

From: [REDACTED]
To: Indigenusbiodiversity
Subject: Submission on Proposed NPS for Indigenous Biodiversity
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Below is our Submission on Proposed NPS for Indigenous Biodiversity.

We wish to be heard to give our submission in person.

We are sheep and beef farmers on [REDACTED] in the Waikato.

We oppose the proposed NPS for Indigenous Biodiversity in its entirety.

Our reasons are:

When consents for land use are applied for through Waikato District Council and Waikato Regional Council, indigenous biodiversity considerations are already to be studied, protected and reports produced. This NPS will merely increase the bureaucracy and costs to District and Regional Councils who, in turn, will pass those on to the consent applicant who is the landowner.

It will provoke resistance, mistrust and undermine the goodwill of landowners. It is a violation of private property rights. It is counterproductive to what it is intended to do.

In 2000, the Government funded a Ministerial Advisory Committee to consult about biodiversity on private land. The findings and recommendation (in a report entitled "Biodiversity and Private Land") of the MAC Report was that the Government should **not** proceed with an NPS for biodiversity and that to do so could result in adverse outcomes.

An example of adverse reaction to regulation is in the Hurunui District in Canterbury. The Hurunui District Council had adopted a regulatory approach to managing biodiversity for several years. This was done with

good intentions but resulted in strong opposition from landowners, litigation, and withdrawal of landowner cooperation to protect biodiversity.

Mr. [REDACTED], [REDACTED], addressed this in the MAC report as follows:

"Tolerance, patience and respect for rural culture will more effectively halt the decline in indigenous biodiversity by promoting a vision and engaging land managers to adopt a management style that enhances the values in their care. Enlightened management is achieved by leadership and example. The spectre of an authoritarian official, imposing directions and sanctions for non-compliance only alienates landowners and puts at greater risk the values we seek to retain." " The key assumption of the MAC Report is that "Success nature conservation requires willing and motivated landowners."

We agree with the findings of the MAC Report wholeheartedly.

Farmers have and too much regulation for public good forced upon them without being reimbursed for the correlating costs and this must be halted.

End Submission