

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

**Submission Form**

Submission on a publically 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(s):** JN + VL Gilbert Family Trust

**Phone (hm):** 07-8710642

**Phone (wk):** 021 262 3417

**Postal Address:** 1142 Pirongia West Road RDI Opawa 3885

**Phone (cell):** 021 262 3417

**Postcode:** 3885

**Email:** vernagilbert@hotmail.com

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.**

~~Comment [11]: If this is a group submission everyone must include their details and sign the form, unless the group is a legal entity.  
To help the council the group could give itself a name is collectively referred to as the .... group.~~

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Introduction

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Waikato Regional Councils  
proposed Plan Change 1.

~~At present / We are ... and I am / we are sheep and beef farmer(s) in the  
... district. My family and I have been farming this property for X years.  
etc.~~

We are Jim & Verna Gilbert, & are sheep & beef  
farmers in the West Coast Catchment.

I am 4th generation to farm here, personally  
farming here for 40 years.

We have done some native plot planting  
over the years, & have got plans to  
continue planting more.

We are very passionate about our land, & it is  
important to us, to be the best caretakers that  
we can be, of it. That is how we see our role.

However, we do not feel confident enough to present  
our submissions to you personally

**Comment [12]:** Keep this section really  
brief. It is not imperative to your  
submission, but does help set the scene in  
relation to telling the council a little bit  
about your business and community.

Types of information include:

- Where you are farming (catchment)
- What type of farm
- Stock class and ratio and whether or  
not this changes overtime
- How long has the property been in  
your family and how long have you been  
farming the property
- Property under development - future  
aspirations?
- Environmental Ethos? ie actively  
planting riparian strips or allowing  
native regeneration, Q&E covenants,  
Plantation Forestry, Manuka, Wetlands  
or lakes etc

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The specific provisions my submission relates to are:	My submission is that:		The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:
	SUPPORT / OPPOSE	REASON	RELIEF SOUGHT
Provision 3.11.4.5 sub catchment scale planning	I support/ oppose/ If you support you can support but require amendments	The reasons for this are: It seems a sensible + practicable approach to controlling contaminant discharge, + gives each farm, + catchment, ownership over their future	I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below  As an alternative I propose that the plan should not be implemented until scientific data around which contaminants are causing water quality decline is available for each sub catchment.

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The specific provisions my submission relates to are:	My submission is that:		The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:
	SUPPORT / OPPOSE	REASON	RELIEF SOUGHT
Provision nitrogen management application of the Nitrogen Reference Point & use of OVERSEER Rules 3.11.5.2 - 3.11.5.7 (inclusive)	I support/ oppose/ if you support you can support but require amendments	The reasons for this are: the years chosen to determine the NRP value were drought years, thus stocking rates were very low - this means we will be restricted to carrying lower numbers of stock in future.	I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below  As an alternative I propose that land capability be gauged through the farm Environment Plans rather than a blanket prohibition
		Due to aging & health reasons we have decreased stock numbers over the last few years, now this will penalise the future generation coming along who have the capacity to increase the operation significantly but won't be able to.	Adopt a sub-catchment approach to address contaminants that are relevant to each farm that are science based to determine which contaminants are an issue.
			We seek that the NRP & use of overseer are removed from the plan in their entirety

We oppose the use of OVERSEER as a means of determining NRP: it relies on a wide number of assumptions & can vary depending on the information that is entered into it.

Amend the rules so that they are effects & science based, not based on "grandparenting" - holding land uses & land uses to historic stocking rates, stocking rates, & land uses.

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The specific provisions my submission relates to are:	My submission is that:		The decision I would like the Waikato Regional Council to make is:
	SUPPORT / OPPOSE	REASON	RELIEF SOUGHT
Provision Stock exclusion Policy 3 Policy 4 Rules 3.11.5.1 3.11.5.2 3.11.5.3 3.11.5.4 + Schedule C	I support/ <del>oppose</del> <del>if you support you can support but</del> require amendments	The reasons for this are: There are many areas of water on our farm that would require fencing under these rules that don't make sense as stock never venture near them. Fencing them would be financially crippling + pointless	I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below  As an alternative I propose that the individual FEP's present mitigations against contaminants relevant to each farm
		If we were to force all the waterways as defined in PCI, we have no guarantee that we will not be forced to plant it into forestry in future plan changes	Enable stock to enter water if they are being actively managed across the water body, & that the water body is not crossed by stock more than 3 times per week
		The timing along with the financial input, are out of our ability to achieve. + It fails to take into account alternative management approaches which could be incorporated into FEP's achieving the same outcome at less cost.	Extend timelines, + give certainty that we are not wasting our money + resources, due to the possibility that it may be converted to forestry  + fencing should be subsidised by Waikato Regional Council

The specific provisions  
my submission relates  
to are:

My submission is that:

restricting land use  
change.

Policy 6  
rule 3.11.5.7 + any  
relevant points within  
the plan.

I oppose this  
because it affects the value of our land, &  
impedes any future ability to develop & grow  
our business.

Sheep & beef production will be frozen, but  
farm costs will increase especially due to  
implementing the mitigation practices required.  
It will deny us flexibility thus restricting us to  
adapt to climatic & market changes

We think that this policy should be deleted in its entirety.  
It would be more appropriate to gauge land capability through  
the Farm Environment Plans (FEP) than to use a blanket  
prohibition

Policy 1b

We oppose this policy.


The ownership of the land should have no bearing on whether the rules apply or not. The issues addressed in this plan are about contaminant discharges. The rules should be the same for all, regardless of ownership.

We seek that this policy is removed.

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Yours sincerely James Nicholas GILBERT & Vera Lois GILBERT


Comment [13]: If a group. The final signature can be 'signed on behalf of the ... group'.

 - 27.2.2017  
Signature Date



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