

SUBMISSION TO THE GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE 1 to the THE NATURAL RESOURCES PLAN

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MY SUBMISSION IS:

I **oppose** Plan Change 1 with reference to the following issues –

1. Management of freshwater within Te Whaitua te Whanganui-a-Tara Implementation Programme (Te Whaitua te Whanganui IP)
2. Amendments to beds of lakes and rivers rules
3. New sites with significant indigenous biodiversity values.

As written in the preface to the Plan Change 1 –

“Changes to the provisions of the PNRP deemed operative in November 2021 have been driven by the need to implement the new national direction, the Wellington Regional Growth Framework and the Te Whaitua te Whanganui IP recommendations”.

I have an objection to “the new national direction”. As there has been a change of Government it may be that the new national direction will change and this proposed plan is unfit for purpose.

I have an absolute objection to the content of the Te Whaitua te Whanganui IP as it discusses my property with statements that are untrue and subject to libel.

The first I heard of the implementation of the Te Whaitua te Whanganui IP was at an informal meeting with the two park rangers (members of the GWRC staff). This was after it had been planned, proposed and written.

There was no discussion with me, nor was then any effort made to contact me at all.

Even if I had been made aware of this document, I would not have realised the importance of it as I could not decipher the meaning by its front cover having been written in Maori with no English translation.

This was a document of 107 pages.

The GWRC has admitted in their preface for the public consultation that “like all planning documents, Plan Change 1 is complex to navigate and understand”.

This document was sent out to the public on 30th November.

It is totally unacceptable to expect the lay person to read and digest a document of several hundred pages and be able to formulate a concise response at, arguably, the busiest and most stressful time of the year.

I would contest that the limited time available is totally impractical and that the time should be immediately extended.

However, if the GWRC is not willing to do this, I am also objecting on a global basis to the whole Plan Change 1 in case there are more issues that affect me that I am not currently aware of.

As I am “someone that has an interest greater than the general public” (i.e. a stakeholder) I will be entitled to be heard to my submission and I henceforth request that now.

Julie Martin