Submission on proposed Southland Water and Land Plan

Email your completed submission to policy@es.govt.nz by 5.00pm Monday 1st August 2016

Alternatively, you can post your signed submission to:
Southland Water and Land Plan
Environment Southland
Private Bag 90116
Invercargill 9840

You can also deliver your submission to Environment Southland's North Road office or fax it on 03 211 5252.

Full Name: Dennis O'Connell
Organisation*: 
* the organisation that this submission is made on behalf of
Postal Address: 1341 Wharau Creek Rd
PO Box 9073 Gore
Email: oconnelle@xtra.co.nz
Phone (Hm): 03 2685727
Phone (Wk): 
Phone (Cell): 
Postcode: 9793
Fax: 

Contact name and postal address for service of person making submission (if different from above):

Public hearing
Please choose one of the following options:
☐ I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission; or
☐ I would be prepared to consider presenting my submission in a joint case with others making a similar submission at any hearing

Trade Competition
If you could gain an advantage in trade competition, your submission must only include matters which affect the environment.

Please tick the sentence that applies to you:
☐ I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission; or
☐ I could gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

If you have ticked this box please sign below to declare that you are directly impacted by an adverse environmental effect.

Signature:___D.P. O'Connell___ Date: 27/7/16

(Signature of person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making the submission)

Please note:
(1) all information contained in a submission under the Resource Management Act 1991, including names and addresses for service, becomes public information.

Form 5: Submissions on a Publicly Notified Regional Plan under Clause 6 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991
To Whom It May Concern

I wish to submit on the Southland Water and Land Plan as although supporting the objective to protect our waterways I am concerned that the plan has not been undertaken with any economic analysis.

On a hill country farm the rules relating to Farming (Rule 20), Intensive Winter Grazing (Rule 23), and Cultivation on Sloping Ground (Rule 25) all contribute to add costs to our farming business with no specific link to the degrading of water quality by our practices.

These rules will mean less ground is cultivated for winter feed or more paddock area will need to be cultivated, both consequences resulting in a reduction in the number of sheep being able to be farmed. Fencing rules will encourage some farmers to drop cattle from their farming business.

Costs associated with fencing waterways and riparian plantings in lower producing hill country are prohibitive.

Management Plans outlined in Appendix N are hugely complex and consequently, costly; as are the proposed consent costs.

Flow on effects of reduced productivity and increased costs to employment and local business will be noticeable, and will result in a reduction in local body rates take, as well as profitability losses reducing the national tax take.

I recommend that ES follow the approach of the NZ Landcare Trust, which with the Pomahaka Farmers Water Care Group, is working to utilise and showcase industry tools that enable farmers to improve farm practices that impact on water quality, reduce nutrient loss and improve water quality; all without punitive rules.

If ES has any concern at all for the economic viability of the province then a significant revision of these proposals needs to be undertaken.

Dennis O'Connell