Thankyou for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed national policy statement for indigenous biodiversity

I currently farm on the [redacted] in South Otago on my families farm. We farm [redacted].

Stock class and ratio changes from season to season.

My family has been farming here since 1983. I am 4th generation and god willing my boys will be 5th.

Our farm is not what you would class as the typical sheep farm as we have kept a lot of indigenous fauna over the generations. There is in fact [redacted] that don't have any native trees in them. In fact over our generational project we have kept [redacted] this is not [redacted], but integrated throughout our entire farm. In a time where people are being rewarded for replanting, our family has been farming since day dot with the aspiration of keeping some of the natural biodiversity as it was. It must be noted that this has been through times when government policy was all about clear the native or else lose your ballet farm.

I am a proud custodian to this precious land, but to remain so [redacted]

I support the beef and lamb submission completely.

I am extremely worried that this policy, if incorrectly implemented will have an incredibly negative impact on my family and our source of income.

Although I support some of the merit in its intention, I worry that ownership rights will become less of a privilege and more of a burden.

I worry that people that have contributed the most towards conservation will be the most hindered in its application.

If the government is putting such a high value on indigenous biodiversity, instead of devaluing peoples property they should be compensating land owners if they feel the need to strip rights and devalue land.

There needs to be economic benefit, not hardship if this is to be a true cause.
Thankyou for the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes. I welcome the opportunity to discuss further any of the points above with the ministry for the environment and the department of conservation, should you wish for more information. For any inquiries relating to this feedback please contact me by phone or by email.

Yours faithfully