



8 March 2017

Science and Strategy - Policy
Waikato Regional Council
Private Bag 3038
Waikato Mail Centre
Hamilton 3240

Dear Waikato Regional Council

Submission for Thames-Coromandel District Council - Plan Change 1

We support the call for the delay of Plan Change 1.

Eventually similar plans may be proposed for the Waihou Piako Coromandel Catchment.

This means it is imperative that the basis for planning is sound and we note the following points:

Testing

In our view, the only way to properly assess what is happening and where, is to test the waterway immediately upstream and downstream of land use change, beginning at the headwaters.

Currently, testing is largely only done at tributaries which does not give a true picture of point source discharge.

We all now know that possum faecal coliform is present in many of our watercourses around the Coromandel Peninsula. Other animals and wild bird flocks can also have similar impacts.

Within Waikato waterways are koi carp and catfish causing significant damage to beds and banks of waterways.

Further work needs to be done to properly show a clearer understanding of the catchment and the significant effects of koi carp, and any solutions to that problem.

Testing and extrapolating the true cause of nutrient, e-coli and sedimentation is an absolute must to properly inform any planning proposals going forward.

Consultation

We support the need to properly engage with all affected parties to ensure a contiguous planning response.

A delay allows the necessary time for this to occur.

Waikato District

We support the concerns raised by the Waikato District Mayor Alan Sanson, and will be watching the outcome of decisions being made.

We do not wish to be heard.

Thanking you.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Goudie', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sandra Goudie
Mayor