

Submission on the Proposed Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan

Submissions on a Publicly Notified Regional Plan under Clause 6 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991

TO:
Freepost 1201
Proposed Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan
Environment Canterbury
PO Box 345
CHRISTCHURCH 8140

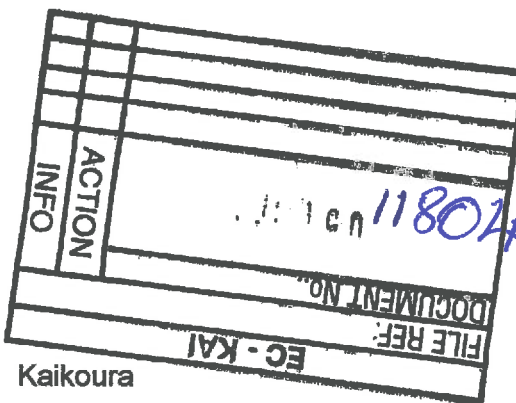
PLAN-LWRP-DRAFT-654-2

Day of Month 4th october 2012

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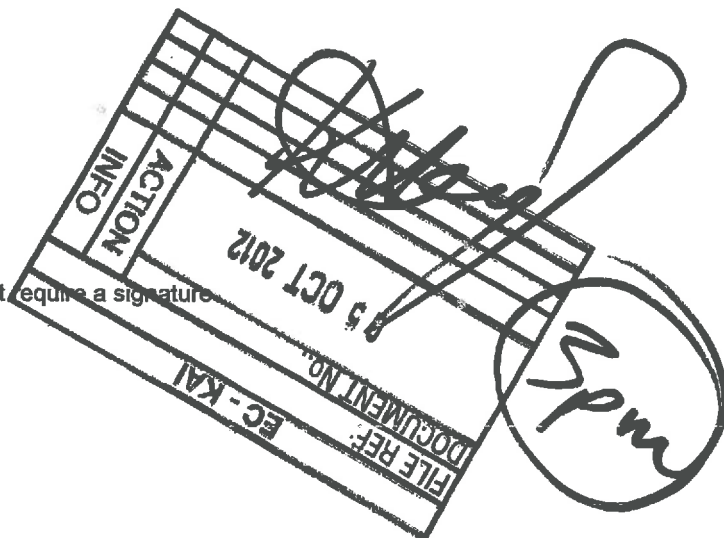
-
- I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission; OR
 - I do wish to be heard in support of my submission; AND IF SO,
 - If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing.

Yours sincerely,

SIMON JOHN MACKLE

Simon Mackle

PRINT NAME and Sign-Above (E-mail submissions do not require a signature)



Introduction

I thank Environment Canterbury for this opportunity to submit on the Proposed Land and Water Regional Plan.

I have been farming in the Kaikoura catchment / area for the past 17 years. The farm that I sharemilk covers a total of 215 hectares with a herd size of 800 dairy cows and has been under my families ownership for over 100 years.

I employ a total of 3 staff locally to support farming practices. My family is well integrated in the local community with my children enrolled in our local schools and preschools.

As an Fonterra shareholder I am committed to the Environmental Programme which Fonterra has set out under its Conditions of Milk Supply. The Programme includes best on-farm practice for nutrient and effluent management. I have improved environmental outcomes from my own farming practices through:

While I support the objectives of the Proposed Plan with respect to addressing regional water quality, I do have some concerns regarding the current Proposed Plan. Objectives fail to acknowledge the regions rural economy and provisions will prevent appropriate economic growth. I have the following specific comments to make with respect to the Plan.

Submission

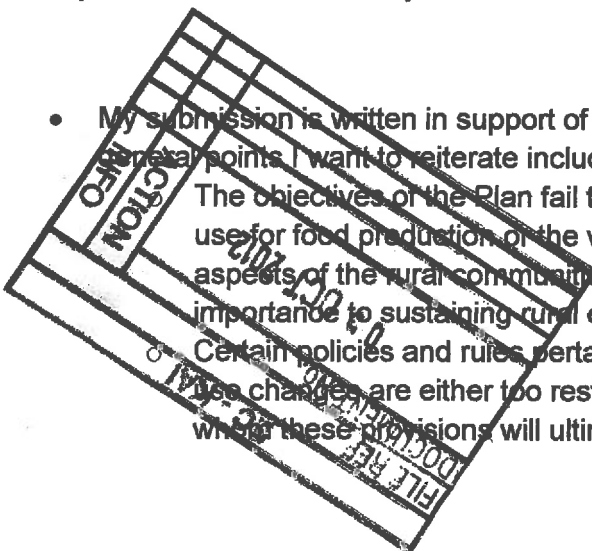
The Kaikoura flats are a unique area in that much of the land has become farmable because of drainage. This drainage was originally hand dug drains by pioneering farmers until modern machinery came along and made the task significantly less demanding. The Catchment /drainage area of the Kaikoura flats is a small area and the potential nutrient loading for the significant waterways of the area is far less than for an area such as the Canterbury plains.

The Kaikoura district's economy is reliant on Tourism, Agriculture and Fishing. Since the Global Financial Crisis and the Canterbury Earthquakes , Kaikoura Tourism has decreased considerably and this has had a major effect on the towns financial health. It is vitally important that Agriculture is able to sustain its current level of intensification so as to help underpin the Kaikoura economy.

- My submission is written in support of the submission lodged by DairyNZ . The key general points I want to reiterate include:

The objectives of the Plan fail to recognise both the value of land and water use for food production, or the vital importance of water to support social aspects of the rural communities, including stock water take, as well as the importance to sustaining rural economies and growth.

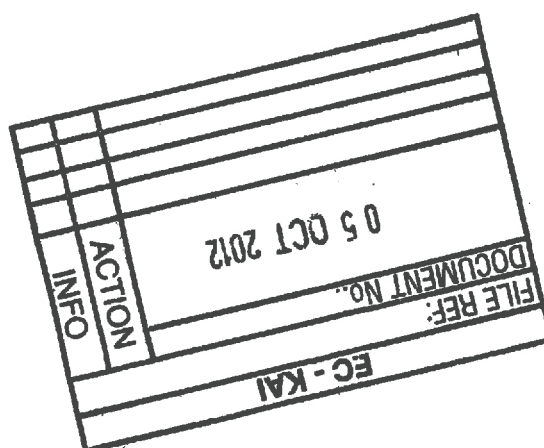
Certain policies and rules pertaining to nutrient loads, animal waste and land-use changes are either too restrictive, or simply lack clarity for land users to which these provisions will ultimately apply.



Relief Sought

- I ask that the Plan include further objectives which recognise the importance of rural land production in providing: local employment, locally/regionally/nationally significant economic productivity and export goods, support to local business and industry
- I ask that the Council amend definitions, policies and rules as per the relief sought by DairyNZ to address the lack of clarity for dairy farmers, particularly around nutrient loads and animal effluent.
- I ask that the Council amend rules relating to land use change as set out in the DairyNZ and submission to allow for appropriate rural economic growth within catchment-appropriate environmental outcomes.

*Yours faithfully,
 Simon Mackle*



Received in Kärköv's
office 5/10/12 - 3pm.
Scanned and emailed to
Mentroun 8/10/12

Expect great service...

...deliver great service