

We understand the need to have a Land and Water Plan, but we feel it is important that it does not restrict varying management practises that do not result in negative environmental impacts. We feel the plan does not adequately recognise the impact of varying classes of stock, especially with regard to intensive winter grazing, farmed at differing stocking rates and in doing so is presumptuous of management practises.

We believe a plan based on effects parameters which allowed farmers to continue to develop their management practises would have a more positive effect on the environment long term.

It is important that the plan does not place too much of an onerous burden of compliance upon farmers and in doing so lose their positive buy in.

The burden of additional costs and time such as for resource consent applications in situations where industry best practise management techniques already exist would be an unacceptable outcome for farmers who are already trying to work within their financial constraints and time limitations to improve environmental results on farm.

Accurate risk analysis based on physiographic zone, stock type, stocking rate, low nitrogen inputs and management best practises should be taken into account with those farms with low risk profiles being able to comply via Farm Environmental Plans not resource consents thus reducing needless timewasting and costs for both farmers and Environment Southland going forward.

We are happy to answer any questions the panel may have.

Submitter No: 555

Submitter Name:
McLagg, Danyl & Ruth

Date Received: 14 / 6 / 17