

**From:** [REDACTED]  
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Submission on the proposed NPS on Indigenous Biodiversity

[REDACTED] . [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

North Canterbury

Phone [REDACTED]

Email. [REDACTED]

Sheep and Beef Farmers and [REDACTED] Beef & Lamb NZ and the NZ Meat Board.

I am a Sheep and Beef Farmer who purchased my first block of land at age [REDACTED], by saving money from working on farms since leaving school. We purchased more land and leased land prior to 2001 when my wife [REDACTED] and 3 young daughters purchased [REDACTED] consisting of [REDACTED], which was in need of a lot of development. This required refencing, Broom, Gorse and regrowth Kanuka and Manuka clearance to make the property productive again. Protecting stands of native trees and well established native bush. Fencing and enhancing a large Wetland. Pasture renewal, infrastructure upgrading including all buildings, stock and domestic water scheme. Spray Pivot irrigation has been added to all flat land. This has all been done with Bank finance.

We think nothing looks better than areas of Native Bush and Trees in the gully's on our Hill Country surrounded by green pastures in Spring.

We support the goal of the NPSIB to maintain and enhance NZs Indigenous Biodiversity.

We oppose the use of SNAs to identify areas to be protected.

SNAs don't encourage conservation.

With Local or Regional Government identifying SNAs, the Landowner has no rights or control over the areas to be conserved on private land. This needs to be a collaborative and negotiable process with the Landowner.

It must be remembered that this is privately owned freehold land that farmers have made scarifies and worked hard to purchase.

When the Tenure Review process took place in the High Country, land the Crown wanted for public good was purchased from Farmers. If large areas of Indigenous Biodiversity are required to be protected for public good, they should also be purchased from Landowners. If the New Zealand public want this so badly, they will be totally in favour of this.

Also compensation or funding should be made available for fencing if required and controlling of weeds and pests in the protected areas.

As Farmers we don't want to eliminate good stands of Indigenous Biodiversity. But we want to be able to still clear regrowth scrub and woody weeds on our Hill Country. Particularly the areas that were cleared in the mid 1980s. These areas have been fenced, tracked and have stock water systems, but need control of regrowth weeds and scrub every 10 to 15 years to keep them productive.

If this is not the case it will have a huge impact on New Zealand's economy lowering exports. It will lead to unemployment, make farms uneconomic and impact on rural communities.

If the opportunity arises to speak to this submission. I would like to do so.

Thank you for considering this Submission.

