

FNDC
Hearing 9 Submission

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Lifestyle blocks in rural areas beneficial for:

- Older farmers and their families
- Family members working on family farms
- Rural workers (financial security, independence, work flexibility, area connection)

Lifestyle blocks in rural areas:

- Help reverse current rural depopulation trends
- Help reverse rural labour shortages
- Lead to greater investment
- Enhanced rural productivity

To cater for these situations suggest:

- Farmers (landowners) be permitted to cut off up to 2ha surrounding their home.
- A cluster option (2 x 1ha lots ?) be permitted in rural areas.
- In both of the above scenarios, the balance parcel should contain a minimum specified area (40ha?).
- In order to protect the productive capacity of the land any smaller lot sizes should be on less productive land or adjacent to existing smaller blocks.

Rural boundary adjustments

- Boundary adjustments among existing titles in rural areas should be permitted.
- However minimum area for the smaller parcel should be 1ha not 8 ha as suggested in the new *Proposed FNDC District Plan*.
- This policy will not result in additional titles.
- Lead to greater investment and enhanced rural productivity thus benefitting whole district.

Summarising 1

- Lifestyle blocks in rural areas provide many benefits
- Farmers (landowners) be permitted to cut off up to 2ha surrounding their home.
- A cluster option (2 x 1ha lots) be permitted in rural areas.
- In both of the above scenarios, the balance parcel should contain a minimum specified area (40ha?).

Summarising 2

And lastly,

- Boundary adjustments among existing titles in rural areas should be permitted.
- However to enhance land use flexibility minimum area for the smaller parcel in the *Proposed FNDC District Plan* should be **1ha**.

**Thank you for your time and
attention**