

**BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENT COURT
AT AUCKLAND
I MUA I TE KŌTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA**

ENV-2022-AKL-000036

UNDER

the Resource Management Act 1991

IN THE MATTER OF

an appeal under clause 14 of Schedule
1 of the Act in relation to the Proposed
Waikato District Plan

BETWEEN

**DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF
CONSERVATION**

Appellant

AND

WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCIL

Respondent

**NOTICE OF FEDERATED FARMERS OF NEW ZEALAND
INCORPORATED'S WISH TO BE PARTY TO PROCEEDINGS**

22 March 2022



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Contact: Peter Matich / Mike
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To: **The Registrar**
Environment Court
Auckland

1. Federated Farmers of New Zealand Incorporated (**Federated Farmers**) wishes to be a party to the proceedings ENV-2022-AKL-000036 (the **Proceedings**).
2. Federated Farmers made a submission about the subject matter of the Proceedings. Federated Farmers also has an interest in the proceedings that is greater than the interest that the general public has as a representative body for farmers' interests which may be affected by the relief sought by the Appellant. Additionally:
 - (a) the subject matter of the appeal is a matter of interest to farmers who rely on natural and physical resources in the district in making their livelihoods; and
 - (b) there is a potential for farmers in the district to be directly impacted by the terms of the appeal.
3. Federated Farmers is not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308C or 308CA of the Resource Management Act 1991.
4. Federated Farmers is interested in the parts of the Proceedings which relate to:
 - (a) the definition of "Significant Natural Area";
 - (b) Rule ECO-R7;
 - (c) Rule ECO-R14;
 - (d) inserting new provisions to provide for protection of exotic trees;
 - (e) Policy ECO-P2(1)(c);
 - (f) Policy ECO-P3(1); and

- (g) any consequential relief sought by the Appellant to give effect to matters raised in their appeal.
5. Federated Farmers is interested in the issues raised in the Appellant's notice of appeal insofar as they relate to these provisions.
 6. Federated Farmers opposes the relief sought because:
 - (a) the definition of "Significant Natural Area": including unmapped areas that meet the criteria in Appendix 2 may have negative consequential effects on farming activities for little or no environmental benefit.
 - (b) Rule ECO-R7, Rule ECO-R14 and insertion of new provisions to provide for protection of exotic trees: providing for the protection of exotic trees (where those trees qualify as significant habitat for indigenous species) will have an untenable impact upon farmers with plantations of exotic vegetation for little or no environmental benefit.
 - (c) Policy ECO-P2(1)(c) and Policy ECO-P3(1): Requiring offsetting of residual adverse effects and allowing for biodiversity offsetting following avoidance, mitigation and remediation where an activity will result in residual adverse effects on any significant natural area will create an unjustifiably high requirement on farmers carrying out activities within significant natural areas for little or no environmental benefit.

7. Federated Farmers agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.



Mike Campbell

Counsel for Federated Farmers of New Zealand Incorporated

DATE: 22 March 2022

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Advice

If you have any questions about this notice, contact the Environment Court in Auckland, Wellington, or Christchurch.