

**WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL PROPOSED WAIKATO REGIONAL PLAN CHANGE 1  
WAIKATO AND WAIPA RIVER CATCHMENTS**

*Please consider forwarding a copy of your submission to [B+LNZ](#) so we can echo your comments in our submission*

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Waikato Regional Council's proposed Plan Change 1.

Our names are Andrew and Nicole Ewen and we are second generation farmers at Naike (part of sub-catchment 16). We farm sheep, beef and deer on 600ha of beautiful rolling hill country. Maize is also grown for both sale and on farm consumption. In addition to our farming operation we have an agricultural contracting business, covering groundwork, spreading and conventional hay baling.

Over the last 7 years, we have been fencing off our waterways and have retired approximately 10 hectares of native bush. In addition, we have spent a lot of time planting natives along our fenced off waterways. We have also fenced off existing mature native bush which comprises about 15 hectares.

We belong to a close knit and vibrant community of people who care about their land and regularly get together to discuss best farming practice. Our farm is more than just our livelihood, it is our home and where we spend so much of our time as a family. Our vision is to leave our two children with a productive farming operation which they can continue and be proud of.



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**Submission Form**

Submission on a publicly notified proposed Regional Plan prepared under the Resource Management Act 1991.

**On:** The Waikato Regional Councils proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 - Waikato and Waipa River Catchments

**To:** Waikato Regional Council  
401 Grey Street  
Hamilton East  
Private bag 3038  
Waikato Mail Center  
HAMILTON 3240

*Complete the following*

**Full Name:** Andrew Hamish Ewen and Nicole Lisa Ewen

**Phone (Hm):** 09 233 3042

**Phone (Wk):** 09 233 3042

**Postal Address:** 144 Kaawa School Rd, RD2, Huntly 3772


**Phone (Cell):** Andrew: 027 322 3252      Nicole: 027 318 8527

**Postcode:** 3772

**Email:** nicole@das.org.nz

I am not a trade competitor for the purposes of the submission but the proposed plan has a direct impact on my ability to farm. If changes sought in the plan are adopted they may impact on others but I am not in direct trade competition with them.

**I wish to be heard in support of this submission.**

  
Signature

20/2/17  
date



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| <p>The specific provisions my submission relates to are:</p> <p>State specifically what Objective, Policy, Rule, map, glossary, or issue you are referring to.</p> | <p>My submission is that:</p> <p>State:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• whether you support, or oppose each provision listed in column 1;</li> <li>• brief reasons for your views.</li> </ul>  | <p>The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:</p> <p>Give:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• precise details of the outcomes you would like to see for each provision. The more specific you can be the easier it will be for the Council to understand the outcome you seek</li> </ul> |
|--|---|--|
| <p><i>Provision</i></p> <p>Long Term Land Use</p> <p>Objectives: 1,3 and 4</p> <p>Policy 5 and 7</p> <p>Rules 3.11.5.3 to 3.11.5.5</p> <p>Schedule 1</p>           | <p>I oppose</p> <p>The reasons for this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This creates too much uncertainty as we don't know how much land potentially has to go into forestry/native bush</li> <li>• This creates potential capital devaluation and unwillingness to invest</li> </ul> | <p>I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety</p> <p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p>That the plan is amended and re-notified only when there are clear indications of what land use is required on my farm with any consequential amendments arising from the submission process</p>                        |

## WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL PROPOSED WAIKATO REGIONAL PLAN CHANGE 1 - WAIKATO AND WAIPA RIVER CATCHMENTS

| Provision  | I oppose   | I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety        |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Nitrogen Reference Point</p> <p>Objectives: 1 and 4</p> <p>Policy 2 and 7</p> <p>Rules 3.11.5.3 to 3.11.5.7</p> <p>Schedule 1</p> | <p>The reasons for this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We are already low emitters and this does not support those who have done the right thing by the environment and effectively rewards high emitters</li><li>• This is a poor nutrient allocation process</li><li>• Sampling at the Rangiriri/Glen Murray Bridge shows that the sub-catchment is already at an acceptable level</li></ul> | <p>I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety</p> |

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| Provision  | I support with amendments  | I seek that the provision is: amended as set out below:   |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Stock Exclusion</p> <p>Rules 3.11.5.1 to 3.11.5.4</p> | <p>The reasons for this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ That the National Water Accord only recommends that slopes up to 15 degrees be fenced, and this should apply. Also, it recommends a different definition of a water body which we are more comfortable with.</li> <li>• The cost of fencing hill country farms is prohibitive as demonstrated by the Federated Farmers study. It is even more so for deer fencing.</li> <li>• In the past, there have been cost subsidies to achieve this and there is nothing in the plan to indicate that this will continue.</li> <li>• The timing is unachievable for us in a priority 1 catchment. We require more time to plan and prepare in order to do a proper job.</li> </ul> | <p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p>That the rules are changed to reflect recommendations by the National Policy Statement on Fresh Water.</p> <p>That the timelines are extended to allow better decision making with any consequential amendments arising from the submission process</p> |

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| Provision   | I oppose   | I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety        |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Restricting Land Use<br/>Change Pages 15 - 16<br/>Policy 6<br/>Rule 3.11.5.7</p> | <p>The reasons for this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This undermines the value of our land</li><li>• We feel that this covered by all the other rules contained in the proposed plan.</li><li>• This restricts the ability of future generations to develop the farming business</li><li>• It restricts our ability to react to changes in the market as well climatic changes and adverse weather effects.</li><li>• It undermines the land owner's right to utilize their land with current best practice.</li></ul> | <p>I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety</p> |

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| Provision   | I oppose   | I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety  |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Farm Environment Plan</p> <p>Pages 15-16</p> <p>Policy 2</p> <p>Rules 3.11.5.3 to 3.11.5.7</p> <p>Schedule 1</p> | <p>The reasons for this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is too restrictive and binding. It does not take into account any changes which may need to be made due to adverse weather conditions. These changes will require sign-off by a Certified Farm Environment Planner which will be costly.</li> <li>• This will discourage innovation and people trying new systems as farmers will be locked into a Farm Environment Plan.</li> <li>• The timing is unrealistic given how comprehensive and binding the plan is.</li> <li>• There is a lack of Certified Farm Environment Planners which will result in sign-off being delayed and deadlines not being met.</li> <li>• The indicative cost of engaging a Certified Farm Environment Planner is prohibitive.</li> </ul> | <p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p>That the timeframe is extended with any consequential amendments arising from the submission process</p> |

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| Provision  | I support  | I seek that the provision is; amended as set out below   |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Contaminant Loss from Farm</p> <p>Objectives: 1 and 3</p> <p>Policy 1,2,4 and 7</p> <p>Rules 3.11.5.3 to 3.11.5.7</p> <p>Schedule 1</p> <p>Table 11-1</p> | <p>The reasons for this are;</p> <p>The contribution that koi carp make needs to be included in this proposed plan</p> | <p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p>That the plan is adjusted to contain rules for the elimination of koi carp with any consequential amendments arising from the submission process</p> |



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|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Provision</p><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><p>Sub-catchment</p> <p>Management</p> <p>Policy: 9</p> <p>Implementation method:</p> <p>3.11.4.1 and 3.11.4.5</p> | <p>I support</p> <p>The reasons for this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We believe this will work very well for our area</li><li>• The policy is not given effect to in the rules</li></ul> | <p>I seek that the provision is: amended as set out below</p> <p>As an alternative I propose</p><br><br><br><p>We would like the allowance for sub-catchment approach included in the rules with any consequential amendments arising from the submission process</p> |
|--|---|---|

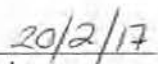
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Yours sincerely

Nicole Ewen and Andrew Ewen

  
Signature

  
Date