Submission on Proposed Water and Land Plan 3rd June 2016

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Farmed as a sustainable park (Helipark), our 200 acre property has retained 60 acres (approx.) of indigenous areas to enhance our parklike setting and wildlife welfare.

Wild deer from the neighbouring DOC estate (Longwoods) are regularly trapped, quietened in the indigenous areas before being farmed mainly for venison export and park purposes.

Our coastal position encounters NZs strongest winds and highest rainfall including regular snow showers requiring animal shelter.

This plan needs to incorporate animal welfare and climate considerations to have any substance.

Definitions of watercourse e.g. amount of regular flow/flood flow would help determine any exclusion requirements.

Deer exclusion from water and banks on flattish land is a noted issue but is not relevant to hillcountryfarms who like sheep rarely visit water/banks.

Fenced damable silt and nutrient ponds cleaned regularly on farm outlets need to be recognised properly as an effective tool controlling both flow and quality.

In my opinion this plan appears to apply mostly common sense but the attention to indigenous people rights is unfortunately not given to indigenous species rights when regular topdressing into waterways of deadly poisons and chemicals is a complying activity rather than a discretionary activity obviously to suit various councils activities.

A submission form included into this plan would have been helpful.

Regards

S.W. Gamble