INDIVIDUAL SUBMISSION
ON PROPOSED NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT
FOR INDIGENOUS BIODIVERSITY

TO: MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

indigenousbiodiversity@mfe.govt.nz
DATE: 8th March 2020

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Introduction

and I have farmed hectares [mainly steep hill country approximately 20% of the total area is in mature indigenous vegetation.] and Te Puke is hectares[ mainly is flat to rolling and 10% is retired indigenous vegetation, totally funded by ourselves. ] .
It was purchased by funds earned by ourselves through hard work. We endeavour to farm the property in the best possible way we can.
We have done various development work over that time and have always considered the implications of our actions. Areas of mature indigenous vegetation have been retained in just about every paddock on our property. These have been retained for the aesthetic properties and stock shelter as well as erosion protection.
Owing to the contour, the fencing of these areas is physically impossible.

Biodiversity on my farm

Owing to the size of these indigenous areas stock don't impact to any great extent due to there inaccessibility, and the lack of quality feed for animals. Because of our extreme climatic conditions we need access to these areas for stock welfare.

How the NPS will impact my farm

This proposal would make the current viability of my farming operation unviable.
These areas, owing to contour, would be impossible to fence off.

Conclusion

We strongly oppose in our area, these plans, as there are large areas of indigenous vegetation throughout Eastern Wairarapa.
It is in our best interest to look after the land for future generations like we have been [this proposal makes us wonder whether we would not have been better off clear felling our properties years ago! ].
We own the land and should be compensated for any costs, be it lack of returns or lack of ability to continue to farm it.
Government should put their money where their mouth is and pay for private land that is retired.

*We thank the Ministry for considering our views.*