraged including:</i></p> <p>(a) the exclusion of livestock, and</p> <p>(b) the planting of appropriate riparian vegetation, and</p> <p>(c) the management of pest plants and animals.</p>	Oppose	<p>The Council's have raised concerns regarding the extent of riparian planting and maintenance this policy may require, in particular where operationally required. The policy does only "encourage" these practices, but there is a (small) risk it could be interpreted as more of an operational requirement when considered in conjunction with policies regarding protection of aquatic ecosystem health and natural character, and also require offset of effects where this "encouragement" is not taken up.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P101 to read as follows:</p> <p><i>In order to maintain or restore aquatic ecosystem health and natural character, and reduce the amount of sediments and nutrients entering surface water bodies, unless there is a specific functional or historic need or operational requirement not to, good management of riparian margins shall be encouraged including:</i></p> <p>(a) the exclusion of livestock, and</p> <p>(b) the planting of appropriate riparian vegetation, and</p> <p>(c) the management of pest plants and animals.</p>
79	Policy P102	<p>Policy P102: Reclamation or drainage of the beds of lakes and rivers</p> <p>The reclamation or drainage of the beds of lakes and rivers and natural wetlands shall be avoided except where the reclamation or drainage is:</p> <p>(a) partial reclamation of a river bank for the purposes of flood prevention or erosion control, or</p> <p>(b) associated with a qualifying development</p>	Oppose	<p>Policy P102(d) is appropriate and necessary for the efficient and effective delivery of Regionally Significant Infrastructure.</p> <p>For the sake of certainty however, it is recommended that the wording be slightly amended to include maintaining access to Regionally Significant Infrastructure.</p>	<p>Amend Policy P102(d) as follows (additions underlined):</p> <p>necessary to enable the development, operation, maintenance and/or upgrade of <u>regionally significant infrastructure</u> (including access to <u>regionally significant infrastructure</u>), or</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>within a special housing area, or</p> <p>(c) associated with a growth and/or development framework or strategy approved by a local authority under the Local Government Act 2002, or</p> <p>(d) necessary to enable the development, operation, maintenance and upgrade of regionally significant infrastructure, or</p> <p>(e) associated with the creation of a new river bed and does not involve piping of the river, and</p> <p>(f) in respect of (a) to (e) there are no other practicable alternative methods of providing for the activity, or</p> <p>(g) the reclamation or drainage is of an ephemeral flow path.</p> <p>For the purpose of this policy the piping or covering of a stream for a distance greater than that required to form a reasonable crossing point is considered to be reclamation of the river bed.</p>			
80	Policy P103	<p>Policy P103: Management of gravel extraction</p> <p>The extraction of gravel, sand or rock from the beds of rivers shall be managed so that:</p> <p>(a) the extraction does not result in an increase in flooding or erosion either at the site of extraction or across the wider river catchment.</p>	SUPPORT	The Policy appropriately recognises the appropriate extraction of gravel.	Retain Policy P103

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>including any erosion of existing structures, and</p> <p>(b) the flow of sediment and gravel to the coast is not reduced to the extent it would contribute to coastal erosion, and</p> <p>(c) the rate of gravel extraction does not exceed the natural rates of gravel deposition, unless this is required to manage aggradation.</p>			
84	Policy P115	<p><i>Policy P115: Authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</i></p> <p><i>The take and use of water may be authorised below minimum flows or lake levels established in whatia chapters of the Plan (chapters 7-11) for:</i></p> <p>(a) <i>the health needs of people as part of group drinking water supply or community drinking water supply, and</i></p> <p>(b) <i>the water used by industry from a community drinking water supply for a period of seven years from the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</i></p> <p>(c) <i>permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the</i></p>		Support the intent of Policy P115(a) to prioritise the health needs of people and community water drinking supplies.	Retain Policy 115(a).

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p> <p>(ii) the amount of water needed shall be determined following consideration of the extent and type of crop(s) and the risk of crop death in drought situations, and</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(e) category B groundwater (directly connected), category B groundwater (not directly connected) and category C groundwater.</p>			
84	Policy P118	<p>Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use</p> <p>The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of:</p>	Oppose	<p>The proposed Policy introduces a time component which is unnecessary and unreasonable within the policy framework, being 4 years for existing users. Schedule Q should contain any timeframes for application of efficient use (refer separate submission on Schedule Q).</p>	<p>Amend Policy P118(a) to read:</p> <p>(e) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>(a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made operative to meet the criteria, and</p> <p>(b) maximising the efficient use of water when designing systems to convey or apply water, and</p> <p>(c) industry guidelines, and</p> <p>(d) water use records.</p>			<p>the plan being made operative to meet the criteria, and</p>
87	Policy P132	<p>Policy P132: Functional need and efficient use criteria</p> <p>Use and development in the coastal marine area shall:</p> <p>(a) have a functional need, or</p> <p>(b) have an operational requirement to locate within the coastal marine area, and no reasonable or practicable alternative to locating in the coastal marine area, or</p> <p>(c) for any other activity, it shall have no reasonable or practicable alternative to locating in the coastal marine area, and in respect of (a), (b) and (c):</p> <p>(d) only use the minimum area necessary, and</p>	Support, with amendments.	<p>The intent of the policy is supported, but recognition must also be made where there is a need determined by historic asset decisions, which still have a functional need and provide the best practicable option or avoid unnecessary costs being incurred unnecessarily.</p>	<p>Retain Policy P132, with the following amendments:</p> <p>Policy P132: <u>Functional</u>, <u>historical need</u> and <u>efficient use</u></p> <p>Use and development in the coastal marine area shall:</p> <p>(a) have a <u>functional need</u> or <u>historical need</u>, or</p> <p>...</p>

PNRP Page No.	Submission Reference	Policy or Provision	Support / Oppose	Reasons for Submission	Relief Sought
		<p>(e) be made available for public or multiple use where appropriate, and</p> <p>(f) result in the removal of structures once redundant, and</p> <p>(g) concentrate in locations where similar use and development already exists where practicable.</p>			
89	Policy P139	<p>Policy P139: Seawalls</p> <p>The construction of a new seawall is inappropriate except where the seawall is required to protect:</p> <p>(a) existing, or upgrades to, infrastructure, or</p> <p>(b) new regionally significant infrastructure, and in respect of (a) and (b):</p> <p>(c) there is no reasonable or practicable alternative means, and</p> <p>(d) suitably located, designed and certified by a qualified, professional engineer, and</p> <p>(e) designed to incorporate the use of soft engineering options where appropriate.</p>	Support		Retain Policy P139

PART 'D': RULES

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
94	Rule Interpretation (each chapter)	Each Chapter of the Plan starts by providing that: "If an activity is covered by more than one rule, then the rule that applies is the rule that is more specific for the relevant activity, area or resource. This does not apply where a proposal includes a number of activities which trigger separate specific rules. In that case, all rules are considered when assessing the proposal."	Support intent, with request to clarify implementation.	The intent of ensuring unintended consent applications are not required where there is uncertainty in rule interpretation is supported. However this statement as drafted provides no certainty to plan users regarding the process to determine which rule is "more specific". In particular it is not clear how the more specific activity, area or resource would be determined; the relative relevance or priority of the activity against "area" against "resource"; and whether rules developed through a whatua process would become "more relevant", and under what circumstances.	That the Plan be amended to provide certainty as to the intent of the relative prioritisation of determining "more specific"
107	Rule R27	Rule R27: Handling of aggregate – permitted activity The discharge of contaminants into air from the handling of aggregate (rock, sand and shingle) including blasting, extraction, crushing, screening, processing, stockpiling, handling, conveyance and storage is a permitted activity, provided the following condition is met: (a) the discharge shall not cause noxious, dangerous, offensive or objectionable odour, dust, particulate, smoke, vapours, droplets or ash beyond the boundary of the property.	Support intent, with request to clarify implementation.	The intent of this Rule is supported. What is not clear from the rule however is how gravel extraction activities in riverbeds are provided for by this rule under the definition of "property". For the sake of certainty this should be clarified.	That R27(a) is amended as follows (additions in underline: (a) <u>the discharge shall not cause noxious, dangerous, offensive or objectionable odour, dust, particulate, smoke, vapours, droplets or ash beyond the boundary of the property, or</u> (b) <u>where the discharge emanates from a riverbed, the discharge shall not cause noxious, dangerous, offensive or objectionable odour, dust, particulate, smoke, vapours, droplets or ash within 500m of the activity.</u> or an alternative relief with the same intent.
107	Rule R31	Rule R31: Food, animal or plant matter manufacturing and processing – discretionary activity The discharge of contaminants into air from food, animal or plant matter manufacturing and processing including: (c) drying of milk products to produce milk powders of more than 2 tonnes per hour, or (d) extraction, distillation or purification of vegetable oils or fats, or (e) manufacture of animal casings, or (f) manufacture of yeast or starch, or	Oppose	The Plan does not define "food, animal, or plant matter manufacturing and processing" and the use of the word "including" means the list is not exclusive, and therefore the rule becomes a catch-all discretionary activity rule for food processing. As currently proposed, this rule would, in practice, potentially require every cooking activity except those provided for specifically under R29 & R30, including a domestic meal, to require a resource consent. If the intent of the rule is to regulate large-scale commercial processing activities, then appropriate thresholds need to be determined with industry, and a permitted activity rule included in the Plan. The unnecessary regulation of domestic and small-business activities is opposed.	That the following is provided: Include a new permitted activity Rule as a default activity for small scale and domestic discharges to air, and Confirm the thresholds at which the Discretionary Activity status applies for Rule R31 ; and Confirm how this regulation is intended to integrate with local authority by-laws and regulatory function.

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
108	Rule R34	<p>(g) preservation of animal hides or skins or the removal of hair, wool or feathers (including tanneries and fellmongeries) by chemical or heat treatment, or</p> <p>(h) refinement of sugars, roasting or drying of berries, grains or plant matter (except roasting of green coffee beans in Rule R30), curing by smoking, flour or grain milling, baking, roasting, deep fat or oil frying exceeding 250kg/hour of product, or</p> <p>(i) rendering, reduction or drying of animal matter through the application of heat, or</p> <p>(j) wool scouring operations or dag washing is a discretionary activity.</p>	Support	<p>It is also unclear as to how this regulation is intended to integrate with existing TLA bylaws and regulatory functions.</p> <p>Support the intent of this rule.</p>	Retain rule R34 and its intent.
117	Rule R45	<p>Rule R34: Gas, water and wastewater – discrete permitted activity The discharge of contaminants into air from the storage, conveyance and pumping of gas, water and wastewater is a permitted activity, provided the following condition is met:</p> <p>(a) the discharge shall not cause offensive or objectionable odour at the boundary of a sensitive activity.</p> <p>The discharge of potable water, including scouring water, into water, or onto or into land where it may enter water, for the purpose of draining pipelines or water reservoirs for inspection, repair, maintenance or upgrade is a permitted activity provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(a) if the discharge is to a tidally-influenced environment, the discharge occurs during the time between three hours before and three hours after high tide, unless the discharge occurs directly into</p>		<p>The Standards for free or combined residual chlorine (c) are too stringent. The NZ Drinking Water standard contains a recommended range for drinking water of 0.6 – 1.0g/m³.</p> <p>The current permitted activity standard is unachievable.</p>	<p>Amend Rule R45 (c) to read</p> <p><i>the concentration of free or combined residual chlorine in the discharge shall not exceed 1.50-3g/m³, and</i></p>

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
		<p>open water without disturbing sediment, and</p> <p>(b) the discharge shall not contain backwash water from a water treatment plant, and</p> <p>(c) the concentration of free or combined residual chlorine in the discharge shall not exceed 0.3g/m³, and</p> <p>(d) the concentration of fluoride in the discharge shall not exceed 1.5g/m³, and</p> <p>(e) the discharge shall not cause any conspicuous change in the colour or visual clarity in the receiving water after the zone of reasonable mixing, and</p> <p>(f) the discharge shall not cause any erosion of the channel or banks of the receiving water body or the coastal marine area.</p>			
120	Rule R50 & R51	Rules relating to a stormwater discharge from territorial authority network.	Oppose	<p>The regulatory controls impose a significant work programme on local authorities in the Wairarapa. It is not clear what the intent of this regulatory framework is, and in particular what effects it is intended to avoid, remedy, or mitigate in Wairarapa waterways. The scale and nature of the stormwater networks and infrastructure in the Wairarapa town's are such that adverse effects are minimised. Improving water quality in the region does little to suggest there is any current significant issue with adverse effects from urban Stormwater in the Wairarapa urban areas. The stormwater networks and discharges in the Wairarapa are significantly differently and lower in scale and character than those in the large and highly urbanised catchments within the region which may have a far greater potential for adverse effects on receiving water quality.</p> <p>The Wairarapa local authorities support the intent of Method M15 of the Plan (the "Stormwater Working Group") and working with GWRC to agree an appropriate management framework, but oppose in full the premature inclusion of the regulatory framework to be applied to the Wairarapa region as</p>	<p>a) Delete Rule R50 and R51 in their entirety and note within Method M15 that a plan change may result from the implementation of Method M15 where appropriate and necessary following its conclusion;</p> <p>or</p> <p>b) Amend Rule R50 and R51 to specifically exclude the discharge of stormwater within the Wairarapa local authority areas from the scope of the Rule, until such time as the requirements and outcomes of the working group proposed by Method M15 are known, and include a permitted activity rule for the interim period.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
121	Rule R52	Stormwater from large sites	Support, amendment	currently imposed under the proposed Plan as a default response. The intent of the rule in not applying to TLA roads is supported, however the title of the Rule is currently ambiguous and inconsistent with its intent.	Amend the heading to Rule R52 to "Stormwater from a port, airport, or state highway" to appropriately reflect the intent and scope of the rule.
123	Rule R58	The discharge of water or contaminants into water from a water race shown on Map 28 is a discretionary activity	Oppose	The Proposed Plan contained a heavily regulatory approach toward the ongoing use and management of the Wairarapa's water race system, with an apparent intent to work towards its closure. As with the framework relating to urban stormwater discharge, the regulatory approach is out of scale with the effect. The Plan contains a positive alternative non-regulatory framework whereby GWRC will work with local authorities to consider the future of the water race network, including water use groups (Method M18); exploring alternative options and management of the water race system, including offline storage (Method M19: Water Management); and considering the efficient use of water (Schedule Q). The intent of these non-regulatory approaches lead by GWRC (potentially through the Whaitua framework) on a catchment basis are supported by the local authorities, but the effectiveness will be watered down by the current regulatory framework, which is contrary to the collaborative intent discussed through the Plan, unnecessary and excessively costly to ratepayers. The local authorities consider a collaborative and non-regulatory approach to the water race network in the Wairarapa region be adopted, and a more suitable regulatory framework be incorporated into the Plan within an appropriate timeframe (7-years after the notification date of the Plan).	Delete Rule 58 from the Plan, and any consequential amendments so as to provide for the ongoing use of the water race network within the Wairarapa as a permitted activity (where the quantity of water taken into the water race network is not increased over that rate existing at the time of notification of the Proposed NRP), until such time as the outcomes of a Water Race working group (Method M18) are confirmed and a Plan Change process initiated.
124	Rule R61	Rule R61: Existing wastewater – discretionary activity The discharge of wastewater: (a) into coastal water, or (b) that is an existing discharge into fresh water is a discretionary activity.	Support, amendments	This Rule reflects the existing regime, which is considered by the Wairarapa local authorities to be reasonable.	Retain the intent of Rule R61, with an amendment to include provision for all wastewater to fall within this Rule, as follows (deletions in strikethrough): Rule R61: Existing Discharge of wastewater – discretionary activity The discharge of wastewater: (c) into coastal water, or (d) that is an existing discharge into fresh water is a discretionary activity.

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
124	Rule R62	New discharges of wastewater to water are non-complying activities.	Oppose	<p>The Wairarapa local authorities have invested heavily on behalf of their communities to long-term wastewater management programmes which treat and responsibly manage and discharge wastewater.</p> <p>The current rule, with the proposed definition of 'new discharge' captures even positive improvements to existing discharges and therefore is unnecessarily punitive, making even incremental improvements a non-complying activity. When read in tandem with Policy P83 ('avoid' new wastewater discharge) this framework will make it very difficult to achieve incremental improvement programmes in the discharge of treated wastewater to water.</p> <p>It is also considered the non-complying status of treated wastewater discharge is unnecessarily restrictive and fails to recognise the fact that small communities need sufficient time to make significant infrastructural changes, which is also in part recognised in the policy framework of this proposed Plan. In most cases this is simply not achievable within the 'life' of a single regional plan.</p> <p>The effects of treated wastewater from municipal wastewater treatment plants should be provided for as a Restricted Discretionary Activity. This status still provides the ability for GWRC to decline consent, and also provides certainty by limiting the consent process only to those relevant matters, which are well known.</p>	Delete Rule R62.
125	Rule R67	<p>Rule R67: Discharges inside sites of significance – non-complying activity</p> <p>The discharge of water or contaminants into water, or onto or into land where it may enter water:</p> <p>(a) inside a site or habitat identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies), Schedule F-1 (rivers/lakes), Schedule F-3 (significant wetland), or Schedule F-4 (coastal sites), and</p> <p>(b) that is not permitted by Rules R42, R43, R44 or R45</p> <p>is a non-complying activity.</p>		<p>Rule R67 becomes a catch-all non-complying rule for all contaminants within scheduled sites.</p> <p>The effects of discharges associated with treated wastewater are already provided for within the Plan (including Rule R61; R62; and the submitters proposed new rule "R62A"). This appropriately recognises the potential effects of these activities, and enables the full consideration of those effects through the resource consent process.</p>	<p>Amend Rule R67 to read as follows (additional text underlined):</p> <p><u>The discharge of water or contaminants into water, or onto or into land where it may enter water (except for treated wastewater (Rule R62)). ...</u></p>
129	Rule R72	Composting toilets - permitted activity	Oppose	The current permitted activity standard for a discharge to land from any composting toilet requires a 50m	Amend Rule R72(c) to require a 20m setback, not a 50m setback.

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
133	Rule R76	New or upgraded domestic wastewater systems within a community drinking water supply protection area is a controlled activity.	Support	The Council's support the reasonable protection of water quality within community drinking water supply protection areas.	Retain Rule R76
136	Rule R79	The discharge of treated wastewater onto or into land,	Oppose	<p>The intent of this rule is supported, that the discharge to land of appropriately treated municipal wastewater can be undertaken, subject to reasonable conditions.</p> <p>The intent of the rule is not to allow mass volume land discharge of treated effluent as a controlled activity. Irrespective, the proposed rule is highly regulated by conditions which will restrict the ability of many discharges to comply. This is contrary to the apparent intent of the policy framework, to encourage land discharges over water discharges.</p> <p>For this to be provided for, and given the level of regulation within the Rule, it is considered more appropriate that a cascading rule framework be provided whereby</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seasonal or short-term discharges are permitted activities (subject to reasonable standards); • discharges of treated municipal wastewater to land are controlled activities, with control retained over direct actual and potential effects on the • <p>The proposed Matters of Control within the Rule are not actually matters of control. They are prescription operational requirements which dictate how an operator shall manage their asset. This is unnecessary and inappropriate.</p> <p>While the proposed Plan attempts to be permissive in this respect, the effect of the Rules as they stand are unworkable.</p> <p>The rule also fails to recognise there are other methods of treatment available, the current Rule prescriptively provides for one method. This is contrary to effects-based management.</p>	<p>Delete Rule R79 and rewrite to provide for a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permitted activity rule land discharge of treated effluent; • Controlled activity for all other land discharges, subject to reasonable matters of control, not prescriptive operational and asset management directives. • Provision for alternative discharge designs and methods, not a prescriptive standard based on a single method.

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
141	Rule R80	Discharge of treated wastewater to land – Restricted Discretionary Activity	Oppose	The Councils would welcome the opportunity to work with WRC to redefine how these Rules can be applied. Refer Above	Delete Rule R80, and rewrite in conjunction with rewrite of Rule R79.
143	Rule R83	Discharge of collected animal effluent	Neutral	The Councils query whether the potential effects of enabling the discharge of effluent within 30m of a property boundary has potential human health effects and reverse sensitivity effects where a residential activity can be established near that common boundary on the adjoining lot.	Clarification that the consideration of human health impacts and reverse sensitivity effects have been fully considered.
146	Rule R89	Farm refuse dumps - permitted activity		Farm refuse dumps are an integral part of the rural environment. While it is accepted that some limits on the size and location of these facilities is required, the proposed rule is unnecessarily restrictive. In particular, the requirement for every landowner to GPS and map their farm dump (R89(h)) is considered excessive, and unenforceable within the life of the Plan. In addition the threshold beyond which a farm dump requires consent is inconsistent with the provisions of the Combined Waitarapa District Plan for the Rural Zone, where the minimum lot size in the majority of the Rural Zone, unless special circumstances apply, is 4ha. A 20ha minimum threshold would generate the need for a significant number of resource consents where the effect on the environment from the nature, scale, and type of refuse being discharged is likely to be negligible. This 'belts and braces' approach in this respect is unnecessary. It is also considered that the 50m setback is excessive, for the same reasons as outlined in the submission on R81. There are sufficient regulations within the remainder of the Plan and also the RMA to undertake enforcement where required without requiring these unnecessarily restrictive permitted activity standards.	That the following changes be made to Rule R89: Amend R89(c)(f) to read "...on a property that is over 20ha-4ha, or" Amend R89(d)(ii) to read "50m 20m of a surface water body..." Delete R89(h) (GPS location and mapping) in its entirety
148	Rule R92	All discharges within community drinking water supply area are restricted discretionary activity.	Oppose	A reasonable level of protection of Drinking Water Supply Areas from contamination is supported. However, the level of protection should reflect the level of risk. For example, the Te Ore Ore supply is only an emergency take, and doesn't currently require that level of protection. Limitations in the vicinity of Water supply bores are supported, but the extensive areas currently identified in the Maps to which the restrictions apply are questioned. Risk Management Plans are in	Review all of the relevant Maps relating to this rule, and confirm the level of regulation proposed (including activity status) is appropriate for the respective risk.

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
				<p>place for each take, which identify the risk and management response required.</p> <p>The restrictions relevant to each area should be reviewed individually with the relevant authority prior to confirming the Rule and the relevant Maps. Significant discharges which actually pose a risk should be regulated, but not every discharge, which the current framework effectively does.</p>	
165	Rule R113	Diversion or Flood water by existing structures – permitted activities	Oppose	<p>This Rule provides for the diversion of water by a structure or stopbank where that structure is existing, including provision for minor upgrade to those structures.</p> <p>It is assumed that this Rule would currently provide for an existing road structure. What is not clear though is that this rule would apply equally to a road upgrade required to alter the alignment or elevation or a road structure in a manner which may technically exceed the permitted activity standard at Rule R113 (a) which provides for a 5% increase in cross sectional area.</p> <p>Ensuring this incidental diversion is provided for as a permitted activity for local authority roads in rural areas is important for ensuring the road network can be operated efficiently. The requested relief only relates to flood water diversion. Any effects from significant changes in scale, location or character would trigger other consents, either under this Plan or the relevant District Plan. Failure to include this rule, or something similar as a new rule in the Plan will require every such activity to gain resource consent, even where effects are insignificant.</p>	<p>Confirm that the permitted activity applies to diversion of flood waters by a road structure;</p> <p>and</p> <p>include a new permitted activity standard following R113(a), which reads as follows:</p> <p><u>"or</u></p> <p><u>(b) where the structure is Regionally Significant Infrastructure or a local authority road, the structure may be increased in size or realigned and/or relocated where that increase shall not exacerbate the risk or potential effects of flooding on any neighbouring property."</u></p>
166	Rule R115	Rule R115: Culverts	Oppose	<p>The current permitted activity standard limits culverts provided for by Rule R115 to 20m in length. This length will have limitations on rural roads, where a road corridor can typically be 20m in width, and some extension on either end is required to ensure effective operation of the culvert.</p> <p>To provide for this, an additional 5m on either end would be sufficient, or a total of up to 30m in length. Provided the remaining standards are complied with, it is not anticipated this will have any additional adverse effect on the environment.</p>	<p>Amend Rule R115(h)(i) to provide for a culvert of up to 30m in length, where the culvert is associated with a public road.</p>
170	Rule R119 & R120	Clearing Flood Debris and Minor Sand and Gravel Extraction	Oppose	<p>The proposed Plan provides for Beach Recontouring (R119) and for Minor Sand and Gravel Extraction (R120) as permitted activities, subject to conditions.</p>	<p>Amend Rule R119 for a Permitted Activity, which provides as follows:</p>

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
				<p>However, it is noted that the extraction of gravel from Wairarapa's aggrading rivers in accordance with an approved flood management plan would require resource consent as a Discretionary Activity under the default Rule R129.</p> <p>Provision should be made for such extraction to be undertaken as a permitted activity.</p>	<p><i>The excavation or disturbance of the bed of a river, including the removal of excavated material, in accordance with an approved GWRC Flood Management Plan is a permitted activity.</i></p>
	NEW RULE	Flood Management Activities		<p>Flood management activities are extremely important to managing the risk and consequence of floods on people and property. The proposed Rules R119 and R120 do not sufficiently provide for flood management activities as a permitted activity, and in particular the removal of gravel for productive use as a flood management tool.</p>	<p>If Rule R119 is not amended as above, insert a new rule enabling flood management practices as a permitted activity similar to the framework adopted in the Hawkes Bay Regional Council, including relevant and reasonable standards and guidelines.</p>
172	Rule R121	Drain clearance	Oppose	<p>Rule R121, aside from being unnecessarily complex and unworkable, is ambiguous as to whether it is intended to apply to local authority drainage and water races. As proposed, the Rule effectively provides a prescriptive work programme for drain maintenance which is overly prescribed, impractical, and unnecessary.</p> <p>In addition, the Rule confuses drains and rivers and streams. The proposed Rule applies to "farm drains" and to "highly modified river or streams". Neither of these definitions include either Council stormwater drains (by definition Regionally significant infrastructure), including roadside drainage, or water supply races. The proposed Plan could however be interpreted to require that the maintenance of these drains and races would be a discretionary activity under the catchall Rule R129. This would be a significant operational impact upon the essential maintenance of this infrastructure, which is assumed to be an oversight.</p> <p>It is noted that the Proposed Plan includes an alternative Method (Method M14) committing GWRC to "an education programme including practices, procedures and tools in accordance with industry, relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the implementation of Rule R121."</p> <p>The intent of Method M14 is generally supported, but the permitted activity standards of Rule R121 are impractical and will result in significant and unnecessary costs to local authorities. In particular, the requirement to maintain no more than half of the</p>	<p>That Rule R121 be amended to provide for reasonable permitted activity standards, and that Method M14 be amended to provide for the establishment of a working group which can work to define reasonable and workable maintenance standards and protocols which differentiate between a drain and a river (or stream), reflect the purpose of the drain, the risk of adverse effect, and accepted efficient and effective maintenance practice.</p>

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
				<p>channel at a time will significantly increase maintenance costs and timeframes for Wairarapa Councils.</p> <p>These provisions also fail to recognise the exclusion of water supply races from the definition of River in the Act (which was also recognised specifically in the Regional Freshwater Plan definition of "River")</p> <p>The maintenance of roadside drains in rural areas of the Wairarapa is critically important to ensure its efficient and effective operation, especially for rural communities and ratepayers. In order to ensure this infrastructure is able to be managed, the ability to maintain these drains must be provided for as a permitted activity.</p> <p>Water races area also important in supplying water to rural areas where alternative water sources for stock watering are over allocated or unavailable.</p> <p>The Council's query the need for the highly prescriptive standards proposed for routine drain cleaning and requests they be amended so that they are practical and achievable with usual machinery and work programmes.</p>	
174	Rule R122	Removing Vegetation – permitted activity	Oppose	<p>As with the Rules for drain clearance, the standards contained within the Rule are unnecessarily complex and prescriptive, effectively dictating how an operator is to undertake work. Of particular concern are the standards relating to restriction on clearing on only one side of the drain at one time and the limits on contiguous area of vegetation removal, which are impractical and disproportionate compared to the actual and potential environmental effects.</p>	<p>Delete the Rule and provide an alternative workable rule as part of the review process requested for Rule R121 above;</p> <p>or</p> <p>Exclude local authority activities from the need to comply with this rule, providing an alternative permitted activity rule subject to workable, reasonable, and cost efficient standards.</p>
181	Rule R136	Minor abstractions limited to 20m ³ per property per day provided that property is over 20 ha but reduced to 10m ³ for properties under 20 ha.	Oppose	<p>This Rule significantly reduces the amount of water able to be taken for an individual's reasonable use. The Regional Freshwater Plan enables up to 20m³ per Certificate of Title per day (Rule 7). The proposed Plan significantly alters this framework, limiting takes firstly through the delineation of "reasonable needs" based on property area, and secondly restricting reasonable needs to a property, rather than for each Certificate of Title.</p> <p>Rural properties are generally not reticulated, and as such rely on the supply of water to meet their reasonable needs. The arbitrary nomination of a 20ha</p>	<p>That Rule R136(a) be deleted and replaced with the following: <i>The total take and use per property shall not exceed 20m³ per day, at a rate not exceeding 2.5l/s.</i></p>

PNRP Page No.	Reference	Rule	Support/Oppose	Comment	Relief Sought
183	Rule R140	De-watering of a site for the purpose of excavation, construction or geotechnical testing and associated diversion and discharge is permitted subject to conditions.	Support	The Councils support the rule. The threshold is unfounded and unnecessary. The balance of the permitted activity standards are sufficient to minimise the inefficient use of water.	Retain Rule R140
224	Rule R193:	River and Mouth cutting	Support amendments	The intent of the rule is supported. It is requested that the Okau Stream be added to the list of rivers to which the rule applies, at Rule R193(e), to enable management of the effects of closure on the road at Sandy Bay.	Insert "Okau Stream" into the list at Rule R193(e)
243	Method M15	Regional Stormwater Working Group	Support	The Wairarapa Council's acknowledge the commitment of GWRC to work collaboratively on the issue of stormwater management in the Wairarapa. As outlined elsewhere in this submission, it is considered that the most effective approach is to defer the implementation of Rules R50, R51, and R53 until this method has progressed these key matters sufficiently.	Retain the intent of Method M15, and give effect to the submissions seeking deferral of regulation relating to Stormwater discharges until that collaborative process has been completed and determined the best long term strategy for the management of stormwater in smaller urban areas within the region, including the Wairarapa towns.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Richard Tosswill

Submitter Number:

S368

#1531009 5368

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Name	RICHARD TOSWILL	23 OCT 2015
Farm Name	TE ANAANA	RECEIVED
Physical Address	368 TE ANAANA RD, RD4, MASTERTON.	
Phone Number	06 372 7098	
Email Address	r22ie@afra.co.nz	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission Yes.

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. (Sheep, Beef), Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	646 hectares
Main Waterways	-
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Environmental investments	Fenced off natural springs, soil plan created & retired a 12.5ha block to reduce sediment into streams.
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	2.5 HA. 20.5 HA
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so Definitely has to be a good thing to work proactively with GWRC staff on-farm to discuss options/issues.

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

Completely unpractical & costly in our hill - country property. Large areas of spring fed streams meander through hills - incredibly difficult to manage. Can provide farm maps to show this.

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

We have fenced off main springs & waterways ^{intakes} to keep stock out & protect a few rare plant species.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

Making wilted baleage - have yet to see any seepage from this being stored.

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

Again see this as unpractical & very costly. We have seen places where waterways have been fenced off to stock. They then block up with weed etc & then flood pasture.

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

We are keen to keep bridges & culverts in a good standard with the main purpose being trying to keep stock out of waterways. These proposed changes are going to make minor changes to properties unfeasible & too costly.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available.

Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

We're currently using new technology through Super Air, where we are providing a map with sensitive areas marked & the planes shutter will automatically shut off over these sites.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Richard Wilkie

Submitter Number:

S369

#1531005

5369

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Name	Richard Wilkie	23 OCT 2015
Farm Name	Huwinui Farm	RECEIVED
Physical Address	RD1 Featherston 5771	
Phone Number	06 3089581	
Email Address	hiwinui.wilkie@gmail.com	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR ~~hardmail~~ – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	280 hectares
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes <u>(No)</u>
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so Rules & regulation need to be relevant practical and cost effective.

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for "important" trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

- Exclusion from wateraces and drains would have a significant economic impact on my farming operation.
- I have a very low stocking density and wateraces are vital for stockwater especially in summer ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~end~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~year~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~end~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~year~~
- Fencing encourages weed growth. slowing water flow and causing silting of waterways. stock help keep weeds to a minimum.

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

*e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)
Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.*

I agree with all above .

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

I agree with all above changes.

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and inermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

~~low~~ low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.

- I agree with above
- Correctly made silage will have no discharge .
- To make silage /baleage, product needs to be air tight hence no discharge to waterways .

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

~~Costs~~ costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

- I agree with above ~~st~~
- delete 5m setback
- runoff only ^{a problem} in extreme weather events.
- ~~delete~~

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channelled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

~~high~~ costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

- I agree with the above changes.
- Needs to be some clarification about the cleaning process of man made water races or drains.

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

I agree with above changes.

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

I agree with above changes

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

- Bridge size should be 50m².
- culverts need to be permitted for ^{all} watercourses and drainage drains with out obtaining consent.
-

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

~~eg.~~ these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

I agree with above changes. feds have proposed.

- Farm Rubbish dump should be permitted - ridiculous to take to town
- offal holes are to be permitted. - cost is expensive
- not practical.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: **support/oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

- ~~If property size test is used that no spray~~ ^(if applied correctly) drift will effect surrounding properties there should be no need for spray plan to presented to neighbours.
- 24 hrs notice is ridiculous and should be removed.
- I strongly agree with proposed changes.

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available.

Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

- It is not always possible to guarantee fertiliser application does not fall in a waterway*
- Best practice should however always be applied*

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

delete the above condition

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Leo - Wawarapa H₂O users.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Mahaki Holdings LTD

Submitter Number:

S370



Form 5

Submission on publicly notified proposal for policy statement or plan, change or variation
Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991

To: Greater Wellington Regional Council

This submission has been prepared on behalf of Mahaki Holdings Ltd in relation to the properties at 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 19 and 27 Te Tupe Road; 22/21 Nikau Palm Road and off Nikau Valley Road Paraparaumu

This is a submission on the following proposed plan: Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region.

The submitters could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

The specific provisions of the proposal that this submission relates to are set out in Parts 2 through to 10 of this submission.

The submission opposing or supporting provisions is set out in Parts 2 through to 10 of this submission.

The submission seeks relief from the Regional Council as set out in Parts 2 through to 10 of this submission. The ~~provisions in strike through font~~ highlight the areas in the Proposed Regional Plan the submitters wants deleted. The provisions in underline font highlight the areas the submitters wants included.

The submitters wishes to be heard in support of their submission.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Anna Carter", written over a horizontal line.

Signature of person authorised to sign
on behalf of Submitters

Date 27 October 2015

Address for service of Submitter: c/- Land Matters Ltd, 20 Addington Road, RD1, Otaki
Telephone: 06 364 9147 (DDI)
Email: anna@landmattersnz.com
Contact person: Anna Carter – Senior Resource Management Consultant
Land Matters Ltd

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Land Matters Ltd specialises in environmental management and is based on the Kapiti Coast.
- 1.2 This submission addresses specific concerns that Mahaki Holdings Ltd have in respect of their properties as well as general comments in respect of the policy direction and process adopted by the PROPOSED Regional Plan.

2.0 SUBMITTOR'S PROPERTY

- 2.1 The properties are located off Nikau Valley Road and along Te Tupe Road and at 22/21 Nikau Valley Road, Paraparaumu covering an area of land totalling approximately 23 hectares.
- 2.2 The property is rolling pasture. The properties are vacant and with the exception of Te Tupe Road (which is zoned Industrial/Service) are suitable for development of a rural living environment. The property at 22/21 Nikau Valley Road contains the headwaters for the Muaupokou Stream and identified as an **F1 Scheduled Site as it is a habitat for threatened or at risk native fish.**
- 2.3 The submitters have specific concerns about how the PROPOSED Regional Plan provisions will affect the day-to-day operations on their property; future use of the property and the practicality and/or necessity of imposing certain provisions.
- 2.4 The submitters are specifically concerned about the provisions of the Proposed Regional Plan relating to earthworks, creation of farm and forestry tracks, requirements to restore and enhance waterbodies which may have the effect of increasing the cost of development of these sites.

GENERAL SUBMISSIONS

3.0 COMPULSORY AND NON-COMPULSORY VALUES OF THE NPS-FW, MAHINGA KAI PROVISIONS

- 3.1 The submitters oppose all provisions that require in the first instance, with reflection on the wider priorities, the environment to be "restored" or "enhanced" where those provisions are located outside the coastal environment. The submitters question whether the costs of requiring restoration and/or enhancement across the entire region has been adequately assessed. The costs of doing this work in the manner proposed by the Proposed Regional Plan will be excessive and mainly fall on the resource user when the benefits of restoration and enhancement will extend to the wider community, iwi and local government. Restoration and enhancement should only be included in a regional plan as required under the NPS-FS and that is where waterbodies have been over-allocated to the point of exhaustion and as required under the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement. For all other habitats, restoration and enhancement should only be considered on a site by site, catchment by catchment basis (possibly through the Whaitua process) and then through a variation to the Regional Plan.

Furthermore, the submitters are concerned that the provisions of the Proposed Regional Plan are adopting a region-wide planning approach targeting the worst case scenario waterbodies (typically on the east coast) when the waterbodies on the Kapiti Coast are generally identified as being of good quality and stable and do not require the same sort of treatment. According to the State of the Environment Report, the waterbodies on the Kapiti Coast are:

- *Largely remained stable*
- *Larger rivers are in good health where they flow out of forested ranges*
- *Water Quality and ecological health are degraded in small lowland coastal streams such as the Mangapouri, Mangaone & Whareroa Streams (noting it is not the entire stream that is degraded and the coastal inlet at Mangapouri is noted as having 'Fair' water quality and the Mangaone Estuary as having 'Fair' recreational grade)*
- *Waitohu Stream hill country has 'Excellent' water quality*
- *Otaki River mid section has 'Excellent' water quality and 'Very Good' recreational grade*
- *Inland Waikanae River has 'Good' water quality and 'Excellent' water quality in the lower reaches with 'Good' recreational grade*

According to Section 32 Report '*Ki Uta ki Tai*,' information on water quality will only be available for the *Whaitua* Committees under Stage II of the plan process - "*GW does not have sufficient information to establish water quality limits across the region as required by the NPS – FW ...*" (Paragraph 3.2.6).

3.2 Relief Sought

- 3.2.1 Mahaki Holdings Ltd opposes generic application of provisions controlling use and development without reference to managing potential adverse effects. The submitters opposes any "mitigation hierarchy" including the reference in Schedule G. The submitters opposes the attempt to define "minimisation of adverse effects" under Policy P4 by requiring applicants to consider alternative locations and locating activities away from Scheduled sites. There is a reason why an applicant has sought a consent for the specific location and unless the activity on that site is prohibited then they have every right to apply for a consent in that location. The Regional Plan should instead look at managing effects from activities on locations. These provisions the submitters oppose include, but are not limited to the following:

Objective O19

~~*The interference from use and development on natural process is minimised.*~~ Note: in some circumstances interference from use and development on natural processes may be justified. Other objectives provide an effects based approach and should be used instead.

Policy P4: Minimising adverse effects

"Where minimisation of adverse effects is required by policies in the Plan, minimisation means reducing adverse effects of the activity to the smallest amount practical and shall include:
~~*(a) consideration of alternative locations and methods for undertaking the activity that would have less adverse effects, and*~~

- ~~(b) locating the activity away from areas identified in Schedule A (outstanding water bodies), Schedule C (mana whenua), Schedule E (historic heritage), Schedule F (indigenous biodiversity), and~~
- (c) where possible, timing the activity, or the adverse effects of the activity, to avoid times of the year when adverse effects may be more severe, or times when receiving environments are more sensitive to adverse effects, and
- (d) using good management practices for reducing the adverse effects of the activity, and
- (e) designing the activity so that the scale or footprint of the activity is small as practicable."

Policy P26: Natural processes

"Use and development will be managed to ~~minimise~~ limit adverse effects on the integrity and functioning of natural processes and minimise adverse effects on significant habitats and landscapes." The submitters opposes the use of the word "minimises with the current definition as set out in Policy 4 above but would support an amended Policy P4.*

- 3.2.2 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose any provisions which impose additional restrictions on adjoining land on the basis that they are "buffers" or provide "connections" between habitats either for the purpose of managing biodiversity, water quality or natural hazards. Protected sites should be easily identified within a Regional Plan and natural hazards should only require buffers where appropriate. These provisions include, but are not limited to the following:

Objective O28

The extent of natural wetlands is maintained ~~or increased~~ and where possible their extent and condition is restored over time.

Policy P30: Natural buffers

~~The adverse effects of~~ Use and development on natural features such as beaches, dunes, or wetlands that buffer development from natural hazards shall be minimised, if that use or development reduces the ability of that feature to operate as a buffer.

- 3.2.3 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose any provisions which require 'restoration' and/or 'enhancement'. The submitters are seeking the Regional Council engage with landowners and the community over sites where this could occur and how that work might be funded and over what time frame the work might occur. Provisions should be specific and identify clearly areas that require enhancement (see the proposed objective O18 and Policy P62 as examples of what may be suitable). These provisions include, but are not limited to, the following:

Objective O3

Mauri is sustained, and where possible/identified enhanced over time particularly the mauri of fresh and coastal waters"

Objective O9

"The recreational values of the coastal marine area, rivers and lakes and their margins and natural wetlands are maintained and where possible/identified enhanced over time."

Objective O11

"Opportunities for Maori customary use of the coastal marine area, rivers and lakes and their margins and natural wetlands for cultural purposes are recognised, maintained and where possible/identified enhanced over time."

Objective O23

"The quality of water in the region's rivers, lakes, natural wetlands, groundwater and the coastal marine area is maintained and where possible/identified or improved over time."

Objective O28

"The extent of natural wetlands is maintained, or where possible/identified increased and their condition is restored over time."

Objective O29

"use and development provides for the passage of fish and koura and where possible/identified the passage of indigeneous fish and koura is restored over time."

Objective O30

"The habitat of trout identified in Schedule 1 (trout habitat) is maintained and where possible/identified improved over time."

Objective O33

"~~Sites with Significant~~ The values of mana whenua values sites are recognised and provided for and where possible/identified restored over time." Note: submitters consider the provisions too onerous in respect of mana whenua sites and instead seek that the 'values' of those sites be recognised and provided (having regard to tikanga Maori and the kaupapa of the kaitiakitanga for that site). See paragraph 3.8.6 below.

Objective O35

"Ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values are protected and where possible/identified restored over time."

Objective O38

"Identified special amenity landscape values are maintained and where possible/identified enhanced over time."

Policy P17: Mauri

"The mauri of fresh and coastal waters shall be recognised as being important to Maori by:
(a) managing the individual and cumulative effects of activities that may impact on mauri in the manner set out in the rest of the Plan, and
(b) providing for activities that sustain and where possible/identified enhance mauri over time
(c) recognising the role of kaitiaki in sustaining mauri"

Policy P38: Restoration of wetlands

"The restoration of natural wetlands and the construction of artificial wetlands to provide habitat for indigenous flora and fauna and to carry out the physical and ecological functions of natural wetlands, shall be encouraged where possible/identified, over time."

P44: Protection and restoration of sites with significant mana whenua values

"The values of mana whenua sites are recognised and provided for and where possible/identified restored over time." ~~Sites with significant mana whenua values identified in Schedule C (mana whenua) shall be protected and/or restored.~~"

4.1 WATER QUALITY

- 4.1 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose the inclusion of any provision within the Proposed Regional Plan that gives effect to the non-compulsory values (i.e. the protection of water bodies for the purpose of collecting food and for primary contact/swimming recreation).
- 4.2 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose any provision within the Proposed Regional Plan that seeks to improve water quality with the exception of those water-bodies that have already been over-allocated. The submitters consider such provisions should only be included on a catchment by catchment basis once having considered whether improvement is appropriate and this is best done under the Whaitua process. The submitters recognise that the Whaitua process, having reviewed the data on the relevant water catchments and considered the varied water values stakeholders have for a catchment, is more appropriate to determine whether a catchment's water quality should be improved or not.
- 4.3 Mahaki Holdings Ltd are seeking the definition of earthworks in chapter 2 of the Proposed Regional Plan to exclude the construction of new farm and forestry tracks in accordance with the provisions in District Plans in the region. The submitters are concerned that the provisions relating to earthworks do not exclude the construction of new farm and forestry tracks. This appears to be consistent with the provisions of the Kapiti Coast District Council's Proposed District Plan. The submitters state that provided new farm and forestry tracks comply with the same permitted activity conditions as set out in Rule 99 (a) – (d) that all effects will be appropriately managed.
- 4.4 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose the provisions relating to stormwater run-off from properties as set out in Rule 48 on the basis that it does not address any particular activity; and on the basis that Rule 99 already addresses run-off from earthworks. Natural rainfall falling on a property should not be subject to rules in a Regional Plan – this is unreasonable. The way Rule 48 is written is that landowners could be liable for effects on watercourses as a result of a landslide occurring on their property. This is unfair and has no basis in the Resource Management Act which refers to “people” not discharging contaminants or water into water (refer section 15 of the Act).
- 4.4 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose the provisions relating to vegetation clearance that trigger Rule 100 and Rule 101. Specifically the submitters seek that the definition of vegetation clearance as set out in Chapter 2 of the Proposed Regional Plan be amended to only refer to vegetation clearance which involves the removal of roots or stumps (e.g. root racking or stump clearance). The submitters would like the Regional Plan to focus on effects based rules and in this instance look to manage those effects that look to destroy the roots of plants but allow measures such as roller crushing, burning, harvesting of pine plantations etc where the roots will not be disturbed. Root die-off takes some time and unless the landowner is cultivating the ground the landowner will be replacing that vegetation with either grass or replanting as a production forest.
- 4.5 Mahaki Holdings Ltd also oppose the definition of *erosion prone land* being slopes of 20 degrees or less. Submitters seek that the current definition of erosion prone land applies which are for slopes of 28 degrees or more.

4.6 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose the provisions relating to maintenance of drains. The submitters support the ability to clear a section of a drain (including both sides) at one time. It is not practical to leave one side or the middle of a drain particularly if the drain is narrow and the digger can reach the entire width of the drain. The submitters oppose the rule that requires all fish and koura that may have been removed from the drain to be returned to the drain. Instead the submitters would support a 'best practice provision' which states, 'where possible, all fish and koura should be returned to the drain.' The submitters oppose the rule that would prevent the removal of woody debris with a diameter greater than 0.2m from the drain.

4.7 Relief Sought

4.7.1 Mahaki Holdings Ltd seeks that the policy approach to maintain OR maintain and improve water quality is determined through more discussion with the community based on a catchment basis through the Whaitua process for those provisions as noted in paragraph 3.9.4 above.

4.7.2 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose Rule 82 and any associated provisions which require that aerial topdressing avoids any discharges to surface water bodies. The submitters supports changes to the provisions that provide instead for "best practice" and "to avoid wherever practicable discharges to surface water bodies" by aerial topdressing pilots.

4.7.3 Mahaki Holdings Ltd opposes all provisions relating to drain clearance. The submitters supports more practical provisions that allow a machine to clear both sides and the middle of a drain at one point in time; the submitters support provisions that provide for best practice when returning fish and koura to drains if they have been removed during the clearance process; the submitters support the removal of woody debris from drains.

4.7.4 Mahaki Holdings Ltd opposes all provisions relating to earthworks and control of stormwater where it comes from an area of earthworks. The submitters opposes Rule 48 and seeks that it be deleted.

4.7.5 Mahaki Holdings Ltd opposes the definition of earthworks in Chapter 2 of the Regional Plan and seeks that it be amended to "exclude" the construction of "new" farm and "forestry" tracks.

The submitters supports a new permitted activity rule for new farm and forestry tracks as follows:

"New Rule Earthworks – New or Existing Farm and Forestry Tracks are permitted, provided the following conditions are met –

(a) soil or debris is not placed where it can enter a surface water body or the coastal marine area;

(b) earth disturbance will not create or contribute to instability or subsidence of a slope or another land surface at or beyond the boundary of the property where the track is being constructed or maintained

(c) work areas are stabilised within six months after the completion of the works

(d) any earth disturbance shall not, after the zone or reasonable mixing, result in any of the following effects in receiving waters –

- a. the production of conspicuous oil or grease films, scums of foams, or floatable or suspended materials, or
- b. any conspicuous change in colour or visual clarity, or
- c. any emission or objectionable odour, or
- d. the rendering of fresh water unsuitable for consumption by animals, or
- e. any significant adverse effect on aquatic life."

4.7.6 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose Rule 99 and seek that it be amended so that it is reflective of property sizes and based on catchments. Amend Rule 99 to either increase the minimum area of earthworks permitted per property based on it as a percentage area of the total property (so that larger properties can undertake more earthworks); and/or so that the rule are applied to catchments affected (i.e. so that a earthworks up to a certain square metre can be undertaken within each catchment within each property).

4.7.8 Mahaki Holdings Ltd opposes the definition of 'erosion prone land' as set out in Chapter 2 of the Proposed Regional Plan and seeks for it to be amended as follows:

Erosion Prone Land
The pre-existing slope of the land exceeds 20 28 degrees

4.7.9 Mahaki Holdings Ltd opposes the activity status of Rule 101 so that activities not complying with Rule 99 or Rule 100 are a discretionary activity. The submitters supports Rule 101 being a *restricted discretionary activity* where Council's discretion is limited to management of sediment from construction and long term effects from the earthworks.

5.0 WATER QUANTITY

5.1 Mahaki Holdings Ltd supports improving those waterbodies that meet the criteria set by the NPS-FW which refers to improving waterbodies that "have been degraded by human activities to the point of being over-allocated". The submitters oppose the region-wide limits on water takes.

The submitters supports protecting *significant* values of outstanding freshwater bodies and *significant* values of wetlands. For this reason the submitters opposes the inclusion in the all ephemeral and wet areas as natural wetlands as it is the responsibility of the Regional Council to identify those wetlands with *significant values* and protect them.

5.2 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose the limits set in the Proposed Regional Plan under chapter 5.6 and request the existing limits remain in place.

5.3 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose the restrictions to prevent water takes where the water is within 50m of a natural wetland (noting that the submitters reserves their right to withdraw this objection should the criteria for natural wetlands be amended).

5.4 Relief Sought

5.4.1 Mahaki Holdings Ltd the definition of natural wetlands and all rules relating to wetlands and seeks the relief as follows:

"Natural Wetland

...

"Natural wetlands do not include:

(a) damp gully heads, or wetted pasture, or pasture predominantly containing with patches of rushes or pastures predominantly containing one wetland species having no other wetland indicator species...."

Rule 104: Structures in natural wetlands and significant natural wetlands – permitted activity

"The maintenance, repair, addition, alteration, or replacement (like for like) of an existing structure, and the placement of a new structure of an area less than 10m² for the purpose of hunting and recreation (including maimai and jetties), and the removal of an existing structure in a natural wetland or significant natural wetland, including any associated:

- (a) disturbance of a river or lake bed, or foreshore or seabed that forms part of a natural wetland, and*
- (b) deposition in, on or under a river or lake bed ,or foreshore or seabed that forms part of a natural wetland, and*
- (c) diversion of water, and*
- (d) discharge of sediment to water*

is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:

- ~~*(e) only hand-held machinery is used in any area of the natural wetland, and*~~
- (f) the activity shall comply with the wetland general conditions for activity in natural wetlands, significant natural wetlands and outstanding natural wetlands specified above in Section 5.5.2"*

Rule R105: Planting and pest plant control in natural wetlands, significant natural wetlands and outstanding natural wetlands – permitted activity

"The deliberate introduction or planting of a plant, and the removal or control of pest plants in the bed of a natural wetland, significant natural wetland, or outstanding natural wetland including any associated:

- (a) disturbance of a river or lake bed, or foreshore or seabed, that forms part of a natural wetland, and*
- (b) deposition in, on, or under a river or lake bed, or foreshore or seabed, that forms part of a natural wetland, and*
- (c) damage to part of the foreshore or seabed that forms part of a natural wetland, and*
- (d) diversion of water, and*
- (e) discharge of sediment to water*

is a permitted activity provided the following conditions are met:

- (f) only appropriate indigenous wetland species are deliberately introduced or planted, and*
- (g) only appropriate pest plant species are deliberately removed or controlled, and*
- (h) only agrichemicals approved by the Environmental Protection Authority are used, and*
- ~~*(i) agrichemicals are not applied by aerial spraying, and*~~
- ~~*(j) only hand-held machinery is used in any area of the wetland, and*~~

(k) the activity shall comply with the wetland general conditions for activities in natural wetlands, significant natural wetlands and outstanding natural wetlands specified above in Section 5.5.2"

5.4.2 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose the limits on water takes as set out in chapter 5.6 of the Proposed Regional Plan. The submitters supports returning to the limits set under the Operative Regional Plans until such time that the Whaitua process identifies which waterbodies have been over-allocated.

6.0 BIODIVERSITY

6.1 Mahaki Holdings Ltd opposes requirements to 'restore' ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity. The requirement to 'restore' goes beyond that set by section 6 of the Act which simply requires Regional Plans protect areas of significant indigenous biodiversity and habitats with significant indigenous fauna. Restoration should be a joint effort between the landowner, the wider community, iwi and local government and should not be the sole responsibility of a resource user unless it is part of an off-setting requirement.

6.2 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose all provisions which require connections be created between two or more habitats. A significant habitat must be considered such on its own merits and the boundaries drawn on maps in the Regional Plan must contain that habitat so that they are easily defined. Policy P42 is seeking to extend boundaries of a significant habitat outside the processes set by Schedule 10 of the Act (the plan change process). This policy is inherently unfair as it tries to achieve an outcome by stealth. Buffers and other connections must be identified within the boundaries of a significant site at the time the Proposed plan is publicly notified.

6.3 Relief Sought

6.3.1 Mahaki Holdings Ltd opposes provisions that seek to 'restore' habitats outright without the support of the community and the buy-in of the landowner. These provisions include, but are not limited to the following:

Policy P40: Ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values

"Protect, and where possible restore over time, the following ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values:

- (a) the rivers and lakes with significant indigenous ecosystems identified in Schedule F1 (rivers/lakes);*
- (b) the habitats for indigenous birds identified in Schedule F2 (bird habitats), and*
- (c) significant natural wetlands, including the significant natural wetlands identified in Schedule F3 (significant wetlands);*

(d) the ecosystems and habitat types with significant indigenous biodiversity values in the coastal marine area identified in Schedule F4 (coastal sites) and Schedule F5 (coastal habitats)."

- 6.3.2 Mahaki Holdings Ltd opposes all provisions to extend the boundaries of a significant habitat through inclusion of buffers and/or requiring connections to habitats outside the boundaries of a site. Such provisions in the plan include, but are not limited to the following:

Policy P42: Protecting and restoring ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values

"In order to protect the ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in Policy P40, particular regard shall be given to managing the adverse effects of use and development in surrounding areas on physical, chemical and biological processes to:

- ~~*(a) maintain ecological connections within and between those habitats, or*~~
~~*(b) provide for the enhancement of ecological connectivity between fragmented habitats through biodiversity offsets, and*~~
~~*(c) provide adequate buffers around ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values, and*~~
(d) avoid cumulative adverse effects on, and the incremental loss of the values of those ecosystems and habitats."

7.0 TIMEFRAMES

- 7.1 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose the adoption of a precautionary approach in the Regional Plan. The submitters oppose all provisions which require that immediate attention is required to improve or enhance a waterbody. The Proposed Regional Plan appears to have double-standards when dealing with territorial authorities or larger entities allowing longer timeframes within which to comply when compared to individual resource users (see objectives O48, O52). These larger organisations are more likely, financially, to be able to comply within a shorter timeframe than an individual. The framework set out in the Proposed Regional Plan is inherently unfair and biased.

7.2 Relief Sought

- 7.2.1 That the provisions which require immediate attention to improve or enhance a waterbody are either deleted or amended. Suggested amendments are proposed to the provisions noted below but are not limited to those provisions:

Objective O9

"The recreational values of the coastal marine area, rivers, lakes and their margins and natural wetlands are maintained and where possible, enhanced, over time."

Objective O11

"Opportunities for Maori customary use of the coastal marine area, rivers and lakes and their margins and natural wetlands for cultural purposes are recognised, maintained and where possible, improved, over time."

Objective O23

"The quality of water in the region's rivers, lakes, natural wetlands, groundwater and the coastal marine area is maintained, or where possible, improved, over time."

Policy P3: Precautionary Approach

Use and development shall be managed with a precautionary approach where there is limited information regarding the receiving environment and the risk of adverse effects the activity may have on this environment may be both high and likely to occur.

Objective O47

"The amount of sediment-laden runoff entering water is reduced over time."

Policy P20: Exercise of Kaitiakitanga

"Kaitiakitanga shall be recognised and provided for by:

- (a) managing natural and physical resources in sites with significant mana whenua values listed in Schedule C (mana whenua) in accordance with tikanga and kaupapa Maori as exercised by mana whenua, when possible;*
- (b) the identification and inclusion of mana whenua attributes and values in the kaitiaki information and monitoring strategy in accordance with Method M2;*
- (c) identification of mana whenua values and attributes and their application through tikanga and kaupapa Maori in the maintenance and enhancement of mana whenua relationships with nga Taonga Nui a Kiwa."*

Policy P35 Restoring fish passage

"The passage of indigenous fish and koura shall be restored, over time, where this is appropriate for the management and protection of indigenous fish and koura populations."

Policy P38: Restoration of wetlands

"The restoration of natural wetlands and the construction of artificial wetlands to provide habitat for indigenous flora and fauna, and to carry out the physical and ecological functions of natural wetlands, shall be encouraged where possible, and supported by local and regional government."

8.0 LANDSCAPES

8.1 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose the blanket inclusion of special amenity landscapes in District Plans. The submitters support providing for Special Amenity Landscapes only where the wider community have identified the values associated with those landscapes as worthy of inclusion. The submitters support criteria in the Regional Plan to assist communities identify Special Amenity Landscapes.

8.2 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose the provisions that require Special Amenity Landscapes and Outstanding Landscapes to be restored and/or enhanced. The reasons are the same as set out earlier in this submission.

8.3 Relief Sought

8.3.1 Mahaki Holdings Ltd opposes any provisions relating to special amenity landscapes. The ss would support amendments to the Proposed Regional Plan that list criteria for sites to be included as a special amenity landscape and that this work be undertaken as part of the Waitua process or another similar type of process. In the interim, all provisions should be deleted as follows:

Objective O38

~~"Identified special amenity landscape values are maintained or enhanced."~~

Policy P49: use and development adjacent to outstanding natural features and landscapes and special amenity landscapes

~~"Use and development in the coastal marine area on sites adjacent to an outstanding natural feature or landscape or special amenity landscape identified in a district plan shall be managed by:~~

(a) protecting visual and biophysical linkages between the site and the outstanding natural feature or landscape, and

(b) avoiding adverse cumulative effects on the values of an outstanding natural feature or landscape."

9. BEDS OF LAKES AND RIVERS

9.1 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose the rules relating to river crossings and culverts. The submitters state that the application of region-wide provisions for culverts are not necessarily applicable to the Kapiti Coast and its climatic conditions necessitating certain culvert sizes. The submitters supports providing as a permitted activity culverts of a larger dimension than proposed for water bodies located on the Kapiti Coast; or deleting the maximum size of culverts. Specifically the submitters oppose Rule 114(f)(ii) which limits river crossings to catchments less than 50ha on the west coast (west of the Ruamahanga River). There is no rationale behind the large difference between the east coast and the west coast.

9.2 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose Rule 115 (h)(ii) and (iii) which limits the overall size of the culvert to 1.2m. The rule already has a provision to ensure that it does not exceed 20m in length presumably to manage fish passage; the rule also contains a provision to ensure it allows flows from a 5% AEP (or 20 year event) to ensure passage of flood waters can be maintained. There does not appear to be any reasonable basis for including a maximum culvert size with these other provisions in place

9.3 Relief Sought

9.3.1 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose Rule 114(f)(ii) and seek that the area be increased to 200ha as per the east coast.

9.3.2 Mahaki Holdings Ltd oppose Rule 115(h)(ii) and Rule 115(h)(iii) and seek that it be amended to just refer to the minimum size limit of 0.3m diameter but remove any maximum size.



1:10000



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Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

George Ritchie

Submitter Number:

S371

#1531017

5371

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Name	George Ritchie	23 OCT 2015
Farm Name	Ongaha Farms Ltd	RECEIVED
Physical Address	243 Te Maire Road, RD 1, Featherston 5771	
Phone Number	021820296	
Email Address	georgeritchie3@gmail.com	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	480 ha hectares
Main Waterways	iunahunga River
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes/No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	Retired Backwater
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so Water connectivity needs more accurate measurement. Rules & regulations need to be practical/cost effective and relevant.

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

Fencing off water races excludes stock from drinking water
– cattle in my case. Beef cattle so not large
concentrated numbers. Flow of water

• Fencing them off encourages growth of weeds[^] etc
and stock help keep weeds and ~~with~~ water flowing.
under control

• If stock excluded then must be able to pump to
a trough – or have a drinking bay.

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

Agree with above

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

Cost benefit of increased storage not always there.

We have an impermeable layer of clay before hitting the aquifer therefore leaching can't happen. The river is blocked by stopbank so can't get in there either.

If an extreme event puts you over your consent for ~~2-5~~ days a year then that should be permitted.
2-5

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

agree with above.

*should be no discharge if silage made properly
impermeable lining is cost prohibitive.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

Delete the 5m setback as not practical. Cultivation usually done in spring/Autumn so less risk of run off.

Extreme weather events the only risk.

Formers want to protect their topsoil - not discharge to water.

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

show us exactly what stream/drain etc that are.
We have a drain - always been a drain yet
last year were advised its now a stream !!

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

must be able to maintain/improve/construct farm tracks.

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

2ha /property /12 months is too small an area.

We spray Gorse but leave grass and actively promote grass growth on these areas.

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

50m² for bridges – as 20m² too small.

Culverts need to be permitted for small waterways such as water races so stock can pass without going through the water race.

If you want stock out of waterways then you need culverts !!

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

Agree with Feel Farmers on this
make it easy to bury dead
Farm Rubbish dumps within 20km of town restricted
is ridiculous. Best to have on Farm. Lifestyle blocks
~~and~~ are different.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

Condition G needs to be more appropriate to Farms.
notifying neighbours on boundary spraying but not
when other side of farm.

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter.

Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available.

Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

This needs to be best intention practice. Planes are not that accurate yet.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



greater WELLINGTON
 REGIONAL COUNCIL
 Te Pane Matua Takao

To: Freepost 3156
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: George Ritchie

Organisation name: (If applicable): Ongahoe Farms Ltd

Address for Service: 243 Te Maire Rd
1210
Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: _____ Home: (06) 3086689 Cell: 021820294

Contact person: George Ritchie

Address and telephone no. (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: g.georgeritchie@gmail.com

Trade competition

I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number): <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	I support the submission of the Wairarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation.
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:


The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:



Date:

13-10-15

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB: Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

#1530376

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Your details

21 OCT 2015

Full name: Leo Vollebregt

RECEIVED

Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

4.10 PM

Address for service: Leo Vollebregt

235 Pahautea Road, RD1,

Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405

Contact person: Leo Vollebregt

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

yes I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [if you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to "Your submission"]

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

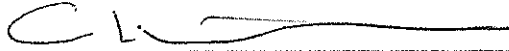
Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:



Date: 20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

21st October 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

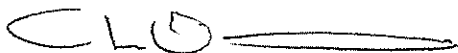
Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

<u>Provision</u>	<u>Text</u>	<u>Support/ Oppose/ Amend</u>	<u>Reasons</u>	<u>Relief sought</u>															
<u>Definitions</u>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Category A groundwater</td> <td>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</td> <td>amend</td> <td>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</td> <td><u>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Category B groundwater (directly connected)</td> <td>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</td> <td></td> <td>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Category C groundwater</td> <td>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (no direct connection) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.</td> <td></td> <td>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Category A groundwater	Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.	amend	The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.	<u>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</u>	Category B groundwater (directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.		The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.		Category C groundwater	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (no direct connection) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.		In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse				
Category A groundwater	Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.	amend	The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.	<u>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</u>															
Category B groundwater (directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.		The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.																
Category C groundwater	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (no direct connection) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.		In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse																

<p>groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	<p>Ground water in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p>
<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>Category A groundwater and the component of Category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 	<p>amend</p>	<p>There is no definition of what directly connected means.</p> <p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Inused water</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>	
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>Remove</p>	
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>Oppose</p> <p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>	

<p>able 3.6 roundwater irectly connected o surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and <u>maximised the amount is increased</u> through time, including by means of:</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a <u>whatua</u> or <u>sub-catchment</u>, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain</p> <p>Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that <i>whaitua</i> or sub-catchment.</p>			
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included.</p> <p>We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b)</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>			
<p>Policy P107: framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and (b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and (c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>	<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have a significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u> Insert (d) when schedule P changes: <u>-ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect – the water availability should be released immediately.</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>We support the use of water</p>	
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the <u>whaitua</u> chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115 (authorising</p>	<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>Policy P115: Authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
	<p>Amend</p>	<p>oppose</p>	

Policy P116: reallocating water	Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whaitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.	Support		Retain
Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow	In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.	support		retain
Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use	The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made	amend	The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes	(a).while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan-being-made-operative <u>renewal of consent to meet the criteria</u> "

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>		
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P120: Taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P128: Transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>		
<p><u>Rules</u></p>			
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p> <p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>
<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>	<p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>	<p>amend</p>	

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>	<p>(b) delete words after "...property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015) – and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a permitted activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary ctivity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Other methods</p>			

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.		positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??	
<p><u>tuamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u></p> <p>Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water</p>	<p>When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.</p>	<p>Insert after - adverse effects – that are measured on aquatic ...</p>
<p>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</p>	<p>Water allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Again the categories need empirical verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly</p>	<p><u>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</u></p>
<p>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</p>	<p>Surface and groundwater allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.</p>	<p><u>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</u></p>

<p><u>Schedules</u></p> <p>Schedule P: assessing and managing groundwater and surface water connectivity</p>		oppose	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW</p> <p>The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt.</p> <p>Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p><u>Needs empirical calibration by GW</u></p>
<p>Schedule Q: reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>Irrigation</p> <p>A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria:</p> <p>(a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and</p> <p>(b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	Amend	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%." Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations.</p> <p>Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised.</p> <p>More consultation with affected parties is required.</p> <p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%</p> <p>Add after field validated model -- <u>for Wairarapa conditions</u></p> <p>(a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows. Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount. Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups</p> <p>However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledging</p> <p>However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users.</p> <p>As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower.</p> <p>The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions</p> <p>There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u></p> <p>Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Leo Vollebregt

Submitter Number:

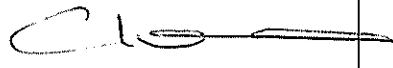
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SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Name	Leo Vollebregt	
Farm Name	CLJ + RM Vollebregt.	GRAND CHIEF REGIONAL COUNCIL
Physical Address	235 Pahautee Rd., RD1, Teaflinton.	23 OCT 2015
Phone Number	06 3088405 027 25 88405	06 3088405
Email Address	l.voll@extra.co.nz.	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	270 hectares
Main Waterways	Ruamahanga, Whakawiriwiri, Wateraces.
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes <u>No</u>
Environmental investments	Bush, Lagoons, waterways all fenced off.
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	No.
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so Yes. Wairarapa means very good

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

Excluding stock from water races very impractical. It is the only water source.
Some parts of the Waikarepa do not have reliable ground water.

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

in future wetlands may be constructed. The activitiesⁱⁿ and construction of these needs to be free of restriction to encourage innovation.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

I have storage but still doubt its merits and how much the environment is benefiting

Policy 68. - all discharges should have exceptions as a result of extreme weather-related overflow.

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will
make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

We have 7 small silage stacks each season.

We strive to make quality silage which has no leachate.

a concrete pad for each stack is expensive, environmentally unfriendly (what do you do with unused concrete?). If you make poor silage, what do you do with the collected leachate?

7 small silage stacks means low cost and low fuel use in putting in the silage and feeding it out. - short haul.

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

Farmers will make sure soil does not run into a waterway

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

G.W. needs to contact each landowner ^{individually} to inform them what they can and cannot do with their waterways.

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

Consider using Land Management officer for advice on sizing & design.

- avoid rules, costs,

- making it hard to keep animals out of waterways.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

~~e.g.~~ these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

↑
agree with above.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

~~e.g.~~ provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

makes sense when you are spraying close to a neighbour but definitely need to be practical in low risk situation.

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Very impractical - all Wairarapa ^{storm} flood / Water goes into
Lake Wairarapa during a flood.

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Form 6: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1981



To: Psepost 3 88
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11648
 Wellington 6142

Or email: region@pnrc.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Cornelis Leonardus Jacobus and Rebecca Maria Vollebregt
 Organisation name: CLJ + RM Vollebregt
 (if applicable)
 Address for Service: 235 Paharua Rd
RD1
Featherston
 Telephone no's: Work: _____ Home: 06 3288405 Cell: 027 2588405
 Contact person: Leo Vollebregt (CLJ)
 Address and telephone no. (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: _____

Trade competition

I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. (Go straight to Your Submission)

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.
- I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to (please specify the provision section number) <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission →	Support the submission of the Wairarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of the organisation	
Reasons for my objection from WRC (please specify)	→	

100
100
100
100

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision's section number)	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision's section number)	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

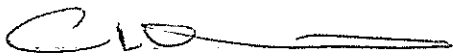
The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision's section number)	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →		

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:



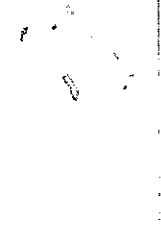
Date:

21.10.2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission.]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.



#1530376

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

Your details

21 OCT 2015

Full name: Leo Vollebregt

RECEIVED

Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

4.10 PM

Address for service: Leo Vollebregt

235 Pahautea Road, RD1,

Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405

Contact person: Leo Vollebregt

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

^{yes} I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [if you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission']

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

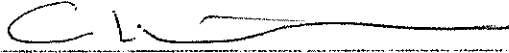
Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

21st October 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

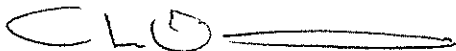
Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
<u>Definitions</u>	<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>	amend	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>
<p>Category A groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>		<p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p>	
<p>Category B groundwater (not directly connected)</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>	
<p>Category C groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,</p>			

	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>	<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	
<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Category A groundwater and the component of Category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 	<p>There is no definition of what directly connected means.</p> <p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>Groundwater in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p> <p>Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>retain</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater directly connected to surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and <u>maximised the amount is increased</u> through time, including by means of:</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whatua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain</p> <p>Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that whatua or sub-catchment.</p>			
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included.</p> <p>We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b)</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>

<p>Policy P107: Framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>	<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have a significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u> <u>Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect - the water availability should be released immediately.</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises: (a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and (b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and (c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>We support the use of water</p>	
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the whatitua chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115 (authorising</p>	<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>

<p>ows and water -vels)</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows: (c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p>
<p>olicy P115: authorising takes below minimum flows and lake evels) and (c) i</p>	<p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p>	<p>As above The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p>	<p>As above</p>
<p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p>	<p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
<p>Amend</p>	<p>oppose</p>	<p>As above</p>	<p>As above</p>

<p>Policy P116: re-allocating water</p>	<p>Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whatua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.</p>	<p>Support</p>		<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow</p>	<p>In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use</p>	<p>The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes</p>	<p>(a) while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan being made-operative renewal of consent to meet the criteria"</p>

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>			
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>		<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P17 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>		<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>		<p>retain</p>

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>		
<p><u>Rules</u></p>			
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>
<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>	<p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after "... property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a <u>permitted</u> activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Other methods</p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and economic values of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.</p>		<p>positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??</p>
<p><u>ʻĪamamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u></p> <p>Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water</p>	<p>When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.</p> <p>Insert after - adverse effects – <u>that are measured on aquatic ...</u></p>
<p><u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u></p>	<p>Water allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p><u>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</u></p>
<p><u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u></p>	<p>Surface and groundwater allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</p>

<p><u>Schedule P:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p><u>Schedule Q:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>oppose</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical calibration by GW</u> The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p><u>Needs empirical calibration by GW</u></p>
<p><u>Schedule P:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>Irrigation A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria: (a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and (b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%." Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations. Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised. More consultation with affected parties is required.</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15% Add after field validated model – for <u>Wairarapa conditions</u> (a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>
<p><u>Schedule P:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p>(a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows. Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount. Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledging However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users. As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower. The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u> Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Jamie Falloon

Submitter Number:

S373

#1531006

5373

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

23 OCT 2015

Name	Jamie Falloon	RECEIVED
Farm Name	Bowlends	
Physical Address	1973 Te Ore Ore Bideford Rd Manatutu	
Phone Number	06 3724805 0274 907390	
Email Address	jamiefalloon@xtar.co.nz	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters ✓

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission ✓

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business-
Farm size (area)	1200 hectares
Main Waterways	Tanarua River
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes NO
Environmental investments	pole planting, plantation forestry
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	1/3 ha
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so Plan should have clear rules & conditions and should enable activities Need to promote partnership approach

with Triv and Council and landowners

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

Support temporary fencing requirement

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

Clarify definitions
promote use of wetlands for nutrient
management.
Allow enhancement of water area for other
biodiversity benefits

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

Rule must allow stock areas to
water

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

Advise landowners of what they have
Support definition with regard to drains
that occasionally convey water

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

*Delete Stabilisation requirement
permit farm track construction*

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

*be consistent with Wairarapa District Council
rules in combined plan*

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint →
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

make bridge 50m²
permit 100m² fords where bridge would
be cost prohibitive

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

Alan correct me

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

Impractical conditions

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Michael Taylor

Submitter Number:

S374

#1531007 5374

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Name	Michael Taylor	GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL 23 OCT 2015
Farm Name	Beaumaris	RECEIVED
Physical Address	700 Homewood Road RD 12 MASTERTON	
Phone Number	06 3723 700	
Email Address	beaumaris@wise.net.nz	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission *mtaylor*

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	663 hectares
Main Waterways	Swansons creek Town Hill Creek
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental investments	Pole Planting Stream bank protection Retired Conservation Planting
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	200 + Ha Retirement Block
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so I like the Partnership approach and get on very well with my Land Management officer at present.

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between
landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

*e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)
Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.*

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will
make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

Feel that stock need to have access to
natural water ,

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

*Concerned if vegetation collapses into river/creek bed it cannot be removed,
Concerned you will not find all the fish therefore be liable.*

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

*Need to be able to construct farm tracks and drains
and Downs.*

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months— permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

*Need to be able to clear ground. esp by hand
hand means and aerial and spraying by hand / tractor etc*

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

Culvert/Bridge needs to cope with flows,

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

Notification requirements are overkill.

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter.

Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available.

Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

Not practical to have no fert in creek but

spreader/pilot will always use best endeavour to ensure this does not happen.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Graeme Tulloch

Submitter Number:

S375

#1531008

5375

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Name	Gracene Hesk Tulloch	23 OCT 2015
Farm Name	Mahoe - Cornwall RD - Gladstone	RECEIVED
Physical Address	302 Cornwall RD Masterton	
Phone Number	06 398-2406	
Email Address		

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

G.H. Tulloch

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. <u>Sheep</u> , <u>Beef</u> , <u>Arable</u> , Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	1500 hectares
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	<u>Yes</u> No
Environmental investments	(\$450000) Balance. Even award winner on effluent system 2015.
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

*e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)
Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.*

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

*e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available.
Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.*

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

To: Freepost 3155
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Graeme Hugh Tulloch
 Organisation name: TSM Farms LTD.
 (if applicable)
 Address for Service: 302 Cornwall RD Masterton.

Telephone no: Work: 06 3782706 Home: _____ Cell: 027 3782906

Contact person: _____

Address and telephone no. if different from above: _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: _____

Trade competition

I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]

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.
- I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision section number) <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission →	I support the submission of the Wairarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation
	seek the following objection from WRC give preference to →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
seek the following decision from WRC give precise details →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
seek the following decision from WRC give precise details: →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
seek the following decision from WRC give precise details: →		

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: *G. H. Tullock*

Date: 20-10-15

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

2

#1530376

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

RECEIVED
WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

21 OCT 2015

Your details

Full name: Leo Vollebregt
Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society
Address for service: Leo Vollebregt
235 Pahautea Road, RD1,
Featherston
Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405
Contact person: Leo Vollebregt
Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

RECEIVED
4.10 PM

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lrvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

yes I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [if you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission']

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

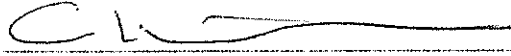
Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:



Date:

20/10/2015

{Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission}

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.
21st October 2015

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

Dear Sir/Madam

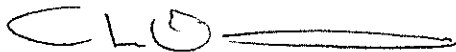
Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
Definitions	<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>	amend	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model
Category A groundwater	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.		The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.	
Category B groundwater (not directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.		In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse	
Category C groundwater	Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,			

<p>groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	
<p>Regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Category A groundwater and the component of Category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 	<p>amend</p>	<p>There is no definition of what directly connected means.</p> <p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>Ground water in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p> <p>Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater irectly connected o surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of: (a) to (e) are good means to the objective. Add (f) enabling storage within the bed of a river</p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whaitua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain Add (c) consents will run for a period of 25 years</p>

	(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that <i>whaitua</i> or sub-catchment.			
Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)	(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and (h) irrigation and stock water, and	Amend support	(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included. We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.	Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b) retain retain
Policy P11: In-stream water storage	The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when: (c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and (d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and (e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and (f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the	support		

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>			
<p>Policy P107: Framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <p>(a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and</p> <p>(b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and</p> <p>(c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>	<p>(a) the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have significant part to play in establishing the evidence Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect - the water availability should be released immediately."</p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>We support the use of water</p>	
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the whatua chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115 (authorising</p>	<p>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>Policy P115: authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
	<p>Amend</p> <p>oppose</p>		

<p>Policy P116: re-allocating water</p>	<p>Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the <i>whaitua</i> chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.</p>	<p>Support</p>		<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow</p>	<p>In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use</p>	<p>The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of:</p> <p>(a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes</p>	<p>(a).while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan-being-made-operative renewal of consent to meet the criteria"</p>

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>		
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P17 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>	<p>retain</p>

		<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>		
<p><u>Rules</u></p>				
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>
<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>		<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>	

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after "...property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Waitarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a permitted activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p><u>Other methods</u></p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.</p>	<p>positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??</p>	
<p><u>tuamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u></p> <p>Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water</p>	<p>When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.</p>	<p>amend</p> <p>important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.</p>	<p>insert after - adverse effects – that are measured on aquatic ...</p>
<p>figures 7.3 – 7.8</p>	<p>Water allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p> <p>Again the categories need empirical verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly</p>	<p>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</p>
<p>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</p>	<p>Surface and groundwater allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p> <p>The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.</p>	<p>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</p>

<p><u>Schedule P:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p><u>Schedule Q:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>oppose</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW</p>
<p><u>Schedule P:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p><u>Schedule Q:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%." Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations. Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised. More consultation with affected parties is required.</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15% Add after field validated model – for <u>Wairarapa conditions</u></p>
	<p>(a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and (b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p>(a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows. Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount. Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledged However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users. As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower. The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u> Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

James Falloon

Submitter Number:

S376

#1531010

5376

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Name	James Falloon	GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL
Farm Name	Ditton Farm	23 OCT 2015
Physical Address	100 Ditton Rd 1206	RECEIVED
Phone Number	3724882	
Email Address	james.falloon@xtm.co.nz	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR ~~hard mail~~ – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural-business
Farm size (area)	1269 hectares
Main Waterways	Whangapehu
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	Trees soil Plan
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	Yes 40 ha.
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so your chance of collaboration so understand the issues. Resources

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between
landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

*Allow stock on hill country to drink if no disturbance is
created*

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

*e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)
Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.*

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

u

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

use another method. a ~~clear~~ clear definition is needed

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

we have to know what we have got.

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

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VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

make the process obvious

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: **support/oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

*Definition of replacing or Re M on ~~an~~ an existing
Bridge
needs to be easy and suitable to help waterways*

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

Agree -

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available.

Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Donald McCreary

Submitter Number:

S377

#1531011

5377

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Name	Donald McCreary	23 OCT 2015
Farm Name	Peninsula / Arohau	RECEIVED
Physical Address	1974 Hinakura Rd, R.D. 4, Martinborough	
Phone Number	06 3088857	
Email Address	donmcc@farmside.co.nz	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. <u>Sheep, Beef</u> , Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	<u>1600</u> hectares
Main Waterways	<u>Pahoao River & tributaries.</u>
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	<u>Yes</u> No
Environmental investments	<u>Pole/poplar planting for erosion. bridges & culverts.</u>
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so <u>on back!</u>

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

*e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)
Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.*

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager’s control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

<p>Effluent Comment and Reasons <i>e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs? If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?</i></p>
--

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~ oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~ oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

Don't. you want stock. etc. out of waterways. – hence remove any restrictions to culverts and bridges / forwards also help to get through water ways safely and quickly.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

- Keep in mind the requirement to have these with few restrictions to maintain clean environment around our land area.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Any new requirements to ~~do~~ current landuse should not come at the landowners expense. Where the benefit is not directly to them, but the wider public.

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to
 Clause 8 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionapen@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Donald McCrea
 Organisation name: #
 (if applicable)
 Address for Service: 1974, Hinakawa Rd
R-D.4, Martonborough
 Telephone no: Work: 06 3088857 Home: _____ Cell: _____
 Contact person: Don McCrea
 Address and telephone no. (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: donmcc@farmside.co.nz

Trade competition

We could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. (Go straight to Your Submission)

We could gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. If you could gain an advantage please complete one of the following:

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.

We are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision section number) <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is →	<input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission →	I support the submission of the Wairarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation
	References to other documents from WRC or other sources →	

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The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:


The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →		

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

19/10/15

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Form 6: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3 86
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11615
 Wellington 6142

Or email: reg or elplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: ALEXANDER JOHN CARNO BIDWILL
 Organisation name (if applicable): PAAHATA WAI PARTNERSHIP
 Address for Service: 741 KAWHARUA ROAD
RD 1, SEADIGSTON
 Telephone no's: Work: 0274916972 Home: _____ Cell: _____
 Contact person: SANDY BIDWILL
 Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on this process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: bidwille, hugh, ca, nz

Trade competition

We could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. (Go straight to Your Submission)

We could gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.
 If you could gain an advantage please complete one of the following:

- 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.
- We are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is/are: <u>Section 222(1)(a) of the Resource Management Act 1991</u>	My submission on this provision is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: _____	Is/does your submission of the Waikarewa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation: _____
Attachments: _____	

#153037B

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

Your details

27 OCT 2015

Full name: Leo Vollebregt

RECEIVED

Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

4.10 PM

Address for service: Leo Vollebregt

235 Pahautea Road, RD1,

Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405

Contact person: Leo Vollebregt

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lrvoil@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

yes I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [if you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to "Your submission"]

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: : →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:



Date:

20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

21st October 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
<u>Definitions</u>	<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</p> <p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p> <p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p> <p>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p> <p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p> <p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>	<p>Groundwater will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>
<p>Category A groundwater</p>				
<p>Category B groundwater (directly connected)</p>				
<p>Category B groundwater (not directly connected)</p>				
<p>Category C groundwater</p>				

<p>groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>	<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	<p>Ground water in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p> <p>Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Category A groundwater and the component of Category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 	<p>amend</p>	<p>There is no definition of what directly connected means.</p> <p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>Oppose</p> <p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Remove</p>

<p>able 3.6 roundwater irectly connected o surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised <u>the amount is increased</u> through time, including by means of:</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whatua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain</p> <p>Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that <i>whaitua</i> or sub-catchment.</p>		
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b)</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>		
<p>Policy P107: framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <p>(a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and</p> <p>(b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and</p> <p>(c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u></p> <p><u>Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect - the water availability should be released immediately."</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt.</p> <p>Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the <u>whaitua</u> chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>Policy P115: authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
	<p>Amend</p> <p>oppose</p>		

<p>Policy P116: Reallocating water</p>	<p>Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whaitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow</p>	<p>In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use</p>	<p>The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>(a) while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan being made-operative <u>renewal of consent to meet the criteria</u>"</p>
	<p>The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes</p>		

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>		
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P120: Taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P17 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P128: Transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit; and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>		
<p>Rules</p>			
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>
<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>	<p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>

<p>id milk-cooling ater -- permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>	<p>(b) delete words after "...property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any-time during the three years prior to the date-of public-notification-of-the-Proposed-Natural Resources-Plan-(31-07-2015),-and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers -- ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p> <p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a permitted activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits -- restricted iscretionary ivity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Other methods</p>			

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.		positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??	
<u>tuamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u>	When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.	amend	Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.	insert after - adverse effects -- that are measured on aquatic ...
<u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u>	Water allocation amounts	Oppose	Again the categories need empirical verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly	Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified
<u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u>	Surface and groundwater allocation amounts	Oppose	The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.	Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified

<p><u>inertiles</u></p> <p>chedule P: assifying and anaging oundwater and urface water nnectivity</p>		oppose	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW</p> <p>The <u>connectivity</u> between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt.</p> <p>Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p><u>Needs empirical calibration by GW</u></p>
<p>chedule Q: easonable and fficient use criteria</p>	<p>Irrigation</p> <p>A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria:</p> <p>(a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and</p> <p>(b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	Amend	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%." Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations.</p> <p>Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised.</p> <p>More consultation with affected parties is required.</p> <p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%</p> <p>Add after field validated model -- for <u>Wairarapa conditions</u></p> <p>(a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows. Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount. Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledged However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users. As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower. The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u> Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
---	--	--------------------------------	---	--

Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Lewis Herrick

Submitter Number:

S378

#1531012

S378

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Name	Lewis Herrick	GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL 23 OCT 2015
Farm Name	Melton Dairies	RECEIVED
Physical Address	1513 RD3 Martinborough	
Phone Number	0273069438	
Email Address	lewisherrick@hotmail.com	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, <u>Dairy</u> , agricultural business
Farm size (area)	hectares 170
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between
landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

*e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)
Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.*

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will
make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to
 Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1981



To: Freepost 3 85
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: [regplan@govt.nz](mailto:regplan@gw.govt.nz)

Your details

Full name: Lewis Herrick

Organisation name: (if applicable)

Address for Service: 1513 RDS Martborough

Telephone no: Work: 0273069439 Home: 063069071 Cell:

Contact person:

Address and telephone no. (if different from above):

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address:

Trade competition

I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision number: Volume Part)	My submission or its provisions →	<input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission →	I support the submission of the Waitara Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation
	Reasons for my opposition from ARC give precise details →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
I seek the following decision from WRC (please provide details): →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
I seek the following decision from WRC (please provide details): →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
I seek the following decision from WRC (please provide details): →		

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.)
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:

JA. Merrill

Date:

19/10/15

(Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission)

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

#1530376

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

Greater Wellington Regional Council
Resource Management

Your details

21 OCT 2015

Full name: Leo Vollebregt

RECEIVED

Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

4.10 PM

Address for service: Leo Vollebregt

235 Pahautea Road, RD1,

Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405

Contact person: Leo Vollebregt

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

YES I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [If you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission']

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

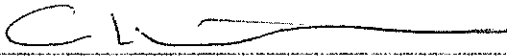
Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- ~~YES~~ I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: 20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.
21st October 2015

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

Dear Sir/Madam

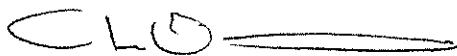
Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
Definitions				
Category A groundwater	Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.	amend	The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.	Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model
Category B groundwater (not directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.		The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.	
Category C groundwater	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.		In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse	
	Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7.			

<p>groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p> <p>Category A groundwater and the component of category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 	<p>amend</p>	<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p> <p>There is no definition of what directly connected means.</p> <p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>Ground water in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p> <p>Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater directly connected to surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of:</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whatua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain</p> <p>Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that whatua or sub-catchment.</p>			
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included.</p> <p>We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.</p> <p>retain</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants</u> to (b)</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>			
<p>Policy P107: framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <p>(a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and</p> <p>(b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and</p> <p>(c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>	<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u> <u>Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect - the water availability should be released immediately."</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>We support the use of water</p>	
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the <u>whatia</u> chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115 (authorising</p>	<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>Policy P115: authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
	<p>Amend</p>	<p>oppose</p>	

Policy P-116: Reallocating water	Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, canceled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the <i>whaitua</i> chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.	Support	Retain
Policy P-117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow	In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.	support	retain
Policy P-118: Reasonable and efficient use	The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made	amend	(a) while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan being made-operative <u>renewal of consent to meet the criteria</u> "

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>		
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>		
<p>Rules</p>			
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water -- discretionary activity</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>
<p>rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>	<p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>	<p>(b) delete words after "... property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a permitted activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>retain</p>	
<p>Other methods</p>			

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<p>(d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.</p>		<p>positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??</p>	
<p><u>Luamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u> Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water</p>	<p>When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.</p>	<p>Insert after - adverse effects – that are measured on aquatic ...</p>
<p><u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u></p>	<p>Water allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Again the categories need <u>empirical</u> verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly</p>	<p><u>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</u></p>
<p><u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u></p>	<p>Surface and groundwater allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.</p>	<p><u>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</u></p>

<p><u>Schedule P:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p><u>Schedule Q:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>oppose</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW</p>
<p><u>Schedule P:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>Irrigation A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria: (a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and (b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%." Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations. Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised. More consultation with affected parties is required.</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15% Add after field validated model – <u>for Wairarapa conditions</u> (a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>
<p><u>Schedule P:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p></p>

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows. Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount. Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledging However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GWV to establish in consultation with water users. As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower. The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u> Table R1 is interim GWV to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

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Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington R

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE SUBMISSIONS SPREADSHEET:

Send to: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details:

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

I/we are not directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of my submission that adversely and does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

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 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: 20/10/2015

Submission on Greater Wellington Proposed Natural Resources Plan

To: Chief Executive, Greater Wellington Regional Council

1. This is a submission from:

Submitter Details: Craig Dairy Farm Ltd

This submission is also supported by the following parties;

- Gary James Daysh and Anne Marie Daysh (112 Hururua Rd, Carterton RD 1)
- Lewis Herrich (1513 State Highway 53, Martinborough)
- Blair Percy (36 Masterton Stronvar Road, Masterton)
- Sandra Joy Shivas (28 Mangatarere Rd, Carterton RD 1)
- James and Jane Smallwood (19 Homestead Lane, Greytown)
- N & S Terry (Richmond Road, Carterton)
- Ali Scott & Dion Kilmister (1665 Te Ore Ore Bideford Road, Masterton RD11)
- AB & DE Smith (60 Chester Road, Carterton)
- Beryl Masters Stuart (107 Manuka Street, Masterton 5810)
- Garry Daniell (Te Ore Ore Road)

A contact address sheet is provided for each of these parties as attached to the submission.

Submitter Contact: Ray Craig

Submitter Postal Address: 144 Lincoln Road, Carterton 5713

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Attention: Nicholas Cooper

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Nicholas.Cooper@opus.co.nz

Trade Competition

I/we **could not** gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [If you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission']

Submission

2. This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resource Plan for the Greater Wellington Regional Council

3. The specific provisions of the proposal that this submission relates to are:

The specific provisions of the proposed NRP that the submission relates to are in terms of;

A. Accuracy of nomenclature and identification of the Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas – Wairarapa Map 27a.

With regard to the Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas on Map 27a there are a number of concerns identified:

- Map 27a is entitled “Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas – Wairarapa (incorporates Schedule M2). Within Map 27a there are identified ‘Groundwater supply well’, and ‘Groundwater supply protection area’. Map 27a does not identify ‘community drinking water’ supply protection areas.
- The proposed defaulting of activities (currently permitted) such as the application of agricultural (rule 36), the discharge of collected animal effluent (rule 83), or farm refuse dumps (rule 89) to discretionary or restricted discretionary activities where on land within an identified community drinking water supply protection area creates an uncertainty for the current landowner or operator in regard to future land use and management options.

Identifying that those uses are not permitted within the ‘groundwater community drinking water supply protection area’ unduly penalises those landowners or operators within the protection area without identifying an actual environmental problem or adverse effect to be avoided, remedied or mitigated.

- The Proposed NRP Section 32 Report for Discharges to Land in Section 5 “Efficiency and Effectiveness” discusses managing effects on drinking water supplies (5.1), rural waste (5.3), manufacture and storage of silage and compost (5.4), and collected animal effluent (5.5). The only specific data about groundwater for the Wairarapa cited is the region wide study relating to groundwater capture zones by GNS Science (Toews and Donath, 2015). Section 5.1 on page 17 states

Taking a precautionary approach (in accordance with Policy P3 of the proposed Plan) in protecting sources of community drinking water is generally more effective and less costly than trying to counteract the impacts of contamination after the occurrence. Uncertainty about how well the mapped zones reflect actual contaminant pathways and channel characteristics (and therefore risk), will always be present, and especially so in the vicinity of minor tributaries. However, the extent of the protection zones should be reviewed and refined over time as knowledge and methodologies improve. An external peer review has confirmed that the approach to identifying zones around the drinking water supplies as protection areas, was appropriate and defensible (Potts 2015).

This approach is based upon Policy 69 which states;

*Policy P69: Human drinking water supplies
The adverse effects from discharges to land and water on the quality of community drinking water supplies and group drinking water supplies shall be avoided to the extent practicable. Where adverse effects cannot be avoided, the adverse effects shall be managed having particular regard to:*

Further in section 5.1 it is referenced that Policy 69 directs the management of ‘adverse’ effects on human drinking water supplies by

‘...conditions have been included on rules for specific discharges to land activities including farm refuse dumps, offal pits...’ and,

A default protection zone as an ‘alert’ or ‘filtering’ mechanism has been identified. This can be seen in proposed Rules R71-R73 and Rule R89, which include a provision that

restricts otherwise permitted activities to occur within a community drinking water supply protection area as identified in Maps 26-27.

The justification for Policy 69 is in the second to last paragraph of 5.1 where it is stated at the bottom of page 17;

Proposed Policy P69 is followed by a note explaining that sections 7 and 8 of the NES-Drinking Water limit the ability of a regional council to grant consent to activities within community supply protection areas.

There are no specific problems regarding water quality, and a link between land use and water quality, has been identified in the area affected by Schedule M2.

Under the discussion relating to rural waste (Section 5.2.2 of the PNRP Section 32 report: Discharges to land) pages 22 it is stated;

Agriculture plays a role in the economic and social well-being in the Wellington Region, primarily in the Wairarapa but also in the rest of the region. Farming practices produce a variety of waste streams from construction waste (timber and metal) and hazardous wastes (agrichemicals and paints), to household organic food scrap waste and dead animals. It is important to ensure that waste management options are available to enable rural landowners not only to minimise their waste, but also to divert or dispose of it in a sustainable manner.

In terms of farm rural waste and assessing whether there are adverse environmental effects occurring within the Wairapapa, or the *community supply protection areas* specifically,

“The volume of waste ending up in farm dumps in the Wellington Region is not known...”

However in the Section 32 Report it is discussed that using data from a study of farm dump disposal in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty regions suggests that a volume of 65,453 tonnes of rural waste annually (Section 5.3.1, page 24 of Section 32: Discharges to Land) is being disposed of within the region. But there is no quantification by the Section 32 report in terms of environmental problems resulting from farm refuse other than a statement (Section 5.3.1 page 24);

“WRC incident reporting shows that inappropriate contents and location of farm refuse dumps has led to environmental contamination in a number of cases.”

This doesn't indicate whether farm refuse dumps are an increasing environment problem or whether the dumps have a problem in relation to groundwater and potable water for a community supply.

This submission questions whether the *community supply protection areas* have been identified adequately to impose restriction upon land users where there is no record established of an adverse effect occurring.

- A report on water quality, the Ministry of Health *Annual Report on Drinking Water Quality* (2013-2014) indicate that there is no problem which requires management.
- The use of a regional-scale model, with inherent assumptions and generalisations, to predict the behaviour at specific bores and locations. While the availability of hydrogeological data may be appropriate to support a regional-scale model, considerable local variation exists. As stated in GNS (2015) *“The models were never calibrated as groundwater transport models”* and *“Because the groundwater models were not calibrated as transport models, the travel times of particle path lines may not be accurate; however, their flow pathways should remain the same.”* Consequently, at specific locations there will be significant differences

between the assumed/modelled conditions and the actual situation. Any default classification, such as schedule M2, therefore must not be overly restrictive.

- There is a lack of empirical calibration or validation of the model. The available data suggests that the model is either inappropriate or that there is no problem to be addressed. In addition: *“The mapped zones in this report (GNS, 2015) are conservative in the sense that their size and shape consider a wide range of uncertainties. The boundaries do not mark absolute boundaries of the CZs and PZs, and as such, may delineate zones that may not contribute groundwater to wells. Some of the uncertainty analysis runs, for instance, may not realistically portray groundwater flow, and as a result would map a zone larger than it should be.”*
- The adoption of conservative, and potentially non-validated capture zones. This is acknowledged within the report upon which the extents of the capture zones are based (GNS, 2015).
- The adoption of the default capture zones, with no empirical support or justification, will place the onus on the landowner to show that they are not causing a problem. The available evidence suggests that there is not actually a problem to be addressed.
- There is no economic assessment of the costs of imposing the proposed capture zones on existing and lawful land use activities. There may be potentially substantial direct and indirect costs and restrictions imposed on landowners. The Section 32 Report has not weighed these against any benefits from ‘managing’ a national issue, rather than quantifying and determining the extent of the potential scale at the issue within Greater Wellington.

B. Rules of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan being;

With regard to farming activities within the Groundwater Supply Protection Areas this submission comments on the following rules of the PNRP

- Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity
- Rule R83: Discharge of collected animal effluent onto or into land – controlled activity
- Rule R89: Farm refuse dumps – permitted activity
- Rule R90: Manufacture and storage of silage and compost – permitted activity
- Rule 92: All discharges to land within community drinking water supply protection areas – restricted discretionary activity
- Rule R94: Cultivation or tilling of land – permitted activity
- Rule R95: Break-feeding – permitted activity
- Rule R96: Cultivation and break-feeding – discretionary activity
- Rule R121: Maintenance of drains – permitted activity
- Rule R122: Removing vegetation – permitted activity

4. The submission is:

The submission is that the rules identified above are to be amended and or deleted as detailed within section 5 below.

5. The submitter seeks the following decision from Greater Wellington Regional Council:

Table of Submitter Requested Changes

<i>Specific Provision</i>	<i>Request</i>	<i>Reason</i>
<i>Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u> Amend the rule. Remove criterion (e) requiring that there is no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area.</p>	<p>The inclusion of criteria (e) does not address any known or identified problem. It does not reflect the available information and data on the water quality of Wairarapa potable water supplies (Ministry of Health, 2013-2014). There is no region specific evidence of a risk to community drinking water supply from the activity described by rule 36. The other criteria under the PNRP rule 36 aside from (e), being criteria (g) through to (o) can equally provide for the safe application of agrichemical in a manner that avoids adverse effects upon land within a community drinking water supply area.</p>
<i>Rule R83: Discharge of collected animal effluent onto or into land – controlled activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u> Amend the rule by deleting condition (e)(iii).</p>	<p>Rule R83 is supported in principle as a sensible approach to managing the effects of dairy farm effluent. However, the submitter is concerned that the identification of the community drinking water supply protection area as shown on map 26 and 27a is faulty and therefore landowners are required by condition (e)(iii) to go through a resource consent process even if the activity is outside the protection area.</p>

Specific Provision	Request	Reason
<i>Rule R89: Farm refuse dumps – permitted activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule by deleting condition (d)(iii).</p>	<p>The submitter seeks that rule 89 is amended to remove criterion (d)(iii). The PNRP Section 32 on Discharges to Land report does not have evidence at a regional level that this activity is creating a problem for the Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas. Policy 69 is basing the implementation of Rule 89 on a precautionary approach but has not quantified the costs of doing so. There is also considerable uncertainty regarding the delineation of the groundwater capture zones based on work undertaken by GNS (Toews and Donarth 2015).</p>
<i>Rule R90: Manufacture and storage of silage and compost – permitted activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend condition (d) of the rule by inserting the word “permanent” in front of ‘silage storage area’ as follows;</p> <p>(d) the walls and floor of a <u>permanent silage</u> storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water, and</p> <p>Or any other equivalent change</p>	<p>Condition (d) requiring that all silage areas are lined is not justified. The submitter considers that lining is appropriate for permanent silage storage pits which are used on an ongoing basis. It is not appropriate for temporary silage storage which may only be in use when there is a sufficient additional material for silage that cannot be accommodated by the existing permanent pit. It is suggested that if required, temporary could be defined as being used only once per 4 years (48months). At that frequency of use any silage leachate emanating from a temporary pit would be broken down by biological and chemical soil/ground processes.</p>
<i>Rule 92: All discharges to land within community drinking water supply protection areas – restricted discretionary activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Request that the rule be deleted.</p> <p>Or any other equivalent</p>	<p>Based upon the information collected for GWRC by GNS Science (Toews and Donath, 2015) and the information collected by the Ministry of Health (Ministry of Health</p>

Specific Provision	Request	Reason
	change	2013-2014) it is not clear that the land discharge activity is a problem for the Groundwater supply wells or that or that the Groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas are defined appropriately. If these points are correct the rule is being unfairly applied without due recognition of the costs imposed on those parties who will have to comply with the rule. This is in terms of what level of evidence would be required for a consent application under rule 92 to determine that any effects on community drinking water supply water quality are not more than minor?
<i>Rule R94: Cultivation or tilling of land – permitted activity</i>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule in relation to condition (a) as follows;</p> <p>(a) cultivation shall not occur within 5m of a surface water body <u>for those surface water bodies with a wetted channel width of greater than 2m of wetted channel.</u></p> <p>Add new condition as follows;</p> <p><u>(xx) cultivation shall not occur within 2m of a surface water body with a wetted channel width of less than 2m.</u></p> <p>Or any other equivalent change</p>	<p>The intent of the rule is to avoid the contamination of surface water bodies by sediment laden run off occurring as a result of cultivation activity.</p> <p>The use of a 5m setback is just a default provision. The information contained in the PNRP Section 32 report discussing the efficiency and effectiveness for livestock access, break-feeding and cultivation highlights various research (Section 5.3, pages 35-36) on the movement of coarse or fine contaminant particle flows to water, various setback distances and the influence of vegetation.</p>

Specific Provision	Request	Reason
<p><i>Rule R95: Break-feeding – permitted activity</i></p>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule in relation to condition (a) as follows;</p> <p>(a)-break-feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface water body <u>for those surface water bodies with a wetted channel width of greater than 2m of wetted channel.</u></p> <p>Add new condition as follows;</p> <p><u>(xx) break-feeding shall not occur within 2m of a surface water body with a wetted channel width of less than 2m.</u></p> <p>Or any other equivalent change</p>	<p>The submitter considers it is impractical to apply 5m setback to break feeding around small surface water bodies such as farm drains which may completely enclose a farm paddock.</p>
<p><i>Rule R121: Maintenance of drains – permitted activity</i></p>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule in terms of inserting a new condition;</p> <p><u>(XX) all tools and mechanical devices used for drain clearing must be inspected and cleaned to remove any pest plants or fragments of pest plants, or pest animals before and after use, to prevent the spread of pests.</u></p> <p>and amend to the following conditions;</p> <p>(g) if mechanically clearing aquatic vegetation, the machinery must use a weed bucket with a curved flat base and a slatted back that permits the easy drainage of water and fish back into the drain <u>which reduces the likelihood of pest plant</u></p>	<p>Supports in principle Rule R121, which permits the removal of vegetation or bed material and associated sediment from any drain or highly modified river or stream, as this is an appropriate status for these activities.</p> <p>Good practice for managing the control of pest plant and animals species is for all machinery to be inspected and if needed, cleaned before machinery or equipment is used in any waterway, including drains. Cleaning should also take place after use and before moving to another location.</p> <p>Machinery should not allow the return of pest plants to a drain, particularly where maintenance activity results in fragments of pest plants being returned to a drain. Such an activity is likely to cause the spread of pest</p>

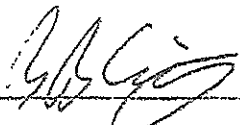
Specific Provision	Request	Reason
	<p><u>material being spread through the drain, and</u></p> <p>(j) floating debris and plant material shall be prevented from drifting away and causing obstructions to the river or lake bed, or spreading pest plants (as listed in the Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002-2022 operative at the time, or listed as an Unwanted Organism under the Biosecurity Act 1993), and</p> <p>Or any other equivalent change</p>	<p>plants, and where the pest plants are Unwanted Organisms (UO's) under the Biosecurity Act 1993, this is a breach of the Act. Similarly any actions that cause the spread of pest animals, including pest fish that are UOs is a breach of the Act.</p>
<p><i>Rule R122: Removing vegetation – permitted activity</i></p>	<p><u>Relief sought</u></p> <p>Amend the rule in terms of the changes to the following conditions;</p> <p>(h) if mechanically clearing aquatic vegetation from an area of river or lake bed covered with water, the machinery must use a weed bucket with a curved flat base, and a slatted back that permits the easy drainage of water and fish back into the drain and which reduces the <u>likelihood of pest plant material being spread through the river, and</u></p> <p>(j) floating debris and plant material shall be prevented from drifting away and causing obstructions to the river or lake bed, or spreading pest plants (as listed in the Greater Wellington Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002-2022 operative at the time, or listed as an Unwanted</p>	<p>Same reason as for Rule 121.</p>

<i>Specific Provision</i>	<i>Request</i>	<i>Reason</i>
	Organism under the <u>Biosecurity Act 1993</u>), and ... Or any other equivalent change	

6. The submitter wishes ~~/does not wish~~ to be heard in support of its submission

7. If others make a similar submission the submitter does ~~/does not~~ want to present a joint case at a hearing.

Craig Dairy Farm Ltd Submission on Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Signature of submitter  Date 22 OCTOBER 2015
RAYMOND BRIAN CRAIG

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Clayton Hartnell

Submitter Number:

S379

#1531014

5379

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Name	CLAYTON HARTNEZZ	23 OCT 2015
Farm Name	AOTEA	RECEIVED
Physical Address	67 A BUSH GULLY RD	
Phone Number	063089448	
Email Address	CLAYTONHARTNEZZ@HOTMAIL.COM	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. <u>Sheep</u> , Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	hectares 700
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes <u>No</u>
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	300 HECTARES RETIRED
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between
landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

*e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)
Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.*

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on “significance” of site

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Willy and Sally Bosch

Submitter Number:

S380

#1531013

5380

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Name	Willy + Sally Bosch	GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL 23 OCT 2015
Farm Name		RECEIVED
Physical Address	1339 SH 53, RD 3 Martinborough	
Phone Number	06 306 8981	
Email Address	wsbosch@xtra.co.nz	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: ~~I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters~~

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	91 hectares
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for "important" trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

*e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)
Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.*

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1981



To: Freepost 3186
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Willy + Sally Bosch
 Organisation name: Creaming it Limited
 (if applicable)
 Address for Service: 1339 State Highway 53
RD 3
Martinborough
 Telephone no's: Work: _____ Home: 06 3068 981 Cell: 02 7816 9292
 Contact person: Sally Bosch
 Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: wsbosch@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

- I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]
- 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.
 - I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number): <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →	I support the submission of the Wairarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation	
I seek the following decision from RRC: give preference to →		

#1530376

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL
RECEIVED

27 OCT 2015

Your details

Full name: Leo Vollebregt
Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society
Address for service: Leo Vollebregt
235 Pahautea Road, RD1,
Featherston
Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405
Contact person: Leo Vollebregt
Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

RECEIVED

4.10 PM

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

yes I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [if you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission']

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

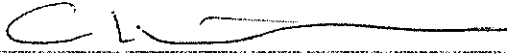
The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:
Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:



Date:

20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

21st October 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
<u>Definitions</u>	<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>	amend	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>
<p>Category A groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>		<p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p>	
<p>Category B groundwater (not directly connected)</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>		<p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>	
<p>Category C groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7.</p>			

<p>groundwater irectly onnecting to urface water egionally ignificant nfrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	
<p>Category A groundwater and the component of category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 		<p>amend</p>	<p>There is no definition of what directly connected means.</p> <p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>Ground water in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p> <p>Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater directly connected to surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of:</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whatua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain</p> <p>Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that <i>whaitua</i> or sub-catchment.</p>			
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included.</p> <p>We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b)</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>

<p>Policy P107: framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>	<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u> insert (d) when schedule P changes: <u>-ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect – the water availability should be released immediately.</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises: (a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and (b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and (c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>We support the use of water</p>	
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the <u>whaitua</u> chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115 (authorising</p>	<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>)</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p>
<p>Policy P115: authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p>	<p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p>	<p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p>	<p>As above</p>
<p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
	<p>Amend</p>		
	<p>oppose</p>		

Policy P116: re-allocating water	Retain		Support	Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the <i>whaitua</i> chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.	
Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow	retain		support	In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.	
Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use	(a) while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan-being-made-operative <u>renewal of consent to meet the criteria</u>	The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes	amend	The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made	

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>			
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>	
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>	
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>	<p>retain</p>	

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>	
<p>Rules</p> <p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p> <p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>	<p>amend</p> <p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p> <p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after "...property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – controlled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a permitted activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary ctivity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Other methods</p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Glen Rowe

Submitter Number:

S381

#1531021

53D1

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

23 OCT 2015

RECEIVED

Name	Glen Rowe
Farm Name	Hikunui Farm Ltd
Physical Address	Hikunui Road R.O.1 Featherston
Phone Number	(06) 3085433
Email Address	Daleglenvalley@kext.co.nz

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

ggr

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	80 hectares
Main Waterways	Ruamahanga
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Noel and Ann Gray

Submitter Number:

S382

538 ✓ #1531025

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

23 OCT 2015

RECEIVED

Name	NOEL & ANN GRAY
Farm Name	PUPAHI & ARDELVE
Physical Address	"ARDELVE" 113 TE MAIRE RD RDI FEATHERSTON 5771
Phone Number	06 3077728
Email Address	N-A. GRAY@xtva.co.nz.

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	hectares
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between
landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*



To: Freepost 3156
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Ann Christina Gray

Organisation name: NM, AC Gray
 (If applicable)

Address for Service: "Ardelue" 113 Te Maive Rd RDI,
Featherston 5771

Telephone no's: Work: Home: 06 3577728 Cell: 027 2083587

Contact person: Noel or Ann Gray

Address and telephone no (if different from above):

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: N-A.Gray@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

- I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]
- 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.
 - I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number): <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	I support the submission of the Weirarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation.
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision section number)	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
I seek the following decision from WRC (please provide details): →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision section number)	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
I seek the following decision from WRC (please provide details): →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision section number)	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →		
I seek the following decision from WRC (please provide details): →		

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:

OR Bell

Date:

19/10/15

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

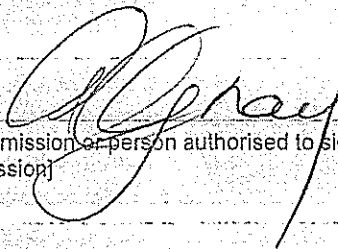
The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:



Date: 19-10-15

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service, as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

To: Freepost 3158
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: STEWART WEATHERSTONE
 Organisation name (if applicable): ROTORUA FARMS LTD
 Address for Service: 2154 KAHUTARA RD FEATHERSTONE

Telephone no's: Work: _____ Home: _____ Cell: 027 293 4400
 Contact person: STU WEATHERSTONE
 Address and telephone no. (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: sweatherstone@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to (please specify the provision section number): <u>Water Plan</u>	My submission either: <input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission: →	I support the submission of the Wairarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation
seek the following decision from WRC (please describe details): →	

#1530376

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

RECEIVED
21 OCT 2015
4.10 PM

Your details

Full name: Leo Vollebregt
Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society
Address for service: Leo Vollebregt
235 Pahautea Road, RD1,
Featherston
Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405
Contact person: Leo Vollebregt
Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

yes I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [If you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission']

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

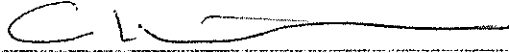
Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.
21st October 2015

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
<u>Definitions</u>	<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>	amend	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Groundwater will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>
<p>Category A groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>		<p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p>	
<p>Category B groundwater (not directly connected)</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>	
<p>Category C groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,</p>			

<p>groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	<p>Ground water in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p>
<p>regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Category A groundwater and the component of category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 	<p>amend</p>	<p>There is no definition of what directly connected means.</p> <p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and māhinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater irectly connected o surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of: (a) to (e) are good means to the objective. Add (f) enabling storage within the bed of a river</p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whatua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain Add (c) consents will run for a period of 25 years</p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that whatitua or sub-catchment.</p>		
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b)</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>			
<p>Policy P107: Framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <p>(a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and</p> <p>(b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and</p> <p>(c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>	<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have a significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u> <u>Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect – the water availability should be released immediately."</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>We support the use of water</p>	
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the <u>whaitua</u> chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115(authorising</p>	<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>)</p> <p>Policy P115: authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>oppose</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
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<p>Policy P116: re-allocating water</p>	<p>Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whaitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow</p>	<p>In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use</p>	<p>The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes (a).while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan-being-made-operative <u>renewal of consent to meet the criteria"</u></p>

	operative to meet the criteria, and			
Policy P119: unused water	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	Support		Retain
Policy P120: taking water for storage	The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.	Support		Retain
Policy P128: transfer of resource consents	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	Support		retain

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>			
<p><u>Rules</u></p>				
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>
<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>	<p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>	<p>amend</p>		

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after “...property.” Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – xcontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a permitted activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary ctivity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Other methods</p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.</p>		<p>positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??</p>	
<p><u>tuamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u> Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water</p>	<p>When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.</p>	<p>Insert after - adverse effects – <u>that are measured</u> on aquatic ...</p>
<p><u>figures 7.3 – 7.8</u></p>	<p>Water allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Again the categories need <u>empirical</u> verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly</p>	<p><u>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</u></p>
<p><u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u></p>	<p>Surface and groundwater allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.</p>	<p><u>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</u></p>

<p><u>the rules</u></p> <p>chedule P: assifying and anaging oundwater and urface water nnectivity</p>	<p>oppose</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p><u>Needs empirical calibration by GW</u></p>
<p>chedule Q: easonable and fficient use criteria</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Irrigation A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria: (a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and (b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15% Add after field validated model – <u>for Wairarapa conditions</u> (a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>
	<p>amend</p>	<p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows. Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount. Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledging However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Wainanga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users. As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower. The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions There also needs to be room for the Whatua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u> Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Brad Gooding

Submitter Number:

S383

#1531024 S383

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

Name	BRAD Gooding	23 OCT 2015
Farm Name	PRAIRIE Holm Company	RECEIVED
Physical Address	1346 western LAKE Featherston	
Phone Number	063098909	
Email Address	bradreck@wizbiz.net.nz	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	hectares 484
Main Waterways	Lake Wairarapa
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	Bridge Roparou planting / Fenestri waterways
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	3ha Covenant
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for "important" trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

To: Freepost 3156
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Brad Gooding

Organisation name: (if applicable) Prairie Hotels Company

Address for Service: 1346 Western Lake Road
Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 063088408 Home: _____ Cell: _____

Contact person: Brad Gooding

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: bradrach@wizbiz.net.nz

Trade competition

I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number) <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	I support the submission of the Weirarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation.
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

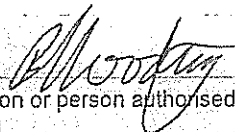
The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:



Date:

19/10/15

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

#1530376

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL
REGISTRATION DIVISION

Your details

21 OCT 2015

Full name: Leo Vollebregt

RECEIVED

Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

4.10 PM

Address for service: Leo Vollebregt
235 Pahautea Road, RD1,
Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405

Contact person: Leo Vollebregt

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lrvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

^{yes} I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [If you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission']

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

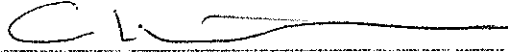
Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.
21st October 2015

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

Dear Sir/Madam


Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
Definitions				
Category A groundwater	Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.	amend	The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.	Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model
Category B groundwater (directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.		The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.	
Category B groundwater (not directly connected)				
Category C groundwater	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.		In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse	
	Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,			

<p>groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	
<p>regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Category A groundwater and the component of Category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 	<p>amend</p>	<p>There is no definition of what directly connected means.</p>	<p>Groundwater in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>Add after treatment plants ... , water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water to current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater irectly connected o surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of: (a) to (e) are good means to the objective. Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whatua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that <i>whaitua</i> or sub-catchment.</p>			
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included.</p> <p>We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.</p> <p>retain</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b)</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>	

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>		
<p>Policy P107: framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <p>(a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and</p> <p>(b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and</p> <p>(c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have a significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u></p> <p><u>Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect - the water availability should be released immediately."</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>We support the use of water</p>
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the <u>whaitua</u> chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>)</p> <p>Policy P115: Authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(e) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>oppose</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
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<p>Policy P116: Reallocating water</p>	<p>Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whaitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>	
<p>Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow</p>	<p>In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>	
<p>Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use</p>	<p>The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of:</p> <p>(a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes</p>	<p>(a) while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan being made-operative renewal of consent to meet the criteria"</p>

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>		
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>			
<p><u>Rules</u></p> <p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p> <p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>		<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>	<p>amend</p> <p>amend</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p> <p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>

Make this rule restricted discretionary

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after "... property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a permitted activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary ivity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p><u>Other methods</u></p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values of the Wairarapa water races...</u></p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.		positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??	
<u>tuamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u> Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water	When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.	amend	Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.	Insert after - adverse effects – that are measured on aquatic ...
<u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u>	Water allocation amounts	Oppose	Again the categories need empirical verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly	<u>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</u>
<u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u>	Surface and groundwater allocation amounts	Oppose	The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.	<u>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</u>

<p><u>Schedule P:</u> assessing and managing groundwater and surface water connectivity</p>	<p>oppose</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW</p>
<p><u>Schedule Q:</u> reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Irrigation A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria: (a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and (b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%." Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations. Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised. More consultation with affected parties is required.</p>
	<p>amend</p>	<p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15% Add after field validated model -- for <u>Wairarapa conditions</u> (a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows.</p> <p>Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount.</p> <p>Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups</p> <p>However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledging</p> <p>However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users.</p> <p>As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower.</p> <p>The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions</p> <p>There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u></p> <p>Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
---	--	--------------------------------	--	--

Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatare Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waiherga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Richard Osborne

Submitter Number:

S384

#1531020

5384

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

23 OCT 2015

Name	Richard Osborne
Farm Name	JDQ Ltd
Physical Address	8 Backwater road RD3 Martonborough
Phone Number	0274527432
Email Address	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	380 hectares
Main Waterways	Kuanahanga
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes/No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for "important" trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Richard Osborne
 Organisation name: JJDQ Ltd
 (if applicable)
 Address for Service: 8 water road RD3 Martborough

Telephone no's: Work: 063069231 Home: _____ Cell: 0274527482

Contact person: Richard Osborne

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: _____

Trade competition

- I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. (Go straight to Your Submission)
- 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.
 - I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number): <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	I support the submission of the Wairarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation.
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- We do wish to be heard in support of my/our submission
 [Note: This means that you wish to speak in support of your submission at the hearing(s).]
- 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:



Date:

19/10/15

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

#1530576

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

RECEIVED
21 OCT 2015

Your details

Full name: Leo Vollebregt

Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Address for service: Leo Vollebregt

235 Pahautea Road, RD1,

Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405

Contact person: Leo Vollebregt

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

21 OCT 2015
4:10 PM

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

yes I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [If you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to "Your submission"]

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:



Date:

20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.
21st October 2015

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

Dear Sir/Madam

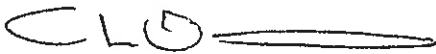
Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

<u>Provision</u>	<u>Text</u>	<u>Support/ Oppose/ Amend</u>	<u>Reasons</u>	<u>Relief sought</u>
<u>Definitions</u>	<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>	amend	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>
<p>Category A groundwater</p> <p>Category B groundwater (directly connected)</p> <p>Category B groundwater (not directly connected)</p> <p>Category C groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>		<p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p>	
	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p> <p>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,</p>		<p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>	

	Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.		effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.	
groundwater directly connected to surface water infrastructure*	<p>Category A groundwater and the component of Category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 	amend	There is no definition of what directly connected means.	Groundwater in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river
Inused water	Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.	support	Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water	Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops
Objective O8	The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.	amend	Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.	retain
Objective O25 (c)	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	Oppose	Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whatua before current water quality levels are known	Remove

<p>able 3.6 groundwater directly connected to surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of: (a) to (e) are good means to the objective. Add (f) enabling storage within the bed of a river</p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whatua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain Add (c) consents will run for a period of 25 years</p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that whatua or sub-catchment.</p>			
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included.</p> <p>We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.</p> <p>retain</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to (b)</u></p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>

	efficient allocation and use of water.			
<p>Policy P107: Framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <p>(a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and</p> <p>(b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and</p> <p>(c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	amend	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt.</p> <p>Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>	<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have a significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u></p> <p><u>Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect - the water availability should be released immediately."</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	support	<p>We support the use of water</p>	
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the whatitua chapters (chapters 7-</p>	Amend	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115 (authorising</p>	<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>(i)</p> <p>Policy P115: authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
		<p>Amend</p> <p>oppose</p>	

<p>Policy P116: re-allocating water</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whatua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes (a) while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan being made-operative renewal of consent to meet the criteria"</p>

	operative to meet the criteria, and			
Policy P119: unused water	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	Support		Retain
Policy P120: taking water for storage	The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.	Support		Retain
Policy P128: transfer of resource consents	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	Support		retain

<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>		
		<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>	
<p><u>Rules</u></p>		<p>amend</p>	
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>		<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	
		<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>
		<p>amend</p>	<p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after "...property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a <u>permitted</u> activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary ctivity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p><u>Other methods</u></p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.		positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??	
<u>tuamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u> Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water	When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.	amend	Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.	Insert after - adverse effects – that are measured on aquatic ...
<u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u>	Water allocation amounts	Oppose	Again the categories need <u>empirical</u> verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly	<u>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</u>
<u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u>	Surface and groundwater allocation amounts	Oppose	The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.	<u>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</u>

<p>chedule P: assifying and anaging oundwater and urface water onnectivity</p>		oppose	<p>Needs empirical calibration by GW The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Needs empirical calibration by GW</p>
<p>chedule Q: easonable and fficient use criteria</p>	<p>Irrigation A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria: (a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and (b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	Amend	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%." Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations. Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised. More consultation with affected parties is required.</p> <p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15% Add after field validated model – for Wairarapa conditions (a) add after 80% - where practicable.</p>

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows.</p> <p>Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount.</p> <p>Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups</p> <p>However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledging</p> <p>However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users.</p> <p>As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower.</p> <p>The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions</p> <p>There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u></p> <p>Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Michael Wood

Submitter Number:

S385

#1531019

5385

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

23 OCT 2015

Name	Michael Wood
Farm Name	Rangateua
Physical Address	1972 Lake Ferry Road
Phone Number	06 3077 080 080
Email Address	M1Wood@ktrea.co.nz

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	hectares
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between
landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Shane and Geoff Wilkinson

Submitter Number:

S386

#1531015

586

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Name	Shane Wilkinson / Geoff Wilkison
Farm Name	Iraia GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL
Physical Address	Haurangi rd RPI Martinborough 23 OCT 2015 RECEIVED
Phone Number	06 30888 22
Email Address	shane.wilkinson@iraia.co.nz p.p. wilkinson @ yahoo.co.nz

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

✓ Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	1800 hectares
Main Waterways	Ruakoputuna river.
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	50 ha QE2 approx 1000 ha native & regen bush.
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~ oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for "important" trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

We own the headwaters of the Ruakopātuna river.
We are an extensive farming operation with large areas of native bush (1000 ha approx). To fence off the river would be impractical & costly, approx 10-15 km of fencing in steep hill country. The water leaving our property is good enough to bottle & drink.

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~ **oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: ~~support~~oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will
make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: support/**oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~ **oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

Large property requiring track maintenance of
more than 3000m² yearly. who is going
to measure this?

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~ **oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

Most of our property is steeper than 20 degrees.

We have greywacke type soil with little or no erosion.

We have problems with reversion of weeds gorse,

Tauhinu etc. we need to spray more than 2ha

each year. To keep what land we have in pasture clear.

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~ **oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

To for to town to cart rubbish

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~ **oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~ oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter.

Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available.

Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

It is in our own interest that we get as much as the fert as possible on to the correct areas as fert is the single biggest on farm cost.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Pip Wilkinson

Submitter Number:

S387

#1531016

5387

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Name	Pip Wilkinson	23 OCT 2015 RECEIVED
Farm Name	Kaikuri Station / Iraia Partnership	
Physical Address	6 Glenduneoch Road Martinborough	RD1 Martinborough
Phone Number	06 3088822	
Email Address	pip.wilkinson@yahoo.co.nz	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	2500 hectares + 1800 ha.
Main Waterways	Kuakokgātuna River
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	SoHA QE2 approx 100ha regen native.
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos

For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

- Define Trout Spawning Areas → Are we looking at 15km fence for unknown areas?
- Strong hill country - over 10000 acres managed + owned, looking at around million to fully fence creeks/rivers not feasible.

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will
make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

*crazy as baleage is impemeable lining therefore no
moisture release*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channelled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

*Steep hill country maintenance on farm is a necessity,
therefore areas _↳ too small to maintain existing areas.
noted*

** Unable to maintain tracks etc = blocked drains / erosion*

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months— permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

We are steeper than stated 20°

We have zero erosion issues

We spray scrub to clear regrowth of gorse tautou to maintain our land as farmable.

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

~~e.g.~~ these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

✓ We are too far from town collection + dump houses do not work with us.
Not an option!

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Gerard Vollebregt

Submitter Number:

S388

#1530982

5388

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

23 OCT 2015

RECEIVED

Name	Gerard Vollbrecht
Farm Name	Runnymede
Physical Address	107 Buicks Rd, Featherston
Phone Number	027 2215 665
Email Address	gmvoll@farmside.co.nz

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	hectares
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to
 Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



greater WELLINGTON
 REGIONAL COUNCIL
 Te Pahi Matua Tainui

To: Freepost 3156
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Gerardus Cornelis Vollebregt

Organisation name: (If applicable) _____

Address for Service: 107 Buicks Rd
Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 627 2215 665 Home: _____ Cell: _____

Contact person: Gerard Vollebregt

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: gmvoll@farmside.co.nz

Trade competition

I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]

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.
- I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number): <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	I support the submission of the Wairarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation.
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/we do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:



Date: 14-10-15

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

#1530376

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

21 OCT 2015

Your details

Full name: Leo Vollebregt
Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society
Address for service: Leo Vollebregt
235 Pahautea Road, RD1,
Featherston
Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405
Contact person: Leo Vollebregt
Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

RECEIVED

4.10 PM

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

^{yes} I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [If you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission']

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

21st October 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
<u>Definitions</u>	<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>	amend	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>
<p>Category A groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>		<p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p>	
<p>Category B groundwater (not directly connected)</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>			
<p>Category C groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7.</p>		<p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>	

<p>groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	
<p>Category A groundwater and the component of category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 		<p>amend</p>	<p>There is no definition of what directly connected means.</p> <p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>Ground water in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p> <p>Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water to current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area.</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater directly connected to surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of: (a) to (e) are good means to the objective. Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whaitua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that <i>whaitua</i> or sub-catchment.</p>		
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b)</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>		
<p>Policy P107: Framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and (b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and (c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have a significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u></p> <p><u>Insert (d) when Schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect – the water availability should be released immediately."</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>We support the use of water</p>
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the whatitua chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</p>

<p>flows and water levels)</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows: (c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p>
<p>Policy P115: authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels (d) and (c) i</p>	<p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p>	<p>As above The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p>	<p>As above</p>
<p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p>	<p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
	<p>oppose</p>		

<p>Policy P116: re-allocating water</p>	<p>Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whatua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.</p>	<p>Support</p>		<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow</p>	<p>In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use</p>	<p>The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes</p>	<p>(a) while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan being made-operative <u>renewal of consent to meet the criteria</u>"</p>

	operative to meet the criteria, and		
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	Support	Retain
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.</p>	Support	Retain
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	Support	retain

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>		
<p><u>Rules</u></p>			
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>
<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>	<p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after " ... property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31-07-2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a permitted activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p><u>Other methods</u></p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.</p>		<p>positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??</p>	
<p><u>tuamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u></p> <p>Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water</p>	<p>When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.</p>	<p>Insert after - adverse effects – <u>that are measured</u> on aquatic ...</p>
<p>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</p>	<p>Water allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Again the categories need <u>empirical</u> verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly</p>	<p><u>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</u></p>
<p>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</p>	<p>Surface and groundwater allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.</p>	<p><u>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</u></p>

<p><u>the rules</u></p> <p>chedule P: assifying and anaging oundwater and urface water nnectivity</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical calibration by GW</u></p> <p>The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical calibration by GW</u></p> <p>The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p><u>Needs empirical calibration by GW</u></p> <p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%</p> <p>Add after field validated model -- for <u>Wairarapa conditions</u></p> <p>(a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable</u>.</p>
<p>chedule Q: easonable and fficient use criteria</p>	<p>Irrigation</p> <p>A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria:</p> <p>(a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and</p> <p>(b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations. Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised. More consultation with affected parties is required.</p> <p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%</p> <p>Add after field validated model -- for <u>Wairarapa conditions</u></p> <p>(a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable</u>.</p>
	<p>oppose</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>amend</p>

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows. Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount. Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledged However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users. As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower. The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u> Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Jeremy Bennill

Submitter Number:

S389

#1530983

5389

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

23 OCT 2015

RECEIVED

Name	Jeremy Bennett
Farm Name	JB Earthmoving
Physical Address	35 Wards line Greytown
Phone Number	0274444321
Email Address	accounts@jbeearthmoving

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	hectares
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Hayden Thurston

Submitter Number:

S390

#1530984

5390

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

23 OCT 2015

RECEIVED

Name	HAYDEN THURSTON
Farm Name	EASTFIELD
Physical Address	299 KAHUTARA ROAD, R.D. 1 FEATHERSTON
Phone Number	027-226-5680
Email Address	ezabel222@gmail.com

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail - choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission *HT*

~~Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters.~~

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission *HT*

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, <u>Dairy</u> , agricultural business
Farm size (area)	300 hectares
Main Waterways	DOCK & AUTAKURA CREEKS MOBOA WATERWAY
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes <u>No</u>
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

TROUT SHOULD BE HAVING NO PROTECTION WHATSOEVER.
THEY ARE AN INTRODUCED PEST.

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

THE CONCEPT OF ONLY CLEANING DOWNSTREAM IS COMPLETELY IMPRACTICAL.

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: **support/oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to
 Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1981



To: Freepost 3138
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionaip'an@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: HAYDEN THURSTON
 Organisation name: EASTFIELD FARMING CO LTD
 (if applicable)
 Address for Service: 86 BUCKNELL'S RD (R.D.)
FEATHERSTON

Telephone nos: Work 077-226-5680 Home 06-3089400 Cell

Contact person: HAYDEN

Address and telephone no. (if different from above)

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: ezebal222@gmail.com

Trade competition

I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]

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.
- I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is/are: (circled: Wine Plan section number)	My submission on this provision is →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission →	I support the submission of the Wairarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation.
I seek the following decision from ARC regarding this submission: →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is please specify the provision section number	My submission relates to provisions →	<input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission →		
seeking to bring decision from WRC give precise details →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is please specify the provision section number	My submission relates to provisions →	<input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission →		
seeking to bring decision from WRC give precise details →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

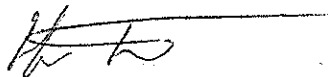
The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is please specify the provision section number	My submission relates to provisions →	<input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission →		
seeking to bring decision from WRC give precise details →		

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- We do wish to be heard in support of my/our submission
 [Note: This means that you wish to speak in support of your submission at the hearing(s)]
- 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing

Signature:



Date:

19/10/15

(Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an electronic submission)

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

#1530378

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

GRE Wellington Regional Council
Resource Management Act 1991

Your details

21 OCT 2015

Full name: Leo Vollebregt

RECEIVED

Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

4.10 PM

Address for service: Leo Vollebregt
235 Pahautea Road, RD1,
Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405

Contact person: Leo Vollebregt

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lrvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

^{yes} I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission (If you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission')

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online

www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

21st October 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
Definitions	<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>	amend	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>
Category A groundwater	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>		<p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p>	
Category B groundwater (not directly connected)	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>		<p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>	
Category C groundwater	<p>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7.</p>			

<p>groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	
<p>Category A groundwater and the component of Category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 		<p>amend</p>	<p>There is no definition of what directly connected means.</p>	<p>Ground water in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater directly connected to surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of: (a) to (e) are good means to the objective. Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whaitua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that <i>whaitua</i> or sub-catchment.</p>			
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included.</p> <p>We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.</p> <p>retain</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b)</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>		amend	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <p>(a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and</p> <p>(b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and</p> <p>(c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	<p>Policy P107: Framework for taking and using water</p>
<p>(a) the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have significant part to play in establishing the evidence</p> <p><u>Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost. +ve effect – the water availability should be released immediately.</u></p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt.</p> <p>Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>			<p>We support the use of water</p>	
<p>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</p>	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115(authorising</p>	Amend	support	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p> <p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the whatua chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>
			Amend		<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>Policy P115: authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(c) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
	<p>Amend</p> <p>oppose</p>		

<p>Policy P116: Reallocating water</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whatua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of:</p> <p>(a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made</p>	<p>(a) while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan being made-operative renewal of consent to meet the criteria⁹</p>

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>		
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>			
<p><u>Rules</u></p>			<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after "... property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a <u>permitted</u> activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p><u>Other methods</u></p>				

Method M13: Wairarapa water races	Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:	amend	The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.	In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...
Method M18: Water use groups	Wellington Regional Council will: (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups.	Support	Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.	retain
Method M19: Water management (d)	(d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and	amend	Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.	Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u>
Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.	Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the	support	good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"	retain

	<p>implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.</p>		<p>positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??</p>	
<p><u>tuamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u> Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water</p>	<p>When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.</p>	<p>Insert after - adverse effects – that are measured on aquatic ...</p>
<p><u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u></p>	<p>Water allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Again the categories need empirical verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly</p>	<p><u>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</u></p>
<p><u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u></p>	<p>Surface and groundwater allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.</p>	<p><u>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</u></p>

<p><u>chedules</u></p> <p>chedule P: assifying and anaging oundwater and urface water nnectivity</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical calibration by GW</u></p> <p>The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>oppose</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical calibration by GW</u></p> <p>The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>
<p>chedule Q: easonable and fficient use criteria</p>	<p>Irrigation</p> <p>A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria:</p> <p>(a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and</p> <p>(b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>amend</p>	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%." Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations. Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised. More consultation with affected parties is required.</p> <p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%".</p> <p>Add after field validated model – for <u>Wairarapa conditions</u></p> <p>(a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p> <p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows. Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount. Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledging However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users. As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower. The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u> Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatare Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Guy Didsbury

Submitter Number:

S391

#1530987

5391

✓

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREAT WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

23 OCT 2015

Name	Guy DASSBURY RECEIVED
Farm Name	PIRINOA STATION
Physical Address	Pirinoa Stn, RD2, Featherston
Phone Number	06 3077803
Email Address	guy@pirinoa-station.co.nz

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

✓ Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business <i>Sheep Beef Arable</i>
Farm size (area)	hectares <i>1800</i>
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	<u>Yes</u> No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	<i>Yes approx 200ha</i>
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

X

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

X

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: **support/oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

X

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

✕

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

* you dont cultivate the creek, there is always some room between cultivation and water.

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Stewart Weatherstone

Submitter Number:

S392

#1530985

5392

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

23 OCT 2015

RECEIVED

Name	STEWART WEATHERSTONE
Farm Name	ROTORUA FARM
Physical Address	2154 KAHUTARA RD R.O.2 FEATHERSTONE
Phone Number	027 293 4400
Email Address	sweatherstone@xtra.co.nz

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission ✓

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters ✓

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission ✓

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	1400 hectares
Main Waterways	Ruamahanga, Waikawa
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	<u>Yes</u> No
Environmental investments	Bridges, Oceans, Fences
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	Retirement Blocks
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so Have no problem with GW approach. As as it stays practical & logical. It needs to be growth positive

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will
make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word 'contiguous' is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

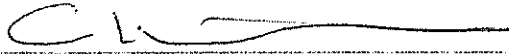
e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:



Date:

20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

21st October 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
Definitions				
Category A groundwater	Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.	amend	The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.	Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model
Category B groundwater (directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.		The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.	
Category B groundwater (not directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.		In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse	
Category C groundwater	Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7.			

	Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.		effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.	
groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*	<p>Category A groundwater and the component of category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 	amend	There is no definition of what directly connected means.	Ground water in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river
Unused water	Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.	support		Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops
Objective O8	The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.	amend	Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.	retain
Objective O25 (c)	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	Oppose	Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards - this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known	the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"

<p>able 3.6 groundwater directly connected to surface water</p>	<p>Improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of:</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whaitua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain</p> <p>Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that whatua or sub-catchment.</p>			
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included.</p> <p>We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.</p> <p>retain</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b)</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>		
<p>Policy P107: Framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <p>(a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and</p> <p>(b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and</p> <p>(c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	<p>amend</p> <p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>	<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u> <u>Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect - the water availability should be released immediately."</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	<p>support</p> <p>We support the use of water</p>	
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the whaitua chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115 (authorising</p>	<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p>
<p>Policy P115: Authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>		<p>Amend</p> <p>oppose</p>	<p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>

<p>Policy P116: re-allocating water</p>	<p>Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whaitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>	
<p>Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow</p>	<p>In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>	
<p>Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use</p>	<p>The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of:</p> <p>(a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes</p>	<p>(a) while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan-being-made-operative <u>renewal of consent to meet the criteria</u></p>

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>		
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>		
<p><u>Rules</u></p>			
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>
<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>	<p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>	<p>(b) delete words after "...property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31-07-2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a permitted activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary ctivity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>		<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Other methods</p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and economic values of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.</p>		<p>positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??</p>	
<p><u>tuamaharanga</u> <u>whaitua</u></p> <p>Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water</p>	<p>When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.</p>	<p>insert after - adverse effects – that are measured on aquatic ...</p>
<p><u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u></p>	<p>Water allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Again the categories need empirical verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly</p>	<p><u>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</u></p>
<p><u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u></p>	<p>Surface and groundwater allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.</p>	<p><u>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</u></p>

<p><u>chedule P:</u> assifying and anaging oundwater and urface water onnectivity</p>		<p>oppose</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p><u>Needs empirical calibration by GW</u></p>
<p><u>chedule Q:</u> easonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p><u>Irrigation</u> A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria: (a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and (b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%." Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations. Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised. More consultation with affected parties is required.</p> <p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15% Add after field validated model – <u>for Wairarapa conditions</u> (a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows. Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount. Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledging However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users. As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower. The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u> Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
---	--	--------------------------------	--	--

Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatare Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Blair Roberts

Submitter Number:

S393

#1530995

S393

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Name	Blair Roberts -	23 OCT 2015
Farm Name	Quantum Farms	RECEIVED
Physical Address	914 Georges Road RD3 Martinborough	
Phone Number	0274992671	
Email Address	blair2@clear.net.nz	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, <u>Dairy</u> agricultural business
Farm size (area)	340 hectares
Main Waterways	Ruamhanga River
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes <u>No</u>
Environmental investments	N/A
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	N/A
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will
make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word 'contiguous' is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: **support/oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to
 Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Blair Roberts
 Organisation name: Quantum Farms Ltd
 (If applicable)
 Address for Service: 94 Georges Road RD3 Martonborough

Telephone no's: Work: 0274992671 Home: Cell:
 Contact person: Blair Roberts
 Address and telephone no (if different from above):

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: blair2@clear.net.nz

Trade competition

- I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]
- 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.
 - I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	I support the submission of the Weirarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation.
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: 

Date: 19-10-15

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission: NB. Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

#1530376

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

Your details

21 OCT 2015

Full name: Leo Vollebregt

RECEIVED

Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

4.10 PM

Address for service: Leo Vollebregt

235 Pahautea Road, RD1,

Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405

Contact person: Leo Vollebregt

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

^{yes} I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [if you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission']

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

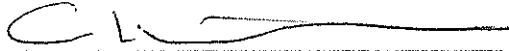
Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

21st October 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

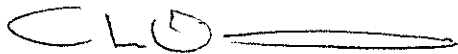
Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
<u>Definitions</u>	<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>	amend	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>
<p>Category A groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>		<p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p>	
<p>Category B groundwater (not directly connected)</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>	
<p>Category C groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,</p>			

<p>groundwater irectly onnecting to urface water egionally ignificant nfrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	
<p>Category A groundwater and the component of Category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 		amend	<p>There is no definition of what directly <u>connected</u> means.</p>	<p><u>Ground water in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</u></p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	support	<p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>Add after treatment plants ... <u>water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</u></p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	amend	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>retain</p> <p>the social, <u>agricultural, industrial, cultural</u> and environmental benefits of taking and using water to current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	Oppose	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater irectly connected o surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of: (a) to (e) are good means to the objective. Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whatua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that <i>whaitua</i> or sub-catchment.</p>			
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included.</p> <p>We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.</p> <p>retain</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b)</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>		
<p>Policy P107: framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and (b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and (c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have a significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u> <u>Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect - the water availability should be released immediately."</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the <u>whaitua</u> chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>
<p>We support the use of water</p>	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115 (authorising</p>		

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>Policy P115: Authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>oppose</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
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<p>Policy P116: Reallocating water</p>	<p>Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whaitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.</p>	<p>Support</p>		<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow</p>	<p>In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use</p>	<p>The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of:</p> <p>(a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes</p>	<p>(a) while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan being made-operative <u>renewal of consent to meet the criteria</u>"</p>

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>		
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>			
<p><u>Rules</u></p>			<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p>	<p>(b) delete words after "... property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31-07-2015), and</p>
<p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>	<p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>	<p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>	<p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a <u>permitted</u> activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary ctivity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>retain</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p><u>Other methods</u></p>			

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<p>(d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.		positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??	
<p><u>tuamalahanga</u> <u>Mhaitua</u></p> <p>Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects in river reaches of allocating water</p>	<p>When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.</p>	amend	Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.	Insert after - adverse effects – <u>that are measured on aquatic ...</u>
<p><u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u></p>	<p>Water allocation amounts</p>	Oppose	<p>Again the categories need <u>empirical</u> verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore.</p> <p>As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly</p> <p>The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.</p>	<p><u>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</u></p>
<p><u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u></p>	<p>Surface and groundwater allocation amounts</p>	Oppose		<p><u>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</u></p>

<p><u>Schedule P:</u> assessing and managing groundwater and surface water connectivity</p>	<p>oppose</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW</p>
<p><u>Schedule Q:</u> reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Irrigation A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria: (a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and (b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%." Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations. Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised. More consultation with affected parties is required.</p> <p>(a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>
	<p>amend</p>	<p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows. Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount. Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledging However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GWV to establish in consultation with water users. As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower. The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u> Table R1 is interim GWV to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Owen Butcher

Submitter Number:

S394

#1530988

S394

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

Name	Owen Butcher	GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL 23 OCT 2015
Farm Name	Q - P.S. Butcher	RECEIVED
Physical Address	Pahautea RD1 Featherston PO Box 370 msh	
Phone Number	06 379 5371	
Email Address		

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	hectares
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for "important" trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will
make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to
 Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1981



To: Freepost 3156
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Owen Lewis - Patricia Jean Bulcho
 Organisation name: (if applicable) 5 Chisholm place
 Address for Service: 47

Telephone no's: Work: Home: 06 379 5371 Cell: 0204 057 9306

Contact person

Address and telephone no. (if different from above)

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address:

Trade competition

I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is/are (please specify the provision section number, where applicable)	My submission on this is/are (please specify the provision section number, where applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission →		I support the submission of the Waikarepa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation.
I seek the following section from WRC (please describe details) →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision section number)	My submission on this provision is →	<input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission →		
seeking to bring data on from WPC give precise details →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision section number)	My submission on this provision is →	<input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission →		
seeking to bring data on from WPC give precise details →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

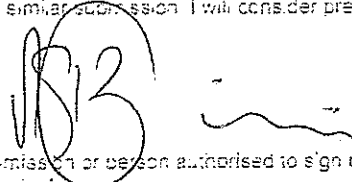
The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision section number)	My submission on this provision is →	<input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Reasons for my submission →		
seeking to bring data on from WPC give precise details →		

If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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 decisions made by the Wellington Regional Council to the Environment Court.]
- If others make a similar submission I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:



Date:

19/10/15

(Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NE/ Not required if making an electronic submission)

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

#1530376

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

GRS - Planning & Environment
RAGD - Resource Management

Your details

21 OCT 2015

Full name: Leo Vollebregt

RECEIVED

Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

4.10 PM

Address for service: Leo Vollebregt

235 Pahautea Road, RD1,

Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405

Contact person: Leo Vollebregt

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lrvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

^{yes} I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission (If you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission')

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

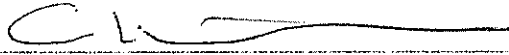
Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: : →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.
21st October 2015

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

Dear Sir/Madam

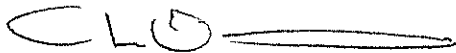
Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
<u>Definitions</u>	<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>	amend	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>
<p>Category A groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>		<p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p>	
<p>Category B groundwater (not directly connected)</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>		<p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>	
<p>Category C groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7.</p>			

	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	
<p>groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Category A groundwater and the component of category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 	<p>amend</p>	<p>There is no definition of what directly connected means.</p> <p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>Groundwater in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p> <p>Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater irectly connected o surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective. There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of: (a) to (e) are good means to the objective. Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whatua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that <i>whaitua</i> or sub-catchment.</p>			
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included.</p> <p>We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.</p> <p>retain</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b)</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>		
<p>Policy P107: framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <p>(a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and</p> <p>(b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and</p> <p>(c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u></p> <p><u>Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect - the water availability should be released immediately."</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt.</p> <p>Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the whaitua chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after flow cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>oppose</p>	<p>Takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
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Policy P116: Reallocating water	Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whaitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.	Support	Retain	
Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow	In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.	support	retain	
Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use	The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made	amend	The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes	(a).while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan being made-operative renewal of consent to meet the criteria"

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p> <p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	Support	Retain
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>			
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.</p>	Support	Retain
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	Support	retain

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>			
<p>Rules</p>			<p>amend</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>	<p>amend</p>	
<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>	<p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>		<p>amend</p>	

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted ctivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after "... property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a permitted activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary ctivity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Other methods</p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.</p>		<p>positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??</p>	
<p><u>tuamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u></p> <p>Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water</p>	<p>When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.</p>	<p>Insert after - adverse effects -- that are measured on aquatic ...</p>
<p><u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u></p>	<p>Water allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Again the categories need empirical verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly</p>	<p>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</p>
<p><u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u></p>	<p>Surface and groundwater allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.</p>	<p>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</p>

<p><u>Regulates</u></p> <p>Schedule P: classifying and managing groundwater and surface water connectivity</p>	<p>oppose</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical calibration</u> by GW</p> <p>The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p><u>Needs empirical calibration by GW</u></p>
<p>Schedule Q: reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Irrigation</p> <p>A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria:</p> <p>(a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and</p> <p>(b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%"</p> <p>Add after field validated model – for <u>Wairarapa conditions</u></p> <p>(a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>
	<p>amend</p>	<p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows. Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount. Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledged However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users. As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower. The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u> Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Daniel George

Submitter Number:

S395

#1530993 5395

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

23 OCT 2015

RECEIVED

Name	
Farm Name	Quantum
Physical Address	100 George Rd ^{George Rd} Martinborough
Phone Number	0274222458
Email Address	Daniel_MelGeorge@Xtra.CO.NZ

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

DGeorge

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, <u>(Dairy)</u> agricultural business
Farm size (area)	hectares
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	N/A
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	N/A
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between
landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will
make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to
 Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



greater WELLINGTON
 REGIONAL COUNCIL
 Te Pane Matua Takeo

To: Freepost 3156
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
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Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Daniel George
 Organisation name: (if applicable) Quantum Ferrus
 Address for Service: 100 George rd Martindorough

Telephone no's: Work: 0274222458 Home: 063062769 Cell:

Contact person:

Address and telephone no (if different from above):

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address:

Trade competition

- I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]
- 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.
 - I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	I support the submission of the Weirarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation.
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

#1530376

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

27 OCT 2015

Your details

Full name: Leo Vollebregt
Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society
Address for service: Leo Vollebregt
235 Pahautea Road, RD1,
Featherston
Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405
Contact person: Leo Vollebregt
Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

RECEIVED

4:10 PM

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

^{yes} I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission (If you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission')

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

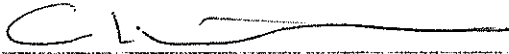
The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:
Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: : →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: 20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

21st October 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
<u>Definitions</u>	<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>	amend	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>
<p>Category A groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>		<p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p>	
<p>Category B groundwater (not directly connected)</p>	<p>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</p>		<p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>	
<p>Category C groundwater</p>	<p>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7.</p>			

<p>Groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	<p>Groundwater in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Category A groundwater and the component of category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 	<p>amend</p>	<p>There is no definition of what directly connected means.</p> <p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>Add after treatment plants ... , water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p> <p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>retain</p> <p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater directly connected to surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of:</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whatua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain</p> <p>Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that <i>whaitua</i> or sub-catchment.</p>			
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included.</p> <p>We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b)</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>			<p>Policy P107: Framework for taking and using water</p>
<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have a significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u> <u>Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect – the water availability should be released immediately."</u></p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>	<p>amend</p>		<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises: (a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and (b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and (c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>
	<p>We support the use of water</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>
<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115 (authorising</p>	<p>Amend</p>		<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p> <p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the whaitua chapters (chapters 7-</p>

<p>flows and water levels)</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows: (c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108. (d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and (c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided: (i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%. As above The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes. Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
		<p>Amend</p> <p>oppose</p>	

Policy P116: reallocating water	Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whaitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.	Support		Retain
Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow	In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.	support		retain
Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use	The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made	amend	The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes	(a).while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan-being-made-operative <u>renewal of consent to meet the criteria</u> "

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>		
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>			
<p><u>Rules</u></p> <p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p> <p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>		<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>	<p>amend</p> <p>amend</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after "...property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – controlled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a permitted activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p><u>Other methods</u></p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.</p>		<p>positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??</p>	
<p><u>tuamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u> Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water</p>	<p>When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.</p>	<p>Insert after - adverse effects – that are measured on aquatic ...</p>
<p><u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u></p>	<p>Water allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Again the categories need empirical verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly</p>	<p>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</p>
<p><u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u></p>	<p>Surface and groundwater allocation amounts</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.</p>	<p>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</p>

<p><u>the rules</u></p> <p>schedule P: assessing and managing groundwater and surface water connectivity</p>	<p>oppose</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical calibration by GW</u></p> <p>The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p><u>Needs empirical calibration by GW</u></p>
<p>schedule Q: reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Irrigation</p> <p>A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria:</p> <p>(a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and</p> <p>(b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%</p> <p>Add after field validated model -- <u>for Wairarapa conditions</u></p> <p>(a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>
	<p>amend</p>	<p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows. Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount. Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledged However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users. As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower. The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u> Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Bernie George

Submitter Number:

S396

#1530996

5396

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Name	Bernie George	23 OCT 2015
Farm Name	Quantum Farms .	RECEIVED
Physical Address	28 Georges Rd RD3 Martinborough	
Phone Number	06 3069294 -	
Email Address	b.george@slingshot.co.nz .	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business



Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef , Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	hectares
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for "important" trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

*e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)
Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.*

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will
make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

The most impractical lot of Rules.
Mens minds are failing them

AmSerge, | Director of Quantum Farms

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to
 Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3166
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11046
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalcouncil@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Bernard Lawrence George
 Organisation name: Quantum Farm
 (If applicable)
 Address for Service: 29 George Road

Telephone no's: Work: 0274462712 Home: 065069294 Cell:
 Contact person:
 Address and telephone no (if different from above):

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: B. George @ Slingshot . Co . NZ

Trade competition

I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]

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.
- I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number) <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	I support the submission of the Wairarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation
seek the following decision from ARC (give precise details) →		

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is please specify the provision section number.	My submission is: <input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Schedule P	
Regarding my submission →	the ground structure of the soil by my bore is heavy clay + is 2 km away from the river.
seeking the following sections from ATO please specify →	I wish to have the categories of groundwater verified.

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is please specify the provision section number.	My submission is: <input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Regarding my submission →	
seeking the following sections from ATO please specify →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is please specify the provision section number.	My submission is: <input type="checkbox"/> support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
Regarding my submission →	
seeking the following sections from ATO please specify →	

If you have more submissions you wish to make please find the relevant boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.)
- If others make a similar submission I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:

B. G. Gump

Date *19/10/2015*

(Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB: Not required if making an electronic submission)

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

#1530376

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

RECEIVED
21 OCT 2015
4.10 PM

Your details

Full name: Leo Vollebregt

Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Address for service: Leo Vollebregt
235 Pahautea Road, RD1,
Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405

Contact person: Leo Vollebregt

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lrvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

yes I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [If you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission']

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: 20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.
21st October 2015

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
Definitions				
Category A groundwater	Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.	amend	The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.	Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model
Category B groundwater (directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.		The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.	
Category C groundwater	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.		In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse	
	Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,			

<p>groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	
<p>Category A groundwater and the component of category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 		<p>amend</p>	<p>There is no definition of what directly connected means.</p>	<p>Groundwater in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>Water race networks are vital community assets as are the many investments farmers and orchardists have made to use water</p>	<p>Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards - this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater directly connected to surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of: (a) to (e) are good means to the objective. Add (f) enabling storage within the bed of a river</p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whaitua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain Add (c) consents will run for a period of 25 years</p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that whaitua or sub-catchment.</p>		
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants</u> to (b)</p> <p>retain</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>	

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>			
<p>Policy P107: Framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <p>(a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and</p> <p>(b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and</p> <p>(c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>	<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have a significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u> <u>Insert (d) when schedule P changes; -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost. +ve effect - the water availability should be released immediately.</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>We support the use of water</p>	
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the whaitua chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115 (authorising</p>	<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>Policy P115: Authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation take restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels (d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
	<p>Amend</p> <p>oppose</p>		

<p>Policy P116: Reallocating water</p>	<p>Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the <i>whaitua</i> chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.</p>	<p>Support</p>		<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow</p>	<p>In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use</p>	<p>The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes</p>	<p>(a) while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan being made-operative renewal of consent to meet the criteria"</p>

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>		
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>	<p>retain</p>

			<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>	
<p><u>Rules</u></p>		<p>amend</p>		
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>
<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>		<p>amend</p>	<p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>	

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after “... property.” Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a <u>permitted</u> activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary ivity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p><u>Other methods</u></p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values of the Wairarapa water races...</u></p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??</p>		
<p><u>tuamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u></p> <p>Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.</p>	<p>When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.</p>
<p>Insert after - adverse effects – that are measured on aquatic ...</p>	<p>Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.</p>		<p>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</p>
<p>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</p>	<p>Again the categories need empirical verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.</p>	<p>Oppose</p> <p>Oppose</p>	<p>Water allocation amounts</p> <p>Surface and groundwater allocation amounts</p>
<p><u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u></p>			<p><u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u></p>

<p><u>Schedule P:</u> assessing and managing groundwater and surface water connectivity</p>		oppose	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p><u>Needs empirical calibration by GW</u></p>
<p><u>Schedule Q:</u> seasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p><u>Irrigation</u> A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria: (a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and (b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>amend</p>	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%." Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations. Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised. More consultation with affected parties is required.</p> <p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15% Add after field validated model – for <u>Wairarapa conditions</u> (a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows.</p> <p>Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount.</p> <p>Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups</p> <p>However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledged</p> <p>However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users.</p> <p>As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower.</p> <p>The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions</p> <p>There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u></p> <p>Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatare Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Mike McCreary

Submitter Number:

S397

#1530997

5397

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Name	Mike McCreary	23 OCT 2015
Farm Name	KUMENGA FARM Ltd	RECEIVED
Physical Address	159 Kumenga rd	
Phone Number	0274385078	
Email Address	howzatmike@stra.co.nz	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	540 hectares Effective
Main Waterways	
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	Drains water ways fenced 8.5 km 27,000 trees planted last 4 years
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

are drawings included

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

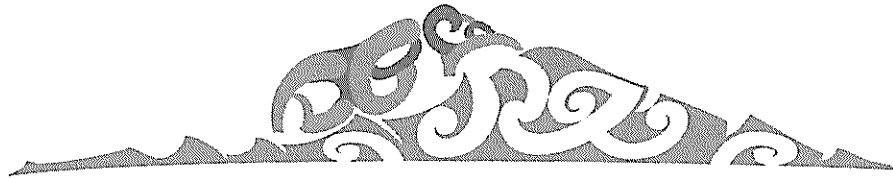
Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Atiawa ki Whakarongotai

Submitter Number:

S398



Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai submission: Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai (TAKW) are the mana whenua of the area from Kūkū-Tauākī to the Whareroa, with an overlapping interest with Ngāti Toarangatira in the area from Whareroa to Paripari pā. The Wellington Regional Council (WRC) recognise TAKW as mana whenua through their Memorandum of Partnership 2014.

The issues raised and recommendations made in this submission are presented in the spirit of partnership and in the interest of ensuring the Natural Resources Plan can provide positive direction for Council and the community.

In addition to this submission, TAKW reserves the right to speak to our submission to add further detail to the positions articulated here.

1. General submission matters

1.a. Integrated approach

TAKW supports the alignment of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP) with the Kāpiti Coast District Plan and Proposed District Plan as much as possible. Specific areas that are important for consistency are: management of wetlands, sites of significance for tangata whenua; earthworks, and stormwater.

1.b. Separation of ecosystem health and mahinga kai in the Plan

Ecosystem health and mahinga kai are two distinct values; one does not translate to the other.

As defined in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 (NPS-FM), 'mahinga kai' are the species and sites that have been a traditional source of food for indigenous communities. Whilst from the perspective of TAKW this doesn't adequately describe the full complexity of the socio-ecological adaptive system that is mahinga kai, the NPS-FM definition highlights that the value of mahinga kai is focused on the ability of humans to access specific species and sites as a resource. TAKW is currently developing an index for monitoring the health of mahinga kai which has identified key attributes of mahinga kai that reflect a much

broader range of social and cultural values than those connected to ecosystem health. For example; political engagement of the local community to the catchment, access, ease of indigenous knowledge transmission, and taste of food harvested.

Ecosystem health on the other hand, is an intrinsic value of the natural environment that exists independent of the benefits it provides to humans. As defined in the NPS-FM, ecosystem health is characterised by the the maintenance of ecological processes, a range of diversity of indigenous flora and fauna, and resilience to change.

In order for the Plan to ensure that these values are achieved, they must be treated separately in the Plan, i.e. they require separate objectives, and importantly, a separate set of policies, rules and methods in the Plan to demonstrate how they will be upheld. This is particularly important to support planners and territorial authorities to negotiate management situations where the two values may be in conflict with one another, which is a realistic scenario.

Further in this submission, TAKW will indicate its support for objectives that refer to ecosystem health and mahinga kai being safeguarded, however TAKW believes that these values should be referred to separately.

1.c. Giving effect to the Resource Management Act

This Natural Resources Plan needs to give effect to the RMA. There is a tendency in the PNRP to delay the fulfilment of this statutory requirement to later scheduling processes or plan changes, or to prioritise giving effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFWM) (2014) as opposed to the principles of the RMA such as the potential of natural resources and the life supporting capacity of water. It is of significant concern to TAKW that in some areas the PNRP either delays or does not give effect to the RMA. This will be expanded on in the relevant sections of this submission.

2. Whaitua

Whilst TAKW supports the establishment of regional provisions that promote communities to establish priorities and programmes for integrated catchment land and water management, TAKW is not able to support the Whaitua structure and approach as currently described in the PNRP.

The structure and function of the Whaitua as described in the PNRP does not ensure that GWRC are able to meet their obligations of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) to sustainably manage freshwater whilst recognising and providing for matters of significance, in particular for matters such as kaitiakitanga and the Treaty principle of partnership.

This is evidenced by the following:

2.a. Inadequate representation of Treaty partners in Whaitua structure

Mana whenua are considered merely 'stakeholders' in the Whaitua structure. Despite GWRC recognising their Treaty partnership through the structure of Te Ūpoko Taiao, this relationship is watered-down by only guaranteeing mana whenua minority representation on Whaitua committees.

2.b. The failure of the PNRP to ensure that Whaitua has the appropriate knowledge support to achieve its purpose.

The Collaborative Modelling Project (CMP) was established by GWRC to bring modellers together under a collaborative framework to support Whaitua to implement the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management 2014 (NPS-FM) limit setting requirements.

The Whaitua will be obligated to set limits on freshwater contaminants that ensure GWRC upholds its obligations under the RMA and is consistent with the National Objectives Framework (NOF) outlined in the NPS-FM.

The CMP has failed to gain a consensus from mana whenua on the overarching framework and collaborative approach of the project. In particular, mana whenua have articulated concerns about how mātauranga Māori and Māori values, will be recognised and utilised, and how the current framework fails to protect the intellectual property rights of mana whenua.

By not adequately ensuring that Māori values and knowledge can be appropriately integrated into the CMP, it will not be able to adequately inform limit-setting that ensures kaitiakitanga is given particular regard, or that the nationally significant values of mahinga kai and Māori use, as identified in the NOF, are achieved.

Further to this, TAKW is concerned about the management of the CMP. The Project has been reporting that they have gained consensus from mana whenua on the framework and approach

of the CMP, despite this not being achieved. In all consultation to date, TAKW has articulated significant concerns about the project and its inability to adequately support the Whaitua to achieve its purpose.

TAKW has indicated that mana whenua have collectively drafted proposed changes to the overarching framework and approach to the CMP, which if implemented, could gain mana whenua support for the Project, however GWRC has ignored this offer for input.

2.c. PNRP does not adequately define Whaitua's scope or function.

TAKW is concerned that there is insufficient detail in the PNRP about the structure and function of the Whaitua committees. Page Six of the PNRP states that the Whaitua will form the basis of the Council's programme to implement the NPS-FM and each committee will develop an implementation programme which will include both regulatory provisions and non-regulatory programmes that will be included progressively by way of plan changes or variations to chapters of the Plan.

The Plan is required to clearly demonstrate how it will fulfil its requirements under the RMA, and how it will implement the objectives of the Plan. GWRC is not able to delay their obligations by way of devolving these decisions to the Whaitua, particularly given the existing significant concerns held about the structure and function of the Whaitua as outlined above.

3. Objectives

General comments and recommendations

- TAKW supports the objectives in '3.1 Ki uta ki tai: mountains to sea', '3.6 Biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai' and '3.7 Sites with significant values' as being critical.
- TAKW also supports the objectives in sections '3.10 Indigenous biodiversity', '3.13 Natural Character', '3.16 Soil', '3.17 Land use.'

Of particular importance to TAKW are the objectives in the PNRP that refer to management of mahinga kai, as the maintenance and restoration of mahinga kai is crucial to our relationship with air, land and water and our ability to practice kaitiakitanga.

- TAKW supports the identification of 'wetlands' for protection in the Plan and its objectives, as opposed to distinguishing 'significant wetlands', or 'natural wetlands'. Many of the wetlands in the rohe of TAKW are important to protect as part of the wider fresh water network, however because they have been modified over time they may be considered 'man-made'. Given that the majority of the lowland floodplain in our rohe originally constituted networks of wetlands, the distinction between 'significant' and 'modified/man-made' seems impossible to accurately make.
- Where practical, the Plan should indicate timeframes within which objectives will be delivered.
- Estuaries should be included for protection, particularly in the objectives in section '3.5 Water Quality'

Following are more specific comments on other objectives of the PNRP:

3.3. Māori relationships

O15: Kaitiakitanga is recognised and mana whenua actively participate in planning and decision-making.

TAKW believes that GWRC is required to have particular regard for kaitiakitanga under the RMA, and that the relationship GWRC has with mana whenua is characterised by more than just active participation, but a Treaty based approach to planning and decision-making.

Recommendation” This objective should be reworded to reflect the Treaty obligations of Council.

This would be consistent with the partnership as defined by the Memorandum of Partnership between mana whenua and GWRC, and with the recent findings by the Waitangi Tribunal, which confirmed the position of iwi such as TAKW; that in signing the Treaty our ancestors never ceded sovereignty.

O14: Māori relationships with air, land and water are recognised, maintained and improved

O16: The relationship of mana whenua with Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa is recognised and provided for.

TAKW supports these objective.

3.5 Water quality

O24: Rivers, lakes, natural wetlands and coastal water are suitable for contact recreation and Māori customary use, including by:

(a) maintaining water quality, or

(b) improving water quality in:

(i) significant contact recreation fresh water bodies to meet, as a minimum, the primary contact recreation objectives in Table 3.1, and

(ii): coastal water to meet, as a minimum, the primary contact recreation objective in Table 3.3., and

(iii): all other rivers and lakes and natural wetlands to meet, as a minimum, the secondary contact recreation objectives in Table 3.2.

Table 3.1 outlines the parameters by which primary contact is to be measured. These are E. coli, cyanobacteria, Māori customary use and toxicants and irritants.

Table 3.2 outlines the parameters by which secondary contact is to be measure. These are E.coli and cyanobacteria.

Water quality is not just provided for by meeting *E.coli* objectives. Protection of water quality will also require the achievement of other parameters which provide for clarity and natural character values.

The potential effects of this objective for TAKW is significantly adverse. Of the following 12 key fresh water bodies in the rohe of TAKW, one is protected for primary contact in Schedule H of the PNRP, that being the Waikanae River.:

- Te Puka
- Whareroa
- Wharemauku
- Mangakōtuketuku

- Waikanae
- Maungakōtukutuku
- Reikorangi
- Ngārara
- Kakariki
- Kawakahia
- Paetawa
- Te Kōwhai

Under this objective, the water quality standard being set by Council for the other 11 waterbodies is $\leq 1000 E.coli$ cfu/100mL. Under the NPSFWM, this is consistent with the 'C Band' which is defined as:

C = People are exposed to a moderate risk of infection (5% chance or lower), from contact with water during activities with occasional immersion and some ingestion of water (such as wading and boating). People are exposed to a high risk of infection (greater than 5% risk) from contact with water during activities likely to involve immersion.¹

It is totally unacceptable to TAKW that the standard for water quality set by GWRC for all waterbodies in its rohe, except one, is that people are exposed to high risks of infection if they submerge their heads, i.e. if they chose to swim in them.

This is particularly concerning given the state of water quality in the rohe of TAKW. Two streams in the rohe, the Ngārara and Whareroa, are currently at risk of dropping below even the 'C-Band'. Should they fall below this level, people would be exposed to high risk of infection (greater than 5%) from mere contact with water, through activities such as wading, or boating.

This is inconsistent with the principles of the RMA in Section 5, which requires the Council to sustain the potential of natural resources to meet the needs of future generations and to safeguard the life-supporting capacity of water and ecosystems.

TAKW also takes the position that by Council enforcing this objective, they would be limiting the ability for mana whenua to exercise kaitiakitanga of their taonga, the fresh water bodies, and neglecting their own responsibilities to protect fresh water bodies as taonga. This is in breach of the Treaty of Waitangi.

Recommendation: All rivers, lakes and natural wetlands are managed to meet, as a minimum, the primary contact recreation objective.

¹ National Policy Statement for Fresh Water Management 2014, p.31.

Recommendation: Further parameters are added in Table 3.1 to ensure that water quality standards provide for life-supporting capacity, ecosystem health, recreation, Māori customary use and natural character. These parameters should include: temperature, water clarity, pH, deposited sediment, dissolved oxygen, nutrients, and a narrative requirement for natural character. GWRC is already monitoring the majority of these parameters in their standard monitoring scheme across the region.

3.11 Discharges

TAKW supports objectives O46 - O49 and O51.

O50: Discharges of wastewater to fresh water are progressively reduced.

TAKW does not support objective O50 as the discharge of wastewater containing human effluent to fresh or coastal waters should be prohibited.

3.12 Water allocation

O52: The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time.

This objective lists the means by which allocation and use will be improved and maximised, however the list excludes ensuring that water use is first necessary.

Recommendation: The objective includes provisions for water use to be determined as necessary.

Recommendation: Numerical measures should be included to quantify what is meant by 'efficiency' of allocation.

3.18 Discharges

TAKW supports objectives O46, O47, O48, O49 and O51. However TAKW believes that O50 should include a timeframe for the reduction of discharges to fresh water.

4. Policies

TAKW wishes to make comments and recommendations on the following policies:

4.1 Ki uta ki tai and integrated catchment management

P4: Minimising adverse effects; subsection (b)

TAKW support locating activities away from scheduled sites due to their value and significance.

4.2 Beneficial use and development

P7: Uses of land and water

TAKW are opposed to subsection (b) which recognises the 'benefits of using land and water for treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater.' This includes human waste. TAKW are vehemently opposed to the disposal of human waste to natural waterbodies and does not recognise any benefits of the use of water for this. This policy directly contradicts the objectives around mahinga kai, and Māori use, and contract recreation. Mana whenua have a Treaty based right to ensure that water as a taonga, is protected. This policy is in breach of this right.

TAKW are opposed to subsection (g) which recognises the benefits of using land and water for gravel extraction from rivers for flood protection and control purposes. In terms of a clear planning framework, TAKW feel that this doesn't fit in this part of the plan, and in their opinion 'gravel extraction' is not a land or water use, but is an activity in the river bed that is conducted to support residential, commercial and industrial land use.

Recommendation: Remove subsection (g) of this policy.

4.3 Māori relationships

P18: Mana whenua relationships with Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa

TAKW supports this policy, in particular, that GWRC and iwi authorities will implement kaupapa Māori monitoring of Ngā Taonga Nui a Kiwa.

P20: Exercise of kaitiakitanga

Recommendation: Include in this policy that kaitiakitanga shall be recognised and provided for by: establishing a 'Kaitiaki Group' that provides for mana whenua input into the policy and science operations of Council.

4.5 Biodiversity, aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai

P31: Aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai

Recommendation: Amend this policy to ensure that aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai shall be maintained or restored by... 'avoiding adverse effects' instead of 'minimising adverse effects' for points (a)-(d) and (f).

P32: Adverse effects on aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai

Recommendation: Delete this policy that which allows for significant adverse effects to be remedied or mitigated

Cumulative effects are one of the most significant considerations for the management of aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in the Wellington Region. A lack of consideration of cumulative effects of use and development on aquatic ecosystems and mahinga kai in the Wellington Region has been one of the key drivers of degradation of their health historically, and this should be reflected in the Plan. For Wellington Regional Council to fulfil its objectives around water and mauri and well-being, the Plan must include provisions for cumulative effects to be managed.

Recommendation: Policies P31 and P32 should also refer to the management of adverse cumulative effects by including a clause that commits to minimising adverse cumulative effects and avoiding significant cumulative effects.

4.8.3 Stormwater

P73: Minimising adverse effects of stormwater discharges

P74: First-stage territorial authority network consents

P75: Second-stage territorial authority network consents

TAKW supports the intention of these policies to develop and implement stormwater management strategies for reticulated networks. Monitoring to identify the effects of stormwater from the network on mahinga kai and Māori use are particularly important in ensuring GWRC meets its wider objectives.

4.8.12 Activities in beds of lakes and rivers

P102: Reclamation or drainage of the beds and lakes and rivers.

P103: Management of gravel extraction

P104: Effects on catchment based flood and erosion control activities

P106: Management of plants in the beds of lakes and rivers

Planning of activities in beds of lakes and rivers is a significant issue for mana whenua in the Wellington Region as Greater Wellington Regional Council's Flood Protection unit is pursuing 35 year global consents for flood protection activities. Mana whenua still maintain that we have never ceded tino rangatiratanga of our taonga, including river and lake beds and in the lifetime of this Plan, Wellington Regional Council is likely to have to respond to this assertion by mana whenua.

The Plan should therefore provide clear guidance to users of the plan as to how to prioritise the consideration of various effects of these activities. As the PNRP currently reads, it doesn't clearly explain how these specific policies co-exist with the consideration of effects to significant values such as tino rangatiratanga of river and lake beds, kaitiakitanga, mauri and mahinga kai. Of primary importance for mana whenua is that our tino rangatiratanga to the river and lake beds is given discretion in the consideration of effects of the activities outlined in these policies.

TAKW supports the aspect of the policy that discourages the piping or covering of a stream.

Recommendation: Include 'matters for discretion' and include the significant values mentioned above.

5. Rules

Schedule B and C sites, mahinga kai and Māori customary use as matters for discretion

TAKW supports reference to these Schedules and values as matters discretion in rules R51, R52, R125, R153, R155, R165.

5.3.7 Vertebrate toxic agents

TAKW supports this rules as appropriate, in particular where notification of the use a vertebrate toxic agent is required.

5.3.8 Refuse, silage and compost

TAKW supports these rules, in particular, that there is no burning of the contents of a farm refuse dump.

5.4.4. Earthworks and vegetation clearance

TAKW supports these rules.

6. Methods

TAKW wish to make comments on the following methods:

M2: Kaitiaki information and monitoring strategy

TAKW supports this Method as a crucial component of the Plan. A kaitiaki information and monitoring strategy is necessary in order to measure fulfilment of objectives relating to mauri, kaitiakitanga, Māori relationships with natural resources, Māori use and mahinga kai as these values are currently not adequately monitored. It is important that mana whenua are supported to lead the development of and implementation of the strategy.

6.4 Land and Water: inclusion of Method on determining priorities for monitoring

TAKW believes that there are significant bodies of water and ecosystems that should currently be part of GWRC's regular monitoring regime. Ensuring that the appropriate sites are being monitored is critical to the success of policies: P18, P20, P65 and P74.

Recommendation: Include a Method that will identify any significant sites or waterbodies that should be regularly monitored by GWRC.

M15: Regional stormwater working group

The effects of stormwater on freshwater quality in the Wellington region has been a significant issue for mana whenua, and management of the effects needs to be improved. TAKW therefore supports this method, the establishment of a Regional stormwater working group and the implementation of a new consenting framework.

M25: Understanding and providing for mana whenua values and relationships

M26: Encouraging the involvement of kaitiaki

Recommendation: Mana whenua should not just be involved in the resource consent processes when their relationship with natural resources or values are adversely affected, but in all resource consent processes. And in fact, this is consistent with current Wellington Regional Council process; mana whenua are kept informed of all non-notified resource consent applications.

M28: Development of Good Management Practice guidelines

This Method should specify some priorities for GWRC that will support the implementation of good management practice. In our view, two key priorities are:

- practices and procedures for a partnered approach to planning and decision-making with mana whenua
 - tools to measure effects and offsetting measures to appropriate baselines
- A timeframe for the development of the guidelines should also be added to this Method.

7. Schedules

TAKW wish to make the comments on the following Schedules:

Schedule A: Outstanding water bodies

Schedule B: Ngā Taona Nui a Kiwa

Schedule C: Sites with significant mana whenua vales

TAKW supports the inclusion of these Schedules in the Plan as critical.

Schedule H: Contact recreation and Māori customary use

TAKW supports the approach of prioritising fresh water bodies are priorities for improvement.

Recommendation: That the Waimeha and Ngārara streams are included in Schedule H1

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Sandy Bidwell

Submitter Number:

S399

#1531000

5399

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

23 OCT 2015

RECEIVED

Name	Sandy Bidwill
Farm Name	Pahautea Ltd Partnership
Physical Address	806 Kahutara Rd. R.D.1. Featherston
Phone Number	06 3088418 0274916922
Email Address	bidwill@hug.co.nz

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	420 hectares
Main Waterways	Lake Wairarapa
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	Yes No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so Keen to stick with the Partnership Approach.

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for "important" trout spawning rivers; delete those that don't meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don't apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

*We rely wholly on water races for our
stock water on our run-offs. The cost to
fence and put in an alternative system
would be prohibitive.*

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)

Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will
make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

*Impracticable, too expensive to
concrete silage pit.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

#1530378

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

0800 222 222
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Your details

21 OCT 2015

Full name: Leo Vollebregt

RECEIVED

Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

4.10 PM

Address for service: Leo Vollebregt

235 Pahautea Road, RD1,

Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405

Contact person: Leo Vollebregt

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lrvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

^{yes} I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [If you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission']

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

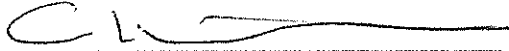
Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.gw.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including **your name and address for service** as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.
21st October 2015

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

Dear Sir/Madam

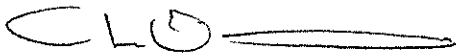
Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster
Sandra Shivas
Shane Gray
George Ritchie
Stephen Hammond
Gerard Vollebregt
Bryan Tucker
Rod Sutherland
Bob Tosswill
Richard Kershaw
Shaun Rose
Willem Stolte
Richard Osborne
Blair Roberts
Hayden Thurston
Brian Bosch
Stewart Weatherstone
Owen Butcher
Donald McCreary
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt
Kurt Simmonds

Chris Engel
Andrew Harvey
John Barton
Mike Warren
Mike Moran
Simon Campbell
Matt Honeysett
David Holmes
Mike Slater
Ray Craig
Mark Guscott
Ed Handyside
Brad Gooding
Daniel George
Neville Davies
Gary Svenson
Ann Gray
Sandy Bidwill
Lewis Herrick
John Petrie

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought										
<u>Definitions</u> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Category A groundwater</td> <td>Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.</td> <td rowspan="4">amend</td> <td rowspan="4"> <p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p> <p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p> <p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p> </td> <td rowspan="4"> <p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Category B groundwater (directly connected)</td> <td>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Category B groundwater (not directly connected)</td> <td>Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Category C groundwater</td> <td>Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,</td> </tr> </table>	Category A groundwater	Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.	amend	<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p> <p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p> <p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>	<p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>	Category B groundwater (directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.	Category B groundwater (not directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.	Category C groundwater	Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,	amend		
Category A groundwater	Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.	amend				<p>The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p> <p>The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B. at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.</p> <p>In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Waihenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse</p>	<p>Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model</p>							
Category B groundwater (directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.													
Category B groundwater (not directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being not directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.													
Category C groundwater	Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,													

<p>groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>	
<p>Category A groundwater and the component of Category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 		<p>amend</p>	<p>There is no definition of what directly <u>connected</u> means.</p>	<p><u>Ground water in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</u></p> <p>Add after treatment plants ... <u>water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</u></p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>	<p>the social, <u>agricultural, industrial, cultural</u> and environmental benefits of taking and using water to current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater irectly connected o surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised the amount is increased through time, including by means of: (a) to (e) are good means to the objective. Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whatua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that <i>whaitua</i> or sub-catchment.</p>		
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b)</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>		<p>amend</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <p>(a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and</p> <p>(b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and</p> <p>(c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>
<p>Policy P107: Framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>			<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have a significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u> <u>Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect - the water availability should be released immediately.</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>We support the use of water</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115 (authorising</p>	<p>Amend</p>		<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow cessation restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p> <p>Policy P115: authorising takes below minimum flows and lake levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows.</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>oppose</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
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<p>Policy P116: re-allocating water</p>	<p>Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whaitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow</p>	<p>In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use</p>	<p>The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of:</p> <p>(a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes</p>
			<p>(a). while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan being made-operative <u>renewal of consent to meet the criteria"</u></p>

	<p>operative to meet the criteria, and</p>		
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P17 is satisfied.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	<p>Support</p>	<p>retain</p>

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>			
<p><u>Rules</u></p>				
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p>
<p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>	<p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>	<p>amend</p>		

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted ctivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after " ... property." Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – ontrolled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a <u>permitted</u> activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary ctivity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p><u>Other methods</u></p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and economic values of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.		positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??	
<u>kuamahanga</u> <u>Whaitua</u>	When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.	amend	Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.	Insert after - adverse effects – <u>that are measured on aquatic ...</u>
<u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u>	Water allocation amounts	Oppose	Again the categories need <u>empirical</u> verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly	<u>Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified</u>
<u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u>	Surface and groundwater allocation amounts	Oppose	The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.	<u>Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified</u>

<p><u>chedules</u></p> <p>chedule P: assifying and anaging oundwater and urface water onnectivity</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW</p> <p>The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p>Needs <u>empirical</u> calibration by GW</p> <p>The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p><u>Needs empirical calibration by GW</u></p>
<p>chedule Q: easonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>Irrigation</p> <p>A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria:</p> <p>(a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and</p> <p>(b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations. Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised. More consultation with affected parties is required.</p> <p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%</p> <p>Add after field validated model -- <u>for Wairarapa conditions</u></p> <p>(a) add after 80% - <u>where practicable.</u></p>

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows. Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount. Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledging However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users. As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower. The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u> Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.

Proposed Natural Resources Plan:

Submitter:

Mike Moran

Submitter Number:

S400

#1531002

8399 400

SUBMISSION on the proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region

To: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz OR Freepost 3156, GWRC, PO Box 11646, Wellington 6142

GREATER WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Name	Mike Moran	23 OCT 2015 RECEIVED
Farm Name	Makako Trust	
Physical Address	153 Whaneroto Road. Kahautara. Featherston	
Phone Number	06 306 8817	
Email Address	mike.mo@extra.co.nz	

Communication from GWRC: I prefer email OR hardmail – choose one

Trade competition: I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission

Hearing: I wish to be heard and would consider jointly appearing with other submitters

Support: I support Wairarapa Federated Farmers submission

INTRODUCTION – Key Points about farm/business

Farm Type	e.g. Sheep, Beef, Arable, Dairy, agricultural business
Farm size (area)	305 hectares
Main Waterways	Lake Wairarapa Makako backwater
GW Soil plan or Farm Plan	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Environmental investments	
QE2 or Retirement Blocks	
General Comments	e.g. if you like the partnership approach with council staff on the ground, say so

STOCK EXCLUSION

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of Category Two waterbodies, including water races and drains > 1 metre

Schedule I and Map 22: important trout spawning habitat

Rule 97: access to the beds of surface waterbodies by livestock

- Stock exclusion from Category One waterbodies by July 2018
- Stock exclusion from Category Two waterbodies by July 2022
- Stock access to Category Three waterbodies – permitted subject to conditions, e.g. crossings

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Extend the timeframes, e.g. Category One by 2020, Category Two by 2025

Exclude sheep from Category One

Exclude water races and drains from Category Two

Delete requirement for dairy cow exclusion from hill country rivers > 1 metre

Specify that stock exclusion from spawning sites – inanga or trout – is during the spawning season.

Specify criteria for “important” trout spawning rivers; delete those that don’t meet the criteria

Amend the definitions of stock crossing to match hill country practicalities and effects

Allow for stock drinking points

Ensure that alternative stock water supplies are available and rules don’t apply until they are.

Stock Exclusion Comments and Reasons

*Specific to your farm, e.g. discussion on costs, practicalities, stock water; attach/include photos
For Category One sites, would it be reasonable to exclude sheep where there is agreement between
landowner, council and iwi as part of Council funded management plan?*

WETLANDS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Interpretation: definition of natural wetland and significant natural wetlands

Schedule F3: significant wetlands

Rule 105: Planting in wetlands - approved native plants only

Rule 106: Restoration of natural or significant wetlands – controlled if Wetland Management Plan

Rule 107: Activities in natural or significant wetlands – discretionary

Rule 108: Activities in wetlands - non-complying, including diversion of water into a natural wetland

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Natural wetlands: Natural wetlands: amend to exclude intermittent and ephemeral water bodies, and clarify these do not include hill country seeps or paddocks subject to regular ponding, dominated by cultivated pasture, whether or not associated with sedge, raupo or rush species.

Significant wetlands: re-prioritise to focus efforts on the highest value sites; change minimum size from 0.1ha to 1.0ha

Rule 104: allow use of machines rather than just hand held

Rule 105: allow for planting introduced species for bees or ducks

Rule 106, 107: amend to provide for restoration or enhancement of wetlands to be a permitted activity, with plans prepared as a non-regulatory partnership.

Rule 108: Allow diversion of water as part of a restoration plan

Wetlands Comments and Reasons

*e.g. If you have been advised of a significant wetland on your farm – and you question it – state the name of the wetland and your reasoning (size, condition, man-made, etc)
Mention if you have an interest in constructing or extending wetlands.*

FARM EFFLUENT

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 83: Discharge of collected animal effluent to land – controlled

Rule 93: effluent to land in supply protection area – discretionary

Map 27: groundwater community drinking water supply protection areas

My submission is: **support/oppose**

I seek the following changes:

Undertake more rigorous regional cost-benefit analysis of pond storage and sealing requirements prior to the hearing to support proper consideration by the Hearing Commissioners.

Provide reasonable timeframes and a stepped approach for the installation of storage (e.g. 3-5 years)

Clarify the definition of ponding; and exclude extreme weather events, breakdowns occurring out of manager's control, be consistent with urban conditions.

In groundwater protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Extend the consent timeframe to 20 years to reflect the investment made

Effluent Comment and Reasons

e.g. are they over-estimating the risks and under-estimating the costs?

If you already have ponds, is it reasonable to up the ante on storage and sealing?

SILAGE

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition: a fermented high moisture stored fodder

Rule R90: manufacture and storage of silage and compost, including

- Condition a) the manufacture and storage area shall not be located within 20m of a surface water body (stream, drain, water race and intermittently flowing streams)
- Condition d) the walls and floor of a silage storage area shall have an impermeable lining able to withstand corrosion, and there shall be no discharge of leachate to water

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the requirement for impermeable lining; retain the condition that there be no discharge to water

Delete the requirement for location not allowed within 20m of a surface water body (not needed due to no discharge condition above)

Change the definition to specify this does not include baleage

Silage Comments and Reasons

*e.g. low risk from wilted silage; costs for impermeable lining – estimate the costs if you can
Cost Benefit analysis has not included any clear evidence of the benefits outweighing the costs.
Difficulty in dealing with surplus years – filled up the main stack but still have extra. This rule will make us turn to baleage that is twice as expensive and has the plastic disposal issues.*

CULTIVATION & BREAKFEEDING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 94: Cultivation & Rule 95: Break feeding

- Cultivation/ break feeding shall not occur within 5m of a surface waterbody, including open drains and water races

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Delete the conditions requiring 5m setbacks

Cultivation/Breakfeeding Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, timing, lay of the land

Add a statement in about what you normally do when cultivating or breakfeeding

DRAIN CLEANING

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of highly modified watercourse:

- Modified and channeled to the extent it has the characteristics of a drain, including that: the channel is a single flow, straight, no curves, mechanically formed with straight or steep banks, maintained to keep the watertable at least 0.3m below the pasture root zone, and it exhibits these characteristics for the entire length of the property

Rule 121: Maintenance of drains and highly modified streams; *and*

Rule 122: Removing vegetation from the bed of any river; *same conditions for both*

- any fish shall be returned no later than one hour
- only one side shall be cleared at any one time, and the other side three months later; or, only the middle shall be cleared, leaving no less than 0.3m each side
 - for drains and highly modified streams, this condition applies from July 2017

Method M14: Maintenance of drains

- GWRC will develop an education programme in collaboration with industry and other stakeholders to support implementation of Rule 121

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change the definition of highly modified stream to include all streams that have been modified by human activity – straightening, deepening, channeling.

Provide high resolution maps in the plan, clearly showing drains and highly modified streams that are covered by Rule 121. This is required before the hearing to see the scale of the issue.

Provide direction to landowners about the type of waterways on their land.

Fast-forward Method 14 to develop agreed good practice for drain cleaning to inform the Hearing Commissioners consideration of the proposed rules.

Extend the timeframe for the implementation of the new conditions from 2017 to 2020

Drain Cleaning Comments and Reasons

e.g. costs, practicalities, historical modification not recognized

EARTHWORKS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of earthworks

Rule R99: earthworks of a contiguous area up to 3000m² per property per 12 months – permitted

Rule 101: earthworks that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend the definition and Rule 99 to allow construction of farm tracks as a permitted activity, as well as maintenance.

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Earthworks comments and reasons

e.g. operational and farm safety aspects

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

VEGETATION CLEARANCE on Erosion-Prone Land

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Definition of erosion-prone: slope >20 degrees

Definition of vegetation clearance: clearance of woody vegetation (exotic or native) by mechanical or chemical means including felling, spraying by hand or aerial means, hand clearance and burning

Rule R100: vegetation clearance on erosion-prone land

- contiguous area up to 2ha per property per 12 months– permitted

Rule 101: vegetation clearance that doesn't meet permitted conditions - discretionary

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change definition of erosion prone to increase the slope, and exclude stable substrate, e.g. greywacke

Change definition of vegetation clearance to exclude hand clearance, hand or aerial spraying and roller crushing

Change Rule 101 to controlled or restricted discretionary with clear conditions

Vegetation Clearance comments and reasons

e.g. confusion with different slope triggers.

Add a statement in about what you normally do, e.g. leave an area unsprayed

Note the word "contiguous" is important in thinking about impact

CULVERTS & BRIDGES

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R114: weirs, fords, small bridges – permitted if

- not >20m² in size / footprint
- catchment not >50ha west of the Ruamahanga, 200ha east of the Ruamahanga

Rule R115: culverts – permitted if

- not >20m length and not >0.3m-1.2m diameter

Rule 125: small river crossings, dams, structures in a mana whenua site – restricted discretionary

My submission is: support/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R114: Change the 50ha catchment restriction to 200ha (or clarify rationale for the difference)

- Increase the size for fords and bridges (20m² too small)

Rule R115: delete the condition restricting culvert diameter; retain condition that the culvert be constructed to allow for 20 year flood event.

- Provide advice to landowner of appropriate culvert sizes to achieve the above condition

Mana whenua sites: undertake proper assessment of restrictions proposed for mana whenua sites within the plan itself – not leaving this to a consent process at landowner cost

Culverts/Bridges comments and reasons

e.g. fords/crossings good alternative method to constructing structures especially where use is infrequent or risks of structure outweigh the impact of a ford.

OFFAL PITS, FARM REFUSE DUMPS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps – 15 conditions

Rule 91: Offal Pit – 9 conditions

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule 89: Farm Refuse Dumps

- increase size from 50m³ to 100m³
- heavily prune the fourteen other conditions to focus on clear effects

Rule 91: Offal Pits

- retain condition a) re only containing dead matter from the property; and condition h) odour is not offensive beyond the boundary
- heavily prune the other seven conditions to focus on effects

Offal Pits/Refuse Dumps Comments and Reasons

e.g. these are an existing activity on farms and do not cause adverse effects so do not need multiple conditions.

AGRI-CHEMICALS

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 36: Agrichemicals – permitted activity conditions relating to aerial and vehicle based spraying

- (e) no discharge within a community drinking water supply protection area
- (g) spray plan must be prepared once pa
 - identify sensitive areas (dwelling house, schools, amenity areas, non-target crops sensitive to agchem, organically certified properties, surface water bodies including natural wetlands and associated riparian vegetation, and significant and outstanding water bodies)
 - notify neighbours the spray plan is available on request
 - get written agreement from adjoining neighbours that notification is not required
 - supply a copy of the spray plan at least 24 hours prior to application, to the owner/occupier of sensitive areas or likely to be directly affected, or requests a copy

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Change condition g) to more reasonably reflect practicalities and risks

In water supply protection areas, undertake a risk analysis prior to the hearing to support appropriate conditions being established in a controlled rule, rather than discretionary.

Agri-chemicals Comments and Reasons

e.g. provides a level of protection that is not associated with the risk, demands undue notification requirements when neighbours might not be affected

FERTILISER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule 82: Application of fertilizer – permitted activity, provided

Condition a) not into or onto a surface water body or beyond the boundary, including as a result of wind drift

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Amend condition a) to reflect the practicalities of aerial fertiliser application

Fertiliser Application Comments and Reasons

e.g. It is impossible to miss all intermittent surface waterbodies when using a plane or helicopter. Technology is being developed to allow this but it is not commercially available. Condition a) will cause a health and safety risk to the operation of aerial fertilizer application.

STORM WATER

Specific Provisions that my submission relates to are:

Rule R48: storm water from individual property permitted, except

- the discharge is not into an outstanding waterbody (e.g. Lake Wairarapa)
- concentration of total suspended solids does not exceed specified concentrations
 - 50g - 100g/m³ or 20-33% change depending on "significance" of site

My submission is: ~~support~~/oppose

I seek the following changes:

Rule R48: delete condition (a): no discharge into outstanding waterbodies

Delete condition (e) specifying suspended solid concentrations, retain condition (g) requiring no conspicuous films, scum, floatables etc

Stormwater comments and reasons

e.g. impracticality, costs, low risk. Would it require a consultants report to get consent?

Where does the excess water go in times heavy rain.

Any other areas of concern – just copy format above

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
 This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to
 Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



greater WELLINGTON
 REGIONAL COUNCIL
 Te Pane Matua Takao

To: Freepost 3156
 Wellington Regional Council
 PO Box 11646
 Wellington 6142

Or email: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Your details

Full name: Michael Lawrence Moran

Organisation name: _____
 (If applicable)

Address for Service: 167 Pomakahi Road Manhikinongauhi
PO Box 98

Telephone no's: Work: 06 306 8817 Home: _____ Cell: _____

Contact person: Mike Moran

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: mike.mo@xtro.co.nz

Trade competition

I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. [Go straight to Your Submission]

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/section number): <u>Whole Plan</u>	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	I support the submission of the Wairarapa Water Users Society Inc as a member of that organisation.
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

dt 0

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number):	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: →	
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	


If you have more submissions you wish to make, please find more boxes at the bottom of this document

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]

If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature:  **Date:** 13/10/15

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making submission. NB Not required if making an electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

#1530376

Form 5: Submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region
This is a submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991



To: Freepost 3156
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11646
Wellington 6142

688-1000 Wellington District
REGISTRATION DIVISION

Your details

27 OCT 2015

Full name: Leo Vollebregt

RECEIVED

Organisation name (if applicable): Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

4.10 PM

Address for service: Leo Vollebregt

235 Pahautea Road, RD1,

Featherston

Telephone no's: Work: 063088405 Home: 063088405 Cell: 0272588405

Contact person: Leo Vollebregt

Address and telephone no (if different from above): _____

Electronic communication

Wellington Regional Council has a preference for providing information about the Proposed Natural Resources Plan via email. We will send you updates on the process, information and provide you with details of any meetings and the hearing. Please tick here if you do not agree to receive communication via email.

Email address: lvoll@xtra.co.nz

Trade competition

^{yes} I/we could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission [if you ticked this box, delete the rest of this section and go straight to 'Your submission']

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.

I/we are not 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.

Your submission

The specific provisions of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that this submission relates to are:

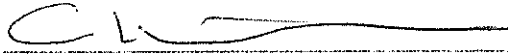
Please continue on separate sheet(s) - an excel spreadsheet of all of the proposed plan provisions is available online www.ew.govt.nz/regional-plan-review

The specific provision of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan that my submission relates to is (please specify the provision/ section number): 	My submission on this provision is: →	<input type="checkbox"/> I support the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I oppose the provision <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to have the specific provision amended
	Reasons for my submission: : →	our submission is attached to this details form
	I seek the following decision from WRC (give precise details): →	

Attendance and wish to be heard at hearing(s)

- YES** I/We do wish to be heard in support of my/our 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.]
- If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature: _____



Date: _____

20/10/2015

[Person making submission or person authorised to sign
on behalf of person making submission. NB. Not required if making an
electronic submission]

Publication of details

Wellington Regional Council is legally required to notify a summary of submissions, including your name and address for service as provided on this submission form. Your name and address are included so that a person making a further submission is able to serve you with a copy of it.

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society,
c/- Leo Vollebregt,
235 Pahautea Road,
RD1,
Featherston.

Wellington Regional Council
Wellington

21st October 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find enclosed our submission on the Proposed Natural Resources Plan for the Greater Wellington Region.

This replaces the interim submission we put in before the 25th of September.

Also enclosed are the submissions of 49 of our members some of whom have added extra comments.

Our society and it's members were granted an extension of the submission deadline to the 23rd of October 2015.

Yours sincerely



Leo Vollebregt

Chairman

List of submitters;

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Graeme Tulloch

Peter Vollebregt

Willy and Sally Bosch

Bernard George

Jim Hedley

Richard and Carolyn Stevenson

Andrew Patrick

Gary and Ann Daysh

A and A Webster	Chris Engel
Sandra Shivas	Andrew Harvey
Shane Gray	John Barton
George Ritchie	Mike Warren
Stephen Hammond	Mike Moran
Gerard Vollebregt	Simon Campbell
Bryan Tucker	Matt Honeysett
Rod Sutherland	David Holmes
Bob Tosswill	Mike Slater
Richard Kershaw	Ray Craig
Shaun Rose	Mark Guscott
Willem Stolte	Ed Handyside
Richard Osborne	Brad Gooding
Blair Roberts	Daniel George
Hayden Thurston	Neville Davies
Brian Bosch	Gary Svenson
Stewart Weatherstone	Ann Gray
Owen Butcher	Sandy Bidwill
Donald McCreary	Lewis Herrick
Leo and Rebecca Vollebregt	John Petrie
Kurt Simmonds	

Wairarapa Water User's Inc. Society

Submission on the

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

Provision	Text	Support/ Oppose/ Amend	Reasons	Relief sought
Definitions				
Category A groundwater	Groundwater directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8 and 7.9 in chapter 7; Figures 8.1 and 8.2 in chapter 8; and Figure 10.1 and 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from Category A groundwater is considered to be surface water allocation.	amend	The categorisation of groundwater needs clarification in the definitions. The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.	Ground water will be categorised A or B or C once GW has field verified its connectivity with surface water and performed an empirical calibration of the model
Category B groundwater (directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.		The definitions of Category A, B and C groundwater need to be robust, and a mechanism or process must be provided for identifying which Category aquifer a particular abstraction may be tapping. Since any conditions must be related to the 'effects', it would seem that Category A (i.e. direct connection) should be able to demonstrate a strong and consistent relationship between daily river levels and daily groundwater levels. If not then conditions linked to low flows will have no relevance. There should also be a clear and quantifiable difference between Category A & B at present the 'management approach' appears to be the same even though the two aquifers are demonstrably different in their response to river levels.	
Category B groundwater (not directly connected)	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Tables 7.3 and 7.4 in chapter 7, Table 8.2 chapter 8 and Table 10.2 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (directly connected) is considered to be surface water allocation.			
Category C groundwater	Groundwater not classified as either category A groundwater or category C groundwater and which is defined as being directly connected to surface water through applying the tests in Schedule Q (efficient use). Category B groundwater (not directly connected) is at the locations generally described in Table 7.5 in chapter 7, Table 8.3 in chapter 8 and Table 10.3 in chapter 10. Taking water from category B groundwater (not directly connected) is considered to be groundwater allocation.		In February 2015 work undertaken in the river bed by the Wainenga river level recorder interfered with readings so that consent holders unknowingly resumed taking water even though the river had reached minimum flow. Observers working by the river reported no adverse	
	Groundwater not directly connected to surface water at the locations generally shown in Figures 7.2-7.9 in chapter 7,			

<p>groundwater directly connected to surface water regionally significant infrastructure*</p>	<p>Figures 8.1-8.2 in chapter 8, and Figure 10.1 in chapter 10. Taking water from category C groundwater is considered to be groundwater allocation.</p>		<p>Category A groundwater and the component of Category B groundwater that is directly connected to surface water and part of the surface water allocation amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants 	<p>amend</p>	<p>effects to this take at low flows indicating poor relation of the takes to the river.</p>
<p>Unused water</p>	<p>Where more than 25% of the maximum daily amount of water allocated to a person for use on a property they own or have an interest in, but not including water that is transferred for use at another location by means of a transfer permit, is demonstrated to not be used over a period of two consecutive years.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>the social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>retain</p>	<p>Ground water in the bore is at the same level as the water in the river and moves up and down with the level of the river</p> <p>Add after treatment plants ... water race networks and facilities for the irrigation of pasture and crops</p>
<p>Objective O8</p>	<p>The social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>the social, agricultural, industrial, cultural and environmental benefits of taking and using water for current uses and also for future needs are recognised and provided for within the Plan's allocation framework"</p>	<p>Remove</p>	<p>Objective does not give enough value to the use and potential use of water.</p>
<p>Objective O25 (c)</p>	<p>To safeguard aquatic ecosystem health and mahinga kai in fresh water bodies and coastal marine area:</p> <p>(c) where an objective in Tables 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 or 3.8 is not met, a fresh water body or coastal marine area is</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>	<p>Remove</p>	<p>Objective (c) aims to meet certain standards -this objective should not be giving guidance to the Whaitua before current water quality levels are known</p>

<p>able 3.6 groundwater directly connected to surface water</p>	<p>improved over time to meet that objective.</p> <p>Nitrate concentrations do not cause unacceptable effects on groundwater-dependent ecosystems or on aquatic plants, invertebrate or fish communities in connected surface water bodies</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Unrealistic and non defined The actual numerical amount needs to be stated</p>	<p><u>nitrate in groundwater should not exceed human drinking water standards, i.e. 11.3</u></p>
<p>Objective O52</p>	<p>The efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised through time, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) efficient infrastructure, and (b) good management practice, including irrigation, domestic municipal and industry practices, and (c) maximising reuse, recovery and recycling of water and contaminants, and (d) enabling water to be transferred between users, and (e) enabling water storage outside river beds. 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Increasing water allocation allows for growth.</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>There needs to be the possibility of storage in stream</p>	<p>the efficiency of allocation and use of water is improved and maximised <u>the amount is increased</u> through time, including by means of:</p> <p>(a) to (e) are good means to the objective.</p> <p>Add (f) <u>enabling storage within the bed of a river</u></p>
<p>Policy P6: Synchronised expiry and review dates</p>	<p>Resource consents may be granted with a common expiry or review date within a whatua or sub-catchment, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the affected resource is fully allocated or over-allocated, or 	<p>Support/ amend</p>	<p>We support a good consistent and integrated approach i.e. in line with other consent periods in the region – 25 years Due to the significant investment in infrastructure a long consent is necessary.</p>	<p>Retain</p> <p>Add (c) <u>consents will run for a period of 25 years</u></p>

	<p>(b) the exercise of the resource consent may impede the ability to implement an integrated solution to manage water quality, quantity or habitat within that <i>whaitua</i> or sub-catchment.</p>			
<p>Policy P7: Uses of and water (b) and (h)</p>	<p>(b) treatment, dilution and disposal of wastewater and stormwater, and</p> <p>(h) irrigation and stock water, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>support</p>	<p>(b) recognises the use of water for diluting wastewater and stormwater. Diffuse contaminants need to be included.</p> <p>We are pleased to see irrigation get a special mention.</p>	<p>Add <u>diffuse contaminants to</u> (b)</p> <p>retain</p>
<p>Policy P11: In-stream water storage</p>	<p>The benefits associated with the damming and storing of water within the bed of a river are recognised when:</p> <p>(c) there are significant social and economic benefits for the region, and</p> <p>(d) water remains available for multiple in-stream and out of stream uses concurrently, and</p> <p>(e) the reliability of water supply improves as a result, and</p> <p>(f) the damming and storage of water contributes to the</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>

	<p>efficient allocation and use of water.</p>			
<p>Policy P107: framework for taking and using water</p>	<p>The framework for the take and use of water recognises:</p> <p>(a) groundwater connectivity to surface water shall be managed as described in Schedule P (groundwater connectivity), and</p> <p>(b) the take and use of water does not exceed allocation amounts provided for in the Plan, and</p> <p>(c) minimum flows or water levels are managed in accordance with the Plan provisions.</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The connectivity between various ground water takes has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt.</p> <p>Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses and the district and regional economies severely and unnecessarily. An empirical calibration is necessary.</p>	<p>(a) <u>the groundwater connectivity described in schedule P needs verifying and GW have a significant part to play in establishing the evidence</u></p> <p><u>Insert (d) when schedule P changes: -ve effect on consent holders – 10 year lead in time to reflect cost, +ve effect - the water availability should be released immediately."</u></p>
<p>Policy P109: Lapse dates affecting water takes</p>	<p>Resource consents to take and use water shall be given effect to within three years of the commencement date unless a longer lapse date is justified due to the scale or complexity of the activity. For the purpose of this policy, "given effect to" includes the installation of infrastructure, water meter or flow measuring device or the use of the water in accordance with the purpose of the resource consent.</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>We support the use of water</p>	
<p>Policy P111: Water takes at minimum</p>	<p>The take and use of water shall not occur when flows or water levels fall below minimum flows or water levels in the whatua chapters (chapters 7-</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Policy 111 (water takes at minimum flows and water levels)(c) and 115(authorising</p>	<p><u>Category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce take by 50% of the amount consented</u></p>

<p>flows and water levels</p> <p>(d) and (c) i</p>	<p>11), with the exception that water is available below minimum flows:</p> <p>(c) as authorised by resource consents in accordance with Policy P108.</p> <p>(d) category A groundwater which shall be required to reduce the take by 50% of the amount consented above minimum flows, and</p> <p>(c) permanent horticultural or viticultural root crops (excluding pasture species, animal fodder crops and maize) for the sole purpose of avoiding their death provided:</p> <p>(i) the water shall only be available five days (120 hours) after minimum flow take cessation restrictions are imposed and where no practical alternative sources of water are available or accessible, and</p>	<p>Amend</p> <p>oppose</p>	<p>takes below minimum flows and lake levels)(d) on restrictions should be changed to reflect the delayed interference with surface water and the likelihood of aquifer storage and infiltration rate at different distances from the surface water. A practical time lag should be allowed before take is reduced by 50%.</p> <p>As above</p> <p>The section 32 analysis for moving from a cease take position to 50% reduction in takes needs to be extrapolated to the effects of moving from no restrictions to 50% reduction in takes.</p> <p>Unrealistic to believe that only 5 days of additional water after minimum flows are reached will be enough to keep rootstock alive during prolonged low water levels</p>	<p>above minimum flows following a period of 10 days of continuous river levels at minimum flow</p> <p>As above</p> <p>Delete (c) (i)</p>
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Policy P116: re-allocating water	Retain		Support	Water that becomes available from resource consents that are surrendered, lapsed, cancelled or not replaced, and by existing resource consents that are replaced for a lesser amount shall not be reallocated if the core allocation identified in Rules R.R1, WH.R1 and K.R1 in the whatitua chapters of the Plan (chapters 7, 8 and 10) is exceeded.
Policy P117: Supplementary allocation amounts at flows above the median flow	retain		support	In addition to core allocation, water is available from rivers at flows above the median flow provided flushing flows and a portion of flow above the median flow remains in the river to meet Objective O25.
Policy P118: Reasonable and efficient use	(a).while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of 4 years from the date of the plan-being-made-operative <u>renewal of consent to meet the criteria</u>	The investment in infrastructure is considerable and time is required to implement changes	amend	The amount of water taken or diverted through resource consents shall be reasonable and used efficiently, including consideration of: (a) applying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use) to new users immediately, while existing users replacing existing resource consents have a period of four years from the date of the plan being made

	operative to meet the criteria, and			
<p>Policy P119: unused water</p>	<p>Unused water allocated to an existing resource consent may be re-allocated to the same user when the existing resource consent is replaced, or the abstraction rate is changed, only if the consent holder can demonstrate how the unused water will be used within four years, including by means of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a capital expenditure programme linked to the purpose water is used for, and (b) satisfying the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use). 	Support		Retain
<p>Policy P120: taking water for storage</p>	<p>The taking of water for storage outside a river bed at flows above the median flow is appropriate provided Policy P117 is satisfied.</p>	Support		Retain
<p>Policy P128: transfer of resource consents</p>	<p>The temporary or permanent transfer of the whole or part of the amount allocated by a resource consent(s) to take and use water shall be enabled, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the adverse effects of the take and use of transferred water are the same or less, and 	Support		retain

	<p>(b) the transfer occurs within the same catchment management unit, and</p> <p>(c) the same or a lesser amount of water is being taken or used, and</p> <p>(d) measuring and reporting the use of transferred water is no less than in the parent resource consent, and</p> <p>(e) the transferee's water take and use is reasonable and efficient for the intended use, including meeting the reasonable and efficient use criteria identified in Schedule Q (efficient use).</p>		
<p><u>Rules</u></p>			
<p>Rule R135: General rule for taking, use, damming and diverting water – discretionary activity</p> <p>Rule R137: Farm dairy washdown</p>	<p>The damming or diverting of water that would otherwise contravene sections 14(2) or 14(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and is not permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary, discretionary, non-complying or a prohibited activity is a discretionary activity.</p> <p>The take and use of water from a surface water body (other than a water race that is permitted by Rule R138) or groundwater for the purpose of</p>	<p>amend</p> <p>amend</p>	<p>The investment in infrastructure by users is significant and making this rule restricted discretionary gives consent holders more certainty at the time of consent renewal</p> <p>Make this rule <u>restricted discretionary</u></p>

<p>id milk-cooling ater – permitted :ivity)</p>	<p>farm dairy washdown and milk cooling on a dairy milking platform is a permitted activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p> <p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>		<p>(b) delete words after “...property.” Leaving this in is anti growth and development and not in the best interests of the Wairarapa</p>	<p>(b) the total take shall be no more than 70L per day per stock unit based on the maximum herd size on the property at any time during the three years prior to the date of public notification of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (31.07.2015), and</p> <p>Note Water taken for farm dairy washdown and cooling water may be taken in addition to water taken under Rule R136.</p> <p>In respect of condition (b) the Wellington Regional Council holds a record of the maximum herd size on the property using information obtained from the property owner in compliance with a resource consent obtained under Rule R83.</p>
<p>Rule R143: emporary water ermit transfers – controlled activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water to another location for a period of no more than one year is a controlled activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>Rule 143 (temporary water permit transfers) – for this rule to serve the objective in a usable and dynamic way transferring water permits needs to be a permitted activity not controlled</p>	<p>Delete Controlled and make this rule a permitted activity</p>
<p>Rule R144: ransferring water ermits – restricted iscretionary activity</p>	<p>The transfer of the whole or part of a water permit for the take and use of water that does not meet the conditions of Rule R143 or that is for a period of more than one year is a restricted discretionary activity, provided the following conditions are met:</p>	<p>support</p>		<p>retain</p>
<p><u>Other methods</u></p>				

<p>Method M13: Wairarapa water races</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will work with Wairarapa district councils and landowners to characterise the hydrology, water quality, ecology, and the social, heritage and cultural values of the Wairarapa water races to develop management options for the water race systems by 2017. The management options include, but are not limited to:</p>	<p>amend</p>	<p>The economic values of water races are very important to land owners who have them. They were put in place so that the surrounding land could be farmed.</p>	<p>In opening paragraph insert after cultural values and <u>economic values</u> of the Wairarapa water races...</p>
<p>Method M18: Water use groups</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) support water user groups, or voluntary agreements between water users, to share takes and manage allocations, and (b) support water user groups to assist with water sharing during times of restrictions or when the catchment is fully allocated, and (c) provide, where available, accurate technical information to assist user groups. 	<p>Support</p>	<p>Method 18 (water user groups) will work well but transferring water needs to be a permitted activity.</p>	<p>retain</p>
<p>Method M19: Water management (d)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) promoting alternatives to the use of water races, and 	<p>amend</p>	<p>Costs of change will be substantial for some landowners. Access to power and underground water as well as maintenance of fenced off races are issues.</p>	<p>Change wording of (d) to <u>quantify costs and benefits of water races and explore alternatives</u></p>
<p>Method M28: Development of good management practice guidelines.</p>	<p>Wellington Regional Council will continue to develop practices, procedures and tools (including rules) in collaboration with industry, other relevant organisations and stakeholders to support the</p>	<p>support</p>	<p>good method esp. the use of the words "collaboration with industry"</p>	<p>retain</p>

	implementation of policies which rely on good management practice to achieve desired environmental outcomes.		positive move which will have farmers moving forward in their practices with the reg. council??	
<u>Ruamahanga Whaitua</u> Policy R.P3: Cumulative effects on river reaches of allocating water	When allocating river water or groundwater directly connected to surface water, regard shall be given to cumulative adverse effects on aquatic ecosystems in downstream river reaches as a result of flow depletion from loss of river water to groundwater.	amend	Important that the effects are measured, not just modelled.	Insert after - adverse effects – that are measured on aquatic ...
<u>Figures 7.3 – 7.8</u>	Water allocation amounts	Oppose	Again the categories need empirical verifying. Too big an impact and too little evidence of benefit to the environment to ignore. As a community we need to verify categories and as this occurs the amounts in these tables may change significantly	Do not include figures 7.3 – 7.8 in the plan until categories have been verified
<u>Tables 7.3 – 7.5</u>	Surface and groundwater allocation amounts	Oppose	The allocation amount should reflect the current consented allocation amount. Some of the allocation amounts are considerably lower than the allocation currently consented. Consideration of consent applications has confirmed the amounts of allocation that are sustainable. Setting an allocation limit which is inconsistent with consented and sustainable allocations creates an unrealistic community expectation of the level of abstraction which can occur from the water sources.	Change the allocation amounts to what is currently allocated or more if spare water has been identified

<p><u>Schedule P:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p><u>Schedule Q:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>oppose</p>	<p>Needs empirical calibration by GW The connectivity between various ground water takes and surface water has not been verified and amongst the users there is significant doubt. Expecting users to individually verify as consents are renewed is expensive and potential use of water is restricted unnecessarily impacting on farm businesses severely.</p>	<p><u>Needs empirical calibration by GW</u></p>
<p><u>Schedule P:</u> Reasonable and efficient use criteria</p>	<p>Irrigation A resource consent application to take water for irrigation purposes shall include an assessment using a field validated model that considers land use, crop water use requirements, on-site physical factors such as soil water holding capacity, and climatic factors such as rainfall variability and potential evapo-transpiration. The model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%. The annual volume calculated using the model shall meet with the following criteria: (a) an irrigation application efficiency of 80%, and (b) demand conditions that occur in nine out of 10 years.</p>	<p>Amend</p>	<p>Remove sentence "the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15%." Unreasonable for the Wairarapa because of dramatic seasonal weather variations. Wairarapa conditions differ from the rest of the country. This needs to be recognised. More consultation with affected parties is required.</p> <p>irrigators with lower efficiency may be more suitable for specific crops and farming situations. Case by case systems need to be assessed</p>	<p>Remove sentence the model must reliably predict annual irrigation volume within an accuracy of 15% Add after field validated model – for Wairarapa conditions (a) add after 80% - where practicable.</p>

<p>Schedule R: guideline for stepdown allocations</p>	<p>When river flows are low, stepdown allocations may be included as conditions of resource consent when rivers approach minimum flows.</p> <p>Stepdown allocations may require a take to cease or be reduced. Taking water that is not for the health needs of people may be required to cease or be reduced as flows approach minimum river flows. Typically, the reduction in water take that may be required will be half the consented amount.</p> <p>Stepdown allocations for specific rivers are identified in Table R1 unless otherwise agreed by a water user group. In other rivers, stepdown allocations may be agreed by a water user group, or in the absence of agreement or such a group, may be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>Support with amendments</p>	<p>Schedule R – guideline for stepdown allocations – good schedule and good use of user groups</p> <p>However needs of stock drinking water and rootstock protection needs acknowledging</p> <p>However more and more appropriate management points e.g. further south of Waihenga are required. GW to establish in consultation with water users.</p> <p>As water is cleaned up the minimum flow requirement for dilution is lower.</p> <p>The effects of low flows needs to demonstrated as are the effects of restrictions</p> <p>There also needs to be room for the Whaitua to have their input</p>	<p>Add after health needs of people - <u>stock drinking water and rootstock protection</u></p> <p>Table R1 is interim GW to consult with water users</p>
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Table R1: Stepdown allocations for rivers in the Ruamāhanga River catchment

River	Minimum flow (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall cease other than for the health needs of people or stock drinking water (water races) (L/sec)	Flow at which takes shall reduce (L/sec)	Management point
Waipoua River	250		300	Mikimiki Bridge
Waingawa River	1100	1700	1900	Kaituna
Parkvale Stream	100		120	Renalls Weir Recorder
Mangatarere Stream	[upper reach] 240		[upper reach] 330	Gorge Recorder
	[lower reach] 200		[lower reach] 240	Gorge Recorder
Waiohine River	2300	3040		Gorge Recorder
Upper Ruamāhanga River	2400		2700	Wardells
Tauherenikau River	1100	1300		Gorge Recorder
Lower Ruamāhanga River	8500		9200	Waihenga Recorder

We are concerned that the extent of section 32 reports in relation to water allocation do not identify the effects of proposed changes on our members in enough detail.