

Emma Cross

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To: Healthy Rivers
Subject: Michael H. Williams

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SUBMISSION TO HEALTHY RIVERS WAIKATO REGION .

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN .

IN COMPLETE CONFIDENCE .

Further to my initial submissions , in light of recent developments and with your continued forbearance ,
I wish to add the following .

As a farmer , who , some years ago , legitimately converted most of my then sheep farm , to dairying and at great cost and effort , I can now , with the benefit of hindsight , see that the immerging environmental footprint requires closer scrutiny and that there is much in the plan with which I concur .

I remain unconvinced that greater concentrations of cattle , in hill country , in a high rainfall area , are the answer to the issues involved .

To that end , I am currently considering a step by step return to sheep farming , starting with the non milking platform , and , in time , viability permitting , converting the entire property back to sheep .

Viability is the key word here , as any reconversion back to sheep would mean a massive drop in income , and the dairy conversion costs and the proposed sheep farming conversion costs , must still be serviced .

I have in my employ a dedicated sharemilker and his family , who in turn , employ another man / wife labour unit.

There is no way that I would terminate the existing agreement , but the individual is ambitious , hoping to finance his way on to his own farm and I don't expect him to be here forever and at that point , I would seriously consider a return to sheep farming .

This is his fourth / fifth year with me .

On this basis , I feel that my should like to speak to my submissions , when the time comes , in private , without other submitters being present, if that is an option.

Further , I feel that , as each farm within the catchment is entirely different from any other farm within the catchment , each farm should be dealt with individually , on a farm by farm basis we could say , with each farm being so totally different from the farm which may be right next door .

Yours Faithfully ,

Michael H. Williams .