

**From:** [kirsty gill](#)  
**To:** [Regional Plan](#)  
**Subject:** SUBMISSION ON GWRC Plan change 1 to the Natural Resources Plan, K Gill.  
**Date:** Saturday, 16 December 2023 6:31:14 am

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Hello

I wish to make a submission on the above.

Because of the proposed new GWRC Plan our family feel really strongly about excessive restrictions being placed upon land owners.

This relates especially to farmers about what they can and cant do on their own land which they have brought and paid for.

We have only recently been made aware of the serious effects this Plan could have for many rural land owners if it is eventually adopted.

As a person who is in line for Family succession planning to partially own our family farm in the future, we need to object to some of these new provisions.

Communication to affected parties such as ourselves and our family have been dire.

There is an outcry in this community that insufficient information about this plan, including meetings and deadlines to lodge a submission have been unfair and difficult to meet.

For this reason we wish to now lodge a basic submission saying that we object to the following parts of the GWRC Plan change 1 draft:

1. Stock exclusion from waterways in south Makara area because there is absolutely no evidence that this is necessary.! We are not part of the makara Catchment area. Plus we are already voluntarily undertaking riparian planting.
2. The identification by GWRC – completely “out of the blue”-of a large

portion of our farm being totally erroneously identified as “erosion prone”. Stating we must “retire” all that land which our family has worked for the last 40 years to clear of gorse , blackberry and Barbery. This is unacceptable Councils can do this without compensation being offered.

3. Earthworks provisions: so complicated that a farmer or any land owner cannot know how to meet these requirements. Stock welfare, Farm Safety and Farm tracks access have been disregarded in the new earthwork provisions.

We believe and hope that the new incoming Government will somehow put a halt to the progression of this plan.

GWRC themselves have told us “There has also been reference to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) being replaced. “

Until then, this submission will be a summary of the portions of the draft Plan we most object to.

In farming if one counts the SNA areas, plus the areas now bizarrely (and erroneously) deemed as “erosion prone”.... plus the Lower slopes “stock grazing exclusion zones”, we will basically lose our family farm of 1000 acres.

Include as well the stands/acres of native plant areas we have voluntarily preserved and maintained ..... there is then very little we will be allowed to run livestock and farm.!!!!

We are putting all those areas together on a map for our updated later submission in February – and it is extraordinary to see how much of our farm – which our family brought and paid for – which Councils are now suggesting we “retire” OR plant in more native , OR just exclude stock from! It is really devastating, and this should not be allowed to happen to landowners.

In summary .... We strongly oppose the broadbrush regulatory approach taken under Plan Change 1 and the removal of local decision making from

our community. We agree with the need to improve water quality – **where it is poor and where the solutions are within our control** – but we need some fundamental evidence that this is required to do this effectively and equitably. We ask council to recognise the work we have done to date and partner with us in this work rather than regulate against us.

Information required by GWRC.....

We reserve the right to add more to this submission and to speak to it at any hearing in the future.

We would consider presenting a joint case at the hearing with others who make a similar submission.

We could NOT gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

Many thanks for accepting this submission in this format. Please receipt this email.

Kind regards

Kirstin Gill

Phone



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