
Submission on Waimakariri District Council - Proposed District Plan**Form 5 Submission on publically notified proposal for policy statement or plan, change or variation**

Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991

To: Waimakariri District Council - Development Planning Unit

Date received: 25/11/2021

Submission Reference Number #:100

This is a submission on the following proposed plan (the **proposal**): Waimakariri District Council - Proposed District Plan

Address for service:

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I wish to be heard: No

I am willing to present a joint case: No

Could you gain an advantage in trade competition in making this submission?

- **No**

Are you 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 effects of trade competition

- **No**

Submission points

Point 100.1

Section: ECO - Punaha hauropi me te rerenga rauropi taketake - Ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity

Sub-section: ECO - Punaha hauropi me te rerenga rauropi taketake - Ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity

Provision:

Indigenous biodiversity includes all plants and animals that occur naturally in New Zealand and have evolved or arrived without human assistance. It provides important ecosystem services, shaping our local and cultural identity and has considerable intrinsic value to mana whenua and people of the District.

The diverse ecosystems of the District contain remnants of indigenous vegetation and habitats of indigenous fauna which were once widespread, but over time have been destroyed, fragmented and degraded by land use and pests. These remnants (SNAs) have significant biodiversity value and are critical for preventing the extinction of rare species and loss of ecosystems.

The purpose of this chapter is to protect SNAs, and maintain indigenous biodiversity, as required under the RMA.

SNAs are areas of significant indigenous vegetation and/or significant habitat of indigenous fauna. They comprise two types:

- Mapped SNAs – are areas of significant indigenous vegetation and/or significant habitat of indigenous fauna shown on the planning map and listed in ECO-SCHED1 that meet one or more of the ecological significance criteria listed in ECO-APP1.
- Unmapped SNAs – are areas containing significant indigenous vegetation and/or significant habitat of indigenous fauna types listed in ECO-SCHED2 that occupy at least the specified minimum contiguous area, and are not mapped SNAs.

This approach provides a resource consent pathway for both identified and unidentified areas of significant indigenous vegetation and/or significant habitat of indigenous fauna.

The provisions in this chapter are consistent with the matters in Part 2 - District Wide Matters - Strategic Directions and give effect to matters in Part 2 - District Wide Matters - Urban Form and Development.

Other potentially relevant District Plan provisions

As well as the provisions in this chapter, other District Plan chapters that contain provisions that may also be relevant to ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity include:

- Appendix APP2: contains standards for creation of a bonus allotment and establishment of a bonus residential unit.
- General Rural Zone and Rural Lifestyle Zone: the underlying zones for SNAs, contains correlating provisions relating to bonus allotments and bonus residential units, along with setback requirements for certain activities from SNAs.
- Subdivision: contains provisions for creation of a bonus allotment, and subdivision of an area containing a mapped SNA;
- Earthworks: contains provisions for earthworks within a SNA.
- Natural Character of Freshwater Bodies: contains provisions regarding activities within natural character of scheduled freshwater bodies setbacks.
- Coastal Environment: contains provisions for activities within the coastal environment including natural character areas (ONC, VHNC, HNC), many of which overlay SNAs.
- Natural Features and Landscapes: contains provisions for natural features and landscapes, many of which overlay SNAs.
- Hazardous Substances HS-R2: contains a rule precluding the establishment of a major hazard facility within a SNA.
- Energy and Infrastructure: contains provisions managing activities within a SNA.
- Temporary Activities TEMP-R5: contains provisions managing temporary military training activities within a SNA.
- Special Purpose Zone (Kāinga Nohoanga): how the Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity provisions apply in the Special Purpose Zone (Kāinga Nohoanga) is set out in SPZ(KN)-APP1 to SPZ(KN)-APP5 of that chapter.
- Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori: this chapter recognises the cultural values of certain including wetlands/repo. It also aims to protect the ecological values of wāhi tapu and wāhi taonga sites.
- Natural Open Space Zone and Open Space Zone: the underlying zone for many SNAs.
- Any other District wide matter that may affect or relate to the site.
- Zones: the zone chapters contain provisions about what activities are anticipated to occur in the zones.

Sentiment: Oppose

Submission:

I oppose the proposal to include part of my property at 117 Mounsey's Road as part of the Taylor's Bush SNA, which is currently listed in the operative district plan.

I do not hold the view that the proposed SNA area on our property is significant for the following reasons;

- The proposed SNA area on our property is predominantly made up of weeds - gorse, broom, willow trees, hawthorn and extremely invasive muehlenbeckia - weeds would total at least 80% of the proposed area.
- The existing area of native habitat is a small cluster of the entire vegetation make up in the proposed area and is immediately adjacent to Woodside Rd.

Other points of note

- I do not hold the view that it is possible to determine the significance of the site in question based on examination of aerial imagery.
- The proposed piece of land on our property is referred to as Taylor's Bush, is separate to the historical SNA and the two areas are separated by Woodside Road.
- The proposed SNA restricts future plans for enhancing our properties biodiversity in the future by reducing our options.
- I have a 10 year plan for our property to our property to enhance the biodiversity by planting native trees and are committed to controlling both pest and weeds after purchasing the property in recent years.

Relief sought

I am asking that the council remove the area of our property included in OX036 / V056 from the SNA.