



Submission on Proposed Far North District Plan

Form 5 Submission on publically notified proposal for policy statement or plan, change or variation

Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991

To: Far North District Council - District Planning

Date received: 16/10/2022

This is a submission on the following proposed plan (the **proposal**): Proposed Far North District Plan

Address for service:

Chris & Nicola Robertson
429 Redcliffs Road RD1 Kerikeri 0294
New Zealand
Email: nickyjr117@gmail.com

I wish to be heard: No

I am willing to present a joint case: No

Could you gain an advantage in trade competition in making this submission?

- No

Are you directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that

(a) adversely affects the environment; and

(b) does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition

- No

Submission points

Point 29.1 **S78.001**

Section: Rural production

Sub-section: Overview

Provision:

The Rural Production zone is the largest zone in the District and accounts for approximately 65% of all land. The Rural Production zone is a dynamic environment, influenced by changing farming and forestry practices and by a wide range of productive activities. The purpose of this zone is to provide for primary production activities including non-commercial quarrying, farming, intensive indoor primary production, plantation forestry activities, and horticulture. The Rural Production Zone also provides for other activities that support primary

production and have a functional need to be located in a rural environment, such as processing of timber, horticulture, apiculture and dairy products. There is also a need to accommodate recreational and tourism activities that may occur in the rural environment, subject to them being complementary to the function, character and amenity values of the surrounding environment. This zone includes land subject to the Coastal Environment Overlay, which has provisions to protect the natural character of the coastal environment.

Rural land is an important resource as it underpins the social, economic and cultural well-being of the Far North District. The historic fragmentation of rural land has undermined the integrity of the rural environment and its ability to function for its intended purpose. It is important to protect this finite resource from inappropriate land use and subdivision to ensure it can be used for its primary purpose. In particular, primary production activities should be able to operate without experiencing reverse sensitivity effects based on complaints about noise, dust, heavy traffic and light spill (which may be temporary or seasonal in nature) that should be anticipated and tolerated in a rural environment. This is particularly relevant for rural land adjacent to the District's larger urban areas, which are subject to growth pressures and are expanding outside of urban zoned areas. Forcing primary production activities to locate further away from urban areas adds to the cost of transporting primary products, can result in primary production activities needing to move on to less suitable soils or topography, and may require people to travel further to work.

It is important to differentiate the Rural Production zone from the Rural Lifestyle zone and the Rural Residential zone. The Rural Lifestyle and Rural Residential zones seek to concentrate rural lifestyle or rural residential living in appropriate places in the District, to help avoid further fragmentation of productive land and reverse sensitivity effects on the District's primary sector. Conversely, rural lifestyle development is not provided for in the Rural Production Zone unless an environmental benefit is obtained through the protection of indigenous biodiversity in perpetuity (as provided for in the Subdivision chapter). Industrial and commercial activities, including retail, are not anticipated in the Rural Production zone as these are best located in urban zones with appropriate infrastructure or in the Settlement zone. This also ensures that industrial and commercial activities are separated from potentially incompatible primary production activities.

Council has a responsibility under the RMA and the Northland Regional Policy Statement to manage the rural land resource to provide for the economic, social and cultural well-being of people and communities, protect highly versatile soils, and avoid reverse sensitivity effects on primary production activities. The Rural Production zone also contains many of our areas of indigenous biodiversity, historical and cultural values and high value landscapes and features. The protection of these resources must be managed in conjunction with the ability to undertake activities anticipated in this zone.

Sentiment: Oppose

Submission:

We oppose any Rural Production Zoning for Redcliffs Road, Te Kowhai Point Road and Rangitane Road. This land is not Rural Production in the sense of soil quality or land contour and is mostly not suitable for intensive farming.

A very high percentage of the land on this peninsula is used for lifestyle living and is only suitable for lifestyle living.

Relief sought

We would like to propose that all land on Redcliffs Road, Te Kowhai Point and Rangitane Road be zoned Rural Lifestyle. This will protect our coastlines and future proof this community for future growth.