

**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:** Trevor Samuel Murchie

**Phone (Hm):** 07 873 7885

**Phone (Wk):** " "

**Postal Address:** 836 Waitomo Valley Rd  
RD 7

**Phone (Cell):** OTOROHIANGA

**Postcode:** 3977.

**Email:**

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.**

T. Murchie 6/3/17  
**Signature** **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>Provision</p>	<p>I support/ oppose/ and for each whether or not you wish to amend</p> <p>The reasons for this are:</p>	<p>I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below</p> <p>As an alternative I propose</p>

The specific provisions of the proposal that this submission relates to and the decisions it seeks from a Council are as detailed in the following table. The outcomes sought and the wording used is a suggestion only, where a suggestions is proposed it is with the intention of 'or words to that effect'. The outcomes sought may require consequential changes to the plan, including Objectives, Policies, or other rules, or restructuring of the Plan, or parts thereof, to give effect to the relief sought.

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

### Introduction

My name is Trevor Murchie. We farm sheep and beef on the Waitomo Valley Rd. It is approx 700 acres grass, 300 acres bush. Part of this farm has been in my family for 3 generations. My Grandfather bought it and it had a walk through dairy shed. My father made it sheep and beef which continues to this day.

We have a young family and want them to enjoy the lifestyle and freedom that farming allows.

Recently we purchased another 150 acres. This is relatively run down compared to the other blocks. We are looking to improve it and thereby able to increase stock numbers. Under this plan change this could be difficult.

We are not intensive in dairy farmer terms yet we feel we are being penalised for this now.

Our major river and some creeks have already been fenced off, also the bush is not just on the steeper sections and gullies. Pockets are everywhere. By having ~~done~~ this done now we are trying to ensure our children can keep swimming in it, also we are constantly asked by others if they can go eeling and watercress gathering.

We are asking for some flexibility within this plan so that future generations have some choice with the direction they might wish to take.

Thank you

Trevor.

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Provision	I support/ <u>oppose</u> and for each whether or not you wish to amend	I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ <del>Retained as proposed</del> / amended as set out below
<p>Schedule B Nitrogen Reference Point.</p>	<p>The reasons for this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Restricts farming practices.</li> <li>- 2 seasons of drought resulting in lower than normal stock numbers.</li> <li>- No flexibility. In the past we have cropped 3 years in a row but not the last 4.</li> <li>- Overseer not the right programme</li> <li>- Penalises less intensive farmers. eg Palm kernal allows high stocking rates on unsuitable land.</li> <li>- Land will devalue.</li> </ul>	<p>As an alternative I propose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Using the past 20 years as a guide for NRP.</li> <li>- Use a subcatchment to manage the contaminants in the area. Waipa nitrogen not an issue, E. coli &amp; Sediment are local issues.</li> <li>- Restrict Palm Kernal to feed pads / sheds etc. Not paddock feeding.</li> </ul>

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Provision	I support/ <u>oppose</u> and for each whether or not you wish to amend	I seek that the provision is: Deleted in its entirety/ Retained as proposed/ amended as set out below
<p>Schedule C.</p> <p>Stock Exclusion</p>	<p>The reasons for this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Impractical</li> <li>- Huge cost involved as lots of areas are not natural fencing lines. Also ongoing costs.</li> <li>- Our farm has reticulated water.</li> <li>- We already have fenced off areas.</li> </ul>	<p>As an alternative I propose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use the national standards at least for the fencing off of waterways.</li> <li>- Also individual streams/ creeks could be assessed on your Farm Environment Plan.</li> </ul>

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<p>Provision</p> <p>Policy 6. Land Use Change</p>	<p>I <del>support</del> / <u>oppose</u> and for each whether or not you wish to amend</p> <p>The reasons for this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Land values decrease with the restrictions / ability to improve our farming practice.</li><li>- Years of reference 2014 → 2016 not enough as 2 of these seasons were in a drought. Stock numbers down.</li><li>- Some years we crop</li><li>- Personal choice Ratio of cattle to sheep should be flexible according to seasons / weather and / or payouts.</li><li>- Future saleability</li></ul>	<p>I seek that the provision is: <u>Deleted in its entirety</u> / <del>Retained as proposed</del> / amended as set out below</p> <p>As an alternative I propose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Assess my land on an individual basis for it's own capabilities. This could be part of Farm Environment Plan.</li></ul>
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<p>Schedule 1. Requirement for Farm Environment Plans.</p>	<p>The reasons for this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Based on own farm capabilities. What is sustainable for my farm ?</li></ul>	<p>As an alternative I propose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Not long enough to get it done properly.</li><li>- Cost is prohibitive Some form of reimbursement?</li></ul>

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<p>Policy 16. Flexibility for development of land returned under Te Tiriti o Waitangi settlements and multiple owned Maori Land.</p>	<p>The reasons for this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- water quality is water quality.</li> <li>- no matter who owns it the rules should be the same for everyone.</li> </ul>	<p>As an alternative I propose</p> <p>Same rules for everyone.</p>



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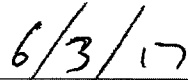
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Yours sincerely

Trevor Murdochie.



Signature



Date