

DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW

Proposed Waimakariri District Plan - Submission

Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991

Submitter details

(Our preferred methods of corresponding with you are by **email** and **phone**).

Full name: _____

Email address: _____

Phone (Mobile): _____ Phone (Landline): _____

Postal Address: _____ Post Code: _____

Physical address: _____ Post Code: _____
(if different from above)

Please select one of the two options below:

I **could not** gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission (go to Submission details, you do not need to complete the rest of this section)

I **could** gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission (please complete the rest of this section before continuing to Submission details)

Please select one of the two options below:

I **am** directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that:

- A) Adversely affects the environment; and
- B) Does not relate to trade competition or the effect of trade competition.

I **am not** directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that:

- A) Adversely affects the environment; and
- B) Does not relate to trade competition or the effect of trade competition.

Submission details

The specific provisions of the proposal that my submission relates to are as follows: *(please give details)*

My submission is that: *(state in summary the Proposed Plan chapter subject and provision of your submission. Clearly indicate whether you support or oppose the specific provisions or wish to have amendments made, giving reasons) (please include additional pages as necessary)*

I/we have included: _____ additional pages

I/we seek the following decision from the Waimakariri District Council: *(give precise details, use additional pages if required)*

Submission at the Hearing

I/we wish to speak in support of my/our submission

I/we do not wish to speak in support of my/our submission

If others make a similar further submission, I/we will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing

Signature

Of submitters or person authorised to sign on behalf of submitter(s)

Signature _____

Date _____

(If you are making your submission electronically, a signature is not required)

Important Information

1. The Council must receive this submission before the closing date and time for submissions.
2. Please note that submissions are public. Your name and submission will be included in papers that are available to the media and public. Your submission will only be used for the purpose of the District Plan review process.
3. Only those submitters who indicate they wish to speak at the hearing will be emailed a copy of the planning officers report (please ensure you include an email address on this submission form).

If you are a person who could gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission, your right to make a submission may be limited by clause 6(4) of Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Please note that your submission (or part of your submission) may be struck out if the authority is satisfied that at least 1 of the following applies to the submission (or part of the submission):

- It is frivolous or vexatious
- It discloses no reasonable or relevant case
- It would be an abuse of the hearing process to allow the submission (or the part) to be taken further
- It contains offensive language
- It is supported only by material that purports to be independent expert evidence, but has been prepared by a person who is not independent or who does not have sufficient specialised knowledge or skill to give expert advice on the matter.

Send your submission to: Proposed District Plan Submission
Waimakariri District Council
Private Bag 1005, Rangiora 7440

Email to: developmentplanning@wmk.govt.nz

Phone: 0800 965 468 (0800WMKGOV)

You can also deliver this submission form to one our service centres:

Rangiora Service Centre: 215 High Street, Rangiora

Kaiapoi Service Centre: Ruataniwha Kaiapoi Civic Centre, 176 Williams Street, Kaiapoi

Oxford Service Centre: 34 Main Street, Oxford

Submissions close 5pm, Friday 26 November 2021

Please refer to the Council website waimakariri.govt.nz for further updates



A SUBMISSION FROM: THE NORTH CANTERBURY FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

SUBMITTERS:

North Canterbury Fish and Game

PO Box 50 Woodend,

New Zealand.

Email: northcanterbury@fishandgame.org.nz

This submission is made in reference to the proposed Waimakariri District Plan. North Canterbury Fish & Game wish to deliver an oral submission to the panel.

Introduction:

The North Canterbury Fish and Game Council referred hereafter as "Fish & Game," support the development of a district plan that provides clear direction, reporting, monitoring and enforcement to protect the regions diverse and sensitive indigenous biodiversity, and with that the water quality and fisheries that are impacted by biodiversity management.

Submission for

Policy ECO-P-4, 2 section A

1. Restricting indigenous vegetation clearance or modification of habitat of indigenous fauna, by recognising that indigenous vegetation within:
 - A. The Lower Plains Ecological District and High Plains Ecological District has been widely destroyed, fragmented and degraded by land use and pests and therefore clearance of any remaining indigenous vegetation needs to be restricted in order to protect what remains

Support rules ECO-R-2 however see submission against definition of "improved pasture"

Policy NFL-P1 protect outstanding natural features

Inclusion of the Waimakariri, Ashley/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek as ONF and Ashley River as a Significant Amenity Landscape.

"A new Waimakariri River Outstanding Natural Feature (ONF) has been identified that covers the river bed and margins, and a new Ashley/Rakahuri and Saltwater Creek ONF will cover the estuary bed and margins. The Ashley River is now identified as a Significant Amenity Landscape."

Statutory managers of freshwater sports fish, game birds and their habitats

North Canterbury Fish and Game

PO Box 50 Woodend 7641, North Canterbury, New Zealand

Telephone: (03) 313 5728 or 0800 347426 Email: northcanterbury@fishandgame.org.nz

www.fishandgame.org.nz

Submission against

Policy ECO-P-4, 2 section B

1. Restricting indigenous vegetation clearance or modification of habitat of indigenous fauna, by recognising that indigenous vegetation within:
- B. The Oxford Ecological District, Torlesse Ecological District and Ashley Ecological District, has a larger proportion of indigenous vegetation remaining and therefore some clearance of indigenous vegetation may be acceptable;

This is ambiguous and appears to be supporting further clearance of indigenous vegetation contrary to the purpose and intent of the ONL.

Recommend

Remove section B or amend wording. No further indigenous vegetation within ONL should be cleared.

Policy NFL-P3

A) The removal of Lees Valley as an ONL

Recommendation

No section of Lees Valley should be removed as an ONL until full SNA mapping process has been completed.

Rule ECO-R1

The ability of landowners to choose not to have SNAs mapped and scheduled in the plan. The mapping process should be mandatory with any clearance of indigenous vegetation requiring resource consent and/or assessment for SNA status.

Recommend

Require mapping of SNA to be mandatory prior to consideration of any indigenous vegetation clearance.

NFL-P3 Protect Outstanding Natural Landscapes

Outstanding Natural Landscapes from the threat of vegetation clearance and pastoral intensification should include rules specifically relating to and limiting indigenous vegetation clearance. This is not defined well enough under matters of discretion.

Definition "improved pasture"

Defined as "an area of land where exotic pasture species have been deliberately sown or maintained for the purpose of pasture production since 31 December 1999 and species composition and growth has been modified and is being managed for livestock grazing"

Recommend

Replace 'improved pasture' clause with a mapped 'converted pasture' clause. Fish & Game seek that all converted pasture be mapped in the lower plains and High plains areas. This is an achievable desktop task using aerial imagery would remove ambiguity and provide a mechanism for public review. Then indigenous vegetation clearance should be made a permitted activity within this 'converted area' Converted pasture would be identified as grassland that has been converted to intensive pasture by cultivation and/or irrigation. Indigenous vegetation clearance outside of these converted pasture areas in

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the hill and high country and major rivers should require a discretionary resource consent. This would enable a qualified ecological assessment to be made of the area and the biodiversity values accurately established.

NFL: Natural Features & Landscapes

The Canterbury High Country is a very special place for anglers and hunters (as well as tourists and other domestic travellers). The majestic landscape features and the cohesiveness of the natural vegetation all affect the experience people have of the area. Fish & Game are concerned that the rules in the proposed plan fail to protect the Outstanding Natural Landscapes (ONLs) identified in the landscape assessments that have been completed to date. The plan, as it currently stands, does not provide for the protection of these ONLs and associated biodiversity from inappropriate use and development and it therefore is not giving effect to the Canterbury RPS as required under section 75(3) of the RMA. It is also contrary to section 6(b) of the RMA which requires protection of ONLs from inappropriate use and development. The lack of rules relating to pastoral intensification and agricultural conversion in ONLs and the lack of rules relating to vegetation clearance in ONLs are the two land use categories that we believe are currently the biggest risk of reduced landscape values.

Make SNA scheduling mandatory as required by New Zealand law.

The draft National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB) sets out a clear pathway for the identification and scheduling of SNA assessments. This includes a hierarchy of asking the landowner/leasee permission to identify SNAs on their property/ lease, followed by the use of aerial/satellite imagery and finally using powers under the RMA to visit the property and identify sites of significance. These identified SNAs must then be scheduled in district plans.

Fish & Game recommend creating another policy which sets out the means for identifying and scheduling SNAs. Policy should include the mandatory scheduling of all identified SNAs.

Relief sought:

Fish & Game submit that rules be included in the Natural Features and Landscape Chapter that restrict vegetation clearance in ONLs. This should be tied in with the mapping of 'converted pasture' described above, wherein all vegetation clearance outside of mapped 'converted pasture' areas in the ONLs trigger the need for a discretionary resource consent, so that landscape values can be properly considered.

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