

**INDIVIDUAL SUBMISSION  
ON PROPOSED NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT  
FOR INDIGENOUS BIODIVERSITY**

**TO:** MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT  
[indigenousbiodiversity@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:indigenousbiodiversity@mfe.govt.nz)

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**Submitter's Name and Contact Details**

Name	Phone Number	Address
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	0 [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] Te Awamutu 3879

### Introduction

We are [REDACTED]. We own [REDACTED] in the Waikato, a [REDACTED] ha dairy farm that also supports a young family with [REDACTED] small children and a [REDACTED] ha dairy farm that supports also a young family.

WE have owned the [REDACTED] ha farm for nearly 30 years and the [REDACTED] ha farm for nearly 16 years. Both farms have some native trees on it. The [REDACTED] ha has a small SNA on the farm.

### Biodiversity on my farm

The [REDACTED] ha farm has a small SNA and that is mapped by the district council. We have some native trees scattered around the farm and we appreciate them for the aesthetics and the shade and shelter that they give for the cows and we enjoy walking under trees and kids play there from time to time. This way it has been used for a long time and that will continue and it works well. Things are in balance. WE also have non-native trees on the farm which we like and provide shade/shelter.

We do not get funding from council.

Possum control is being done as well as other pests if they are there.

The [REDACTED] ha farm has no SNA but has some scattered native trees across the farm. WE appreciate them for the aesthetics and the shade and shelter that they give for the cows and we enjoy walking or picnic/ kids play there from time to time.

We do possum / pest control . This way it has been used for a long time and that will continue and it works well. Things are in balance. We also have non native trees on the farm which we like and provide shade/shelter.

We do not get funding from Council.

### How the NPS will impact my farm

Our worry is that in the future we might need to fence off the trees and then the cows cannot use them for shelter. With rising temperatures it is a worry and not acceptable that cows could not have shelter under trees.

With all these rules and regulations hanging above our heads, native trees in our view will become a liability and it does not encourage us to plant more native trees. I have expressed that to district council people when we did a submission in the past. The fear is that it will limit what I can do on our farm.

Planting non native trees is in the planning, they can give shade/shelter and they need to be in a practical place.

My concern is also as a ratepayer in our community that from( district )Councils a lot is expected (restoration targets & regional biodiversity strategies NPS sections 3.16 – 3.18 ) and (Highly mobile fauna policy NPS section 3.15) and around SNA legislation and a huge cost burden is put on councils so it means less money for other local projects that need doing and increase of rates very likely.

The way that a lot of the policies are written are grey areas , it lacks cost analyses, and it creates anxiety among rural communities that is targeted by so many rules and regulations already.

If we had to prove what we have been doing regarding native trees so far, it would be hard as that is something we do not specifically put down on paper.

### Conclusion

WE do not support this proposal because it is not flexible enough to accommodate current permitted activities on our farms.

The way the proposal is written it will create a huge cost burden on Councils and for Councils and farmers some things will be unaffordable and unachievable. It will give a lot of uncertainty to the farming community.



