



**Remember  
submissions  
close at 5pm,  
Friday 21  
October 2022**

## **Proposed District Plan submission form**

*Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991*

**Feel free to add more pages to your submission to provide a fuller response.**

Form 5: Submission on Proposed Far North District Plan

**TO: Far North District Council**

**This is a submission on the Proposed District Plan for the Far North District.**

### **1. Submitter details:**

<b>Full Name:</b>	<b>New Zealand Pork Industry Board</b>		
<b>Company / Organisation Name: (if applicable)</b>	<b>NZ Pork</b>		
<b>Contact person (if different):</b>	<b>Hannah Ritchie</b>		
<b>Full Postal Address:</b>	2A/9 Sir Gil Simpson Drive, Burnside, Christchurch 8053		
<b>Phone contact:</b>	<b>Mobile:</b> 027 201 6261	<b>Home:</b>	<b>Work:</b>
<b>Email (please print):</b>	<b>Hannah.ritchie@pork.co.nz</b>		

2. (Please select one of the two options below)

- I **could not** gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission  
 I **could** gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission

*If you could gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission, please complete point 3 below*

3.  I **am** 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 effect of trade competition
- I **am not** 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 effect of trade competition

*Note: if you are a person who could gain advantage in trade competition through the submission, your right to make a submission may be limited by clause 6(4) of Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991*

**The specific provisions of the Plan that my submission relates to are:**

*(please provide details including the reference number of the specific provision you are submitting on)*

*Refer to submission document.*



Confirm your position: <input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Support In-part <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose <i>(please tick relevant box)</i>
<b>My submission is:</b> <i>(Include details and reasons for your position)</i>          <i>Refer to submission document</i>
<b>I seek the following decision from the Council:</b> <i>(Give precise details. If seeking amendments, how would you like to see the provision amended?)</i>          <i>Refer to submission document</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I <b>wish</b> to be heard in support of my submission <input type="checkbox"/> I <b>do not wish</b> to be heard in support of my submission <i>(Please tick relevant box)</i>
If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you wish to present your submission via Microsoft Teams? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Signature of submitter:</b> <i>(or person authorised to sign on behalf of submitter)</i>     <b>Date: 19.10.22</b>  <i>(A signature is not required if you are making your submission by electronic means)</i>

**Important information:**

1. The Council must receive this submission before the closing date and time for submissions (5pm 21 October 2022)
2. Please note that submissions, including your name and contact details are treated as public documents and will be made available on council's website. Your submission will only be used for the purpose of the District Plan Review.
3. Submitters who indicate they wish to speak at the hearing will be emailed a copy of the planning officers report (please ensure you include an email address on this submission form).



**Send your submission to:**

**Post to:** Proposed District Plan  
Strategic Planning and Policy, Far North District Council  
Far North District Council,  
Private Bag 752  
KAIKOHE 0400

**Email to:** [pdp@fndc.govt.nz](mailto:pdp@fndc.govt.nz)

**Or you can also deliver this submission form to any Far North District Council service centre or library, from 8am – 5pm Monday to Friday.**

**Submissions close 5pm, 21 October 2022**

**Please refer to [pdp.fndc.govt.nz](http://pdp.fndc.govt.nz) for further information and updates.**

***Please note that original documents will not be returned. Please retain copies for your file.***

**Note to person making submission**

Please note that your submission (or part of your submission) may be struck out if the authority is satisfied that at least one of the following applies to the submission (or part of the submission):

- It is frivolous or vexatious
- It discloses no reasonable or relevant case
- It would be an abuse of the hearing process to allow the submission (or the part) to be taken further
- It contains offensive language
- It is supported only by material that purports to be independent expert evidence but has been prepared by a person who is not independent or who does not have sufficient specialised knowledge or skill to give expert advice on the matter.

**SUBMISSION NUMBER**

# NZ PORK



## SUBMISSION ON Proposed Far North District Plan

13 October 2022

TO: Far North District Council

SUBMITTER: New Zealand Pork Industry Board



## Introduction

The New Zealand Pork Industry Board (NZPork) welcomes the opportunity to submit on the Proposed Far North District Plan.

NZPork welcomes any opportunity for further engagement with Far North District Council as the development of the proposed plan progresses.

**Contact for service:**

Hannah Ritchie  
Senior Environmental Advisor  
NZ Pork  
PO Box 20176  
Christchurch  
8543





## 1. The New Zealand Pork Industry

NZ Pork is a statutory Board funded by producer levies. It actively promotes "100% New Zealand Pork" to support a sustainable and profitable future for New Zealand grown pork. The Board's statutory function is to act in the interests of pig farmers to help attain the best possible net on-going returns while farming sustainably into the future.

The New Zealand pig industry is a highly productive specialized livestock sector, well integrated within New Zealand's primary production economic base. It draws on both downstream and upstream inputs and economic activity from New Zealand's rural sector including feed inputs, equipment and animal health supply, transport, slaughterhouse facilities plus further processing. Currently New Zealand's pig farmers produce around 45,350 tonnes of pig meat per year for New Zealand consumers. This represents around 38% of pig meat consumed by the domestic market, with the other 62% provided by imported pig meat from a range of countries. Nationally there are less than 100 commercial pork producers, comprising a relatively small but significantly integrated sector of the New Zealand agricultural economy. In 2007 it was estimated by the NZ Institute of Economic Research that the total economic activity associated with domestically farmed pigs was approximately \$750 million per annum.

Pigs' needs are unique compared to other farmed animals. They need constant access to shelter, a balanced diet and regular care and supervision. To meet these needs, New Zealand's commercial pig farmers have adopted a range of farming methods. Many farmers



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prefer indoor farming because they believe it allows them to provide the best care for the modern animal by allowing them to carefully manage their environment. Approximately 55% of New Zealand's pigs are farmed in this way.

The other 45% of New Zealand's commercial breeding herd is farmed outdoors. Outdoor breeding (also called free-farmed pork) can only occur in a moderate climate with low rainfall and free-draining soil conditions. In New Zealand, these conditions are mostly found in Canterbury. In most free-farmed systems, sows are farmed in groups in paddocks during gestation with huts for shelter and shade. When sows farrow, they are provided with individual, dry and draught-free huts with straw for warmth. A variety of housing systems are then used to house pigs after weaning, including indoor barns or open-air sheds.

New Zealand pork producers are facing several economic, social and environmental challenges in order to remain viable. The contribution of imported pork to New Zealand's total pork consumption has increased significantly in recent years, placing further demands on producers who have responded by developing increasingly efficient systems. Currently, nearly all pork produced in New Zealand is consumed locally and makes up less than 40% of the domestic market supply.

The New Zealand pork industry is dedicated to producing environmentally sustainable pork. NZPork is proactive in supporting farmers to reduce environmental impacts through investing producer funds into research, innovation and technologies in a range of environmental areas including nutrient management, greenhouse gas emission reductions and by-product reuse. Pig farmers in New Zealand have a firm grasp of environmental issues and demonstrate a high level of innovation and environmental stewardship. The New Zealand pork industry has committed significant time and resource to Sustainable Farming Fund projects centred on environmental initiatives, including development and implementation of Environmental Guidelines (attached) and Nutrient Management Guidelines. However, profit margins for the industry remain tight and dialogue with farmers has indicated that compliance costs and uncertainty into the future are key issues.



## 2. Summary of feedback

An overview of key points of feedback to the draft plan is provided below. Specific feedback points are detailed in Section 3.

### 2.1 Intensive Primary Production

As noted above, pig farming occurs both indoors and outdoors in New Zealand. There is a difference in activity and effect from intensive indoor and outdoor pig farming activity and it is helpful in plans to define and provide provisions for both.

NZPork is requesting that the plan adopts new definitions and rules to assist with plan interpretation and administration with regards to intensive primary production. There has been a need for change, as plans have moved past unrepresentative and emotive definitions like factory farming for various intensive primary production activities.

The developing approach has largely been driven out of experience in Canterbury and Otago which are the key pork production regions of New Zealand; where a variety of intensive primary production activity occurs, along with extensive pig farming. Reflective of New Zealand pig farming practice, the structure developing in planning frameworks nests as follows:

<b>Primary Production</b>	<b>Intensive Primary Production</b>	<b>Intensive Indoor Primary Production</b>
		<b>Intensive Outdoor Primary Production (Pig Farming)</b>
	<b>Extensive Pig Farming</b>	

That structure has mostly recently been reflected in district plan changes (under the National Planning Standards 2019) in Hurunui (Plan Change 4 Intensive Primary Production and Effluent Disposal) and the Proposed Selwyn District Plan.

#### Primary Production

Primary Production is defined in the National Planning Standards 2019.

*Primary Production means:*

- (a) any aquaculture, agricultural, pastoral, horticultural, mining, quarrying or forestry activities; and*
- (b) includes initial processing, as an ancillary activity, of commodities that result from the listed activities in a);*
- (c) includes any land and buildings used for the production of the commodities from a) and used for the initial processing of the commodities in b); but*
- (d) excludes further processing of those commodities into a different product.*





## Intensive Primary Production

Intensive Primary Production is then a subset of Primary Production to provide a nesting pathway to Intensive Indoor and Intensive Outdoor activity.

*Intensive Primary Production means:*

*any activity defined as intensive indoor primary production or intensive outdoor primary production (pig farming)*

## Intensive Indoor Primary Production

Intensive Indoor Primary Production is defined in the National Planning Standards 2019.

*Intensive Indoor Primary Production means:*

*primary production activities that principally occur within buildings and involve growing fungi or keeping or rearing livestock (excluding calf-rearing for three months in any calendar year) or poultry.*

## Intensive Outdoor Primary Production (Pig Farming)

Intensive Outdoor Primary Production is not defined in the National Planning Standards 2019 and for pig farming it is important to do so.

Intensive Outdoor Primary Production (Pig Farming) relies on the outdoor environment to assist with the growth and husbandry of animals along with buildings and enclosures to contain and house animals. However, this Primary Production activity does not *principally occur within buildings* and falls outside of the definition of Intensive Indoor Primary Production.

Intensive Outdoor Primary Production (Pig Farming) is an intensive activity. It would typically rely on regular feed source for the livestock substantially provided from off-site sources rather than the productive capacity of the land to produce grass and animal food crops. Another characteristic of Intensive Outdoor Primary Production, largely resulting from the import of feed and stock density, can be difficulty in maintaining pasture and groundcover.

Where pasture and groundcover can be maintained the pig farming activity effects of dust and odour are not an issue.

## Extensive Pig Farming

Extensive Pig Farming is livestock farming as it is traditionally recognised, outdoors, grass and feed crop fed animals, some imported feed, animal shelters and stocking rates that maintain ground cover.



In pig farming, the shelters are often mobile to assist with maintaining pasture and groundcover, and as part of rotational grazing.

From a land use perspective, the effects are the same as that of other extensive livestock farming (sheep, beef, lamb, dairy, deer). The activity is appropriately provided for as a Permitted Activity in the General Rural Zone.

Providing a definition around this activity can assist plan interpretation and administration:

*Extensive Pig Farming means:*

*the keeping or rearing of pigs outdoors on land at a stock density which ensures vegetation cover is maintained and in accordance with any relevant industry codes of practice, and where no fixed buildings are used for the continuous housing of animals.*

The suggested definition is taken from the Canterbury Air Regional Plan 2017 (**Appendix A**) and as noted above, the definition was also recently included in the Hurunui District Plan via a plan change in 2021 (Plan Change 4) for Intensive Primary Production. (**Appendix B**).

The definition of Extensive Pig Farming also references to “stock density which ensures vegetation cover is maintained and in accordance with any relevant industry codes of practice”. The vegetation cover qualifier is consistent with a number of district and regional plans around New Zealand and a standard recognised and adopted by the pork industry into good management practice for outdoor pigs (**Appendix C**). The maintenance of permanent pasture or ground cover is a critical qualifier that supports the broader sustainability outcomes the industry seeks and directly responds to the actual or potential effects of intensive and extensive pig farming.

## 2.2 Intensive Primary Production Setbacks

Physical separation is supported as an appropriate method to distance incompatible or sensitive activities from primary production. However, the inability to meet the required setbacks to sensitive activities should not be a non-complying activity.

The expansion of an existing intensive indoor primary production facility may be necessary for the continued operation of a farm (e.g., currently proposed changes to the Pigs Code of Welfare may require changes to the footprint of buildings housing animals). This should be provided for within 300m of a sensitive activity, subject to an assessment of effects and appropriate consent conditions to mitigate those effects. A non-complying activity status is not warranted, appropriate or consistent with the intent of the zone as enounced in the zone description of the national planning standards

In addition, effects from intensive indoor primary production activities can occur from areas other than buildings housing animals, such as effluent transport and holding areas. The setbacks specified should reflect this to avoid effects on existing sensitive activities to these areas.



Setbacks that apply to intensive indoor primary production should also apply to intensive outdoor primary production, as similar effects may be created from intensive outdoor production methods.

## 2.3 Sensitive Activity Setbacks

NZPork is concerned that the activity status of sensitive activities in the RPZ could lead to adverse outcomes for primary production activities, including intensive operations. In the proposed plan several sensitive activities are permitted activities e.g. visitor accommodation. However, the nature of these as sensitive activities, means conflict with primary production activities are likely, and their status is not supported by an objective and policy structure that leads to a permitted activity rule as being an appropriate resource management response.

We are also concerned that there are currently no setbacks imposed on new sensitive activities in relation to existing intensive primary production activities within the RPZ. This puts existing intensive primary production activities (both indoor and outdoor) at risk of reverse sensitivity effects, which could result in the constraint of primary production activities within the zone.

NZPork is seeking setbacks that are reciprocal with those imposed on intensive primary production activities in relation to sensitive activities.

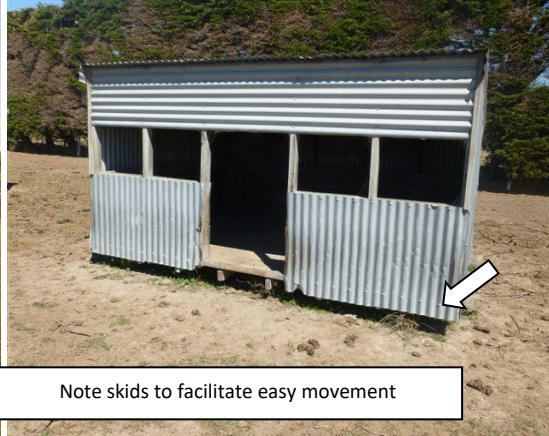
## 2.4 Mobile Pig Shelters

NZ Pork is concerned that Mobile Pig Shelters (being partially or fully-roofed) would fall within the definition of building and structure. The plan should provide relief from the rules for buildings and Structures as they might apply to mobile pig shelters. These shelters are a critical part of the pig farming system and can be of a variety of forms as shown below.

### Dry Sow Group Accommodation Recommended Practice

Dry sow housing is generally designed to accommodate groups of breeding animals. These come in a variety of forms as shown in the illustrations below. Note trees for shelter and the huts are facing away from the predominant wind direction.





Note skids to facilitate easy movement



Photo 1-6: Variations in dry sow housing designs





**Photo 7: Interior of a dry sow house with wooden floor**

## Weaner Accommodation

The younger the pig, the more vulnerable they are and the more critical are their accommodation needs. They must be kept in a clean, warm, dry, draught free environment subject to minimal variations in temperature. Straw based systems work well.



**Photos 8 and 9: Weaner Accommodation**

Photos 8 and 9 demonstrate an example of suitable weaner accommodation: Photo 8 (left) shows separate straw bale draught free sleeping area, under a 'kennel' roof for newly weaned pigs. Also note ventilation flap at back and drinkers in left foreground. Photo 9 (right) shows weaner pigs a few weeks later with the straw bale sleeping area broken down but the 'kennel' roof retained in the sleeping area.

Other considerations:



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- Where possible pigs should be kept in stable groups of familiar animals though out the growing period.
- The use of moveable weaner 'boxes' constructed of plywood is one approach to provide quality accommodation. Weaner boxes are generally constructed with a low roof and are well insulated.
- Ensure water supply is sited outside of the sleeping area to prevent flooding of the bedding.



**Photo 10: An example of a low roofed box type accommodation suitable for weaners**

## Grower accommodation

As pigs grow, they become more tolerant of changes in the environment and accommodation requirements are less rigorous. However, it is essential they have a warm dry, draught-free sleeping area large enough to accommodate all the pigs in a paddock together.



**Photo 10: Accommodation suitable for free range growers**

**Photo 11: Example of access for free range growing pigs to fodder beet crops from a shelter**

A popular design is a 'kennel' area constructed in a general-purpose building. A false roof or lid is positioned over the pigs sleeping area to create a warm, dry and draught free environment.

## **2.6 Earthworks and Biosecurity-related activity**

The viability of the New Zealand pork industry is dependent on the benefits conveyed upon it from the absence of many viral pathogens which are common in much of the rest of the world. Any biosecurity incursions within the industry must be able to be managed quickly and efficiently to contain spread. Not all biosecurity incursions would constitute a biosecurity emergency that would trigger provisions in the RMA or the Biosecurity Act to override consenting requirements. The intersect with the District Plan may well be in a response that requires burial of animal carcasses. The Regional Plan is in place to manage discharges from such activities but constraints on earthwork activity (volume and area) may inhibit a timely, efficient, and effective response.

NZPork seeks a definition of Ancillary Rural Earthworks to include the burying of material infected by unwanted organisms as declared by the Ministry for Primary Industries Chief Technical Officer or an emergency declared by the Minister under the Biosecurity Act 1993'. This would allow farmers to undertake earthworks related to burying material in the event of a biosecurity incident as a permitted activity.

## **2.7 Workers accommodation.**

Farming pigs is very different from farming other livestock. Stockpersons are far more intimately involved with the care of pigs than other livestock. Pigs have a greater need for shelter and their social and dietary requirements are more complex than sheep and cattle. Animal care is a daily responsibility, as pigs are not like ruminants which derive their nutrition from grass: pigs are monogastric like humans, and require a balanced diet fed daily. As such, providing accommodation on site for workers is an important component of many commercial pig farming operations, which often require the onsite provision of farm workers accommodation to provide onsite farm assistance, animal husbandry and security.

NZPork notes that there are no specific provisions for worker accommodation in the draft plan. The provision of a minor residential unit with 65m<sup>2</sup> limitation and requirement that this be within 15m of the principal residential unit does not support a viable farm workers accommodation that would provide for farm workers domestic needs or relate to the farming activity. NZPork seeks the inclusion of a rule structure for workers' accommodation.



## 2.8 National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land 2022 (NPS-HPL) and Intensive Indoor Primary Production

The NPS-HPL provides policy direction to improve the way highly productive land is managed under the Resource Management Act (1991). The objective of the NPS-HPL is to protect highly productive land (defined in the transition to more accurate mapping determination, as all LUC class 1, 2 and 3) for use in land-based primary production. The definition of land based primary production is production, from agricultural, pastoral, horticultural, or forestry activities, that is reliant on the soil resource of the land.

It is of great concern to NZPork that this objective and definition together may be interpreted by councils to prevent intensive indoor primary production (which includes indoor pig farms) from establishing when sited on land classed as highly productive.

This approach would not recognise the broader food production value of the land resource, beyond that which is associated with the soil, and be at odds with the National Planning Standards descriptions for both the General Rural Zone and Rural Production Zone, which provides for intensive indoor primary production as a primary production activity within the rural zones.

The assumption of the section 32 analysis supporting the NPS-HPL is that intensive indoor primary production operations can (and should) operate on land not classed as HPL. The assumption is that intensive indoor primary production is not reliant on the soil resource of the land which is unfounded in practice and evidence.

These assumptions infer a lack of understanding of nature of pig farming in New Zealand. Indoor pig farms, have a functional and locational need to operate in productive rural environments (as do non primary production food producing activities provided for in 3.9(2)(j) of the NPS being infrastructure, defence activities, mineral and aggregate extraction). Many indoor pig farms are an integrated part of a larger farming enterprise incorporating either a pastoral or arable operation. Effluent from the piggery is applied to the arable or pastoral land as a natural fertiliser. The land can, in turn, grow feed and bedding for the pigs and other food producing animals the system may support. While the pigs themselves are housed in buildings (similar in effect to a feed pad, wintering barn or dairy goat activity), the farm system is often reliant on the productive capacity of the soil to grow supporting feed and bedding and wholly reliant on the capacity of soil to assimilate nutrients from piggery effluent in support of the larger land-based farming enterprise.

The consequence of this is that piggeries are often sited on land considered highly productive. Mapping the effect of the NPS across NZ demonstrates that two thirds of





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commercial pig farms in New Zealand are situated on land classified as highly productive under the NPS-HPL. The relationship is explicit.

The environment, economic and social impacts of requiring pig farms to locate away from HPL needs to be considered in decision making. Environmental concerns include water quality effects (ability to manage effluent/nutrient loading and assimilative capacity on lower LUC class soils), water quantity (where is this sourced, how roof water is captured, stored, managed), earthworks (inevitable landform modification for building platforms, potential geotechnical constraints) and landscape/rural character/amenity effects as building occurs with more substantial earthworks and in more prominent locations.

The economic impacts include the cost of decoupling pig farms from the larger farm enterprise, increased transport costs for farm inputs and outputs and increased establishment or alteration costs for more remote buildings or those on slopes.

On this basis, NZ Pork is strongly of the opinion that Intensive Indoor Primary Productions should not be prevented from establishing on highly productive land.



## 3. Specific submissions on the Far North Proposed District Plan

Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
<b>PART 1 – INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL PROVISIONS</b>		
<b>DEFINITIONS</b>		
<p>S55.001</p> <p><u>Ancillary Rural Earthworks (Primary Production)</u></p>	<p>Insert a definition of Ancillary Rural Earthworks to include provisions for biosecurity related activity as a permitted activity.</p> <p><i>means:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Normal agricultural and horticultural practices, such as cultivating and harvesting crops, ploughing, planting trees, root ripping, digging post holes, maintenance of drains, troughs and installation of their associated pipe networks, and realignment of fencelines, drilling bores and offal pits, burying of dead stock and plant waste;</u></li> <li>b. <u>Land preparation and vegetation clearance undertaken as part of horticultural plantings; and</u></li> <li>c. <u>Maintenance of existing walking tracks, farm and forestry tracks, driveways, roads and accessways within the same formation width.</u></li> </ul> <p><u>the burying of material infected by unwanted organisms as declared by the Ministry for Primary Industries Chief Technical Officer or an emergency declared by the Minister under the Biosecurity Act 1993</u></p>	<p>NZPork seeks a definition that includes the burying of material infected by unwanted organisms as declared by the Ministry for Primary Industries Chief Technical Officer or an emergency declared by the Minister under the Biosecurity Act 1993'. This would allow farmers to undertake earthworks related to burying material in the event of a biosecurity incident as a permitted activity.</p> <p>Not all biosecurity incursions would constitute a biosecurity emergency that would trigger provisions in the RMA or the Biosecurity Act to override consenting requirements. The level of response required will depend entirely on the nature and scale of the incident. To date, the biosecurity emergency powers under the Biosecurity Act have never been used. In addition, any exemption granted under the Act will be short-term only in nature. After the exemption ends, the provisions of the RMA apply to the same extent as those provisions would have applied but for the exemption. This creates uncertainty as to whether resource consent would retrospectively be required for the activity, and as such may still limit the scope of the response for the landowner to what is provided for under the district plan.</p> <p>Biosecurity incidences which do not result in a declared emergency must therefore be managed to regional and district council plan</p>



Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
		<p>requirements, including limitations on earthworks which may hinder any urgent response activity required to adequately address the incursion</p> <p>This is not a new matter and other District Plans recognise the issue and provide an appropriate resource management response.</p> <p>The viability of the New Zealand pork industry is dependent on the benefits conveyed upon it from the absence of many viral pathogens which are common in much of the rest of the world (porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus, transmissible gastroenteritis, classical swine fever, African swine fever, swine influenza). Any incursion of new pathogens into the industry potentially jeopardises pork export marketing opportunities as well as directly creating financial and welfare hardships on New Zealand farms from the production consequences of these diseases. In addition, pigs have been proven to be important ‘amplifier’ hosts for foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), which has never occurred in New Zealand. If FMD did occur, it would have very serious consequences for the country’s major dairy and meat export industries.</p> <p>Any biosecurity incursions within the industry must be able to be managed quickly and efficiently to contain spread. The intersect with the District Plan may well be in a response that requires burial of animal carcasses. The Regional Plan is in place to manage discharges from such activities but constraints on earthwork activity (volume and area) may inhibit a timely, efficient, and effective response.</p>



Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
		<p>As such, NZPork seeks that the definition of Ancillary Rural Earthworks include provisions for biosecurity related activity.</p> <p>This method has been included in a number of existing and proposed district plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auckland Unitary Plan</li> <li>• Opotiki District Plan</li> <li>• Proposed Waikato District Plan – Appeals Version</li> <li>• Proposed Selwyn District Plan – s42A Recommendation</li> <li>• Proposed Timaru District Plan</li> </ul>
S55.002 <u>Building</u>	Support the definition as being in line the National Planning Standards, however the plan should provide relief from the rules for buildings and structures as they might apply to mobile pig shelters.	<p>NZ Pork is concerned that Mobile Pig Shelters (being partially or fully-roofed) would fall within the definition of building and structure. The plan should provide relief from the rules for buildings and Structures as they might apply to mobile pig shelters.</p> <p>These shelters are a critical part of the pig farming system and can be of a variety of forms as described in Section 2.4.</p>
S55.003 <u>Farming</u>	<p>Remove the exclusion of intensive indoor primary production from the definition of farming, as follows:</p> <p>means the use of land for the purpose of agricultural, pastoral, horticultural or apiculture activities, including accessory buildings, but excludes mining, quarrying, plantation forestry activities, <del>intensive indoor primary production</del> and processing activities.</p>	<p>Intensive indoor primary production includes indoor pig farming, which is a farming activity that uses land and buildings for the purpose of agricultural food production.</p> <p>Legitimate farming operations should not be excluded from the definition of farming on the basis of intensity or whether some of the operation occurs indoors.</p>



Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
		<p>Intensive primary production (covering both indoor and outdoor operations – see below) should be included in the definition of farming, with any specific requirements to address effects from intensive operations addressed via the policy and rule structure of the relevant chapters.</p>
<p>S55.004</p> <p><u>Farm Workers Accommodation</u></p>	<p>Add new definition as follows:</p> <p><b><i>Farm Workers' accommodation</i></b></p> <p><u><i>Means a minor residential unit for people whose duties require them to live on-site, and in the rural zones for people who work on the site or in the surrounding rural area. Includes farm managers, workers and staff.</i></u></p>	<p>The requirements of farm worker accommodation can differ from those provided for as a minor residential unit.</p> <p>Many farms providing accommodation do so for the worker and their family. A 65m<sup>2</sup> is not enough to comfortably accommodate a family. The location of the farm worker accommodation will need to respond to the activity of the site and cannot be constrained to the 15m maximum separation distance between the minor residential unit and the principal residential unit proposed for minor residential units in RPOZ-R19.</p> <p>Include a definition, policy and rule structure for farm worker accommodation.</p>
<p>S55.005</p> <p>Intensive Indoor Primary Production</p>	<p>Support the definition of Intensive Indoor Primary Production where this is supported by the addition of definitions to cover the typical range of primary production activities that can be deemed intensive or extensive.</p> <p>Amend and add definitions as follows:</p>	<p>The definitions and associated rule structure for farming activities within the district should clearly define and delineate between intensive and extensive farming activities.</p> <p>At present, only intensive indoor primary production is defined, which means that all other types of farming activity would be captured by the definition of 'farming'.</p>



Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
S55.006	<p><b><i>Intensive Primary Production</i></b> means any activity defined as <u>intensive indoor primary production or intensive outdoor primary production.</u></p>	<p>Pig farming which occurs outdoors may produce effects consistent with intensive farming in certain situations or circumstances (such as high stocking rates). This should be recognised in the plan and those activities protected from reverse sensitivity associated with sensitive activities.</p>
S55.007	<p><b><i>Intensive Indoor Primary Production</i></b> (as per National Planning Standards) means primary production activities that principally occur within buildings and involve growing fungi, or keeping or rearing livestock (excluding calf-rearing for a specified time period) or poultry.</p>	<p>A definition and rule structure that also accounts for outdoor intensive primary production activities and outdoor extensive primary production activities would give clarity to the plan.</p>
S55.008	<p><b><i>Intensive Outdoor Primary Production</i></b> means primary production activities involving the keeping or rearing of livestock, or commercial aquaculture, where the regular feed source for the production of goods is substantially provided other than from the site concerned. The activity may be undertaken entirely outdoors or in a combination of indoors and outdoors, including within an outdoor enclosure. It includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. free-range poultry or game bird farming and</li> <li>2. aquaculture.</li> </ol> <p>It excludes the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. woolsheds;</li> <li>2. dairy sheds;</li> <li>3. calf pens or wintering accommodation for stock;</li> <li>4. pig production for domestic use which involves no more than 25 weaned pigs or six sows.</li> </ol>	



Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
S55.009	<p><u>5. Extensive pig farming.</u></p> <p><u>Extensive pig farming means the keeping of pigs outdoors on land at a stock density which ensures permanent vegetation cover is maintained and in accordance with any relevant industry codes of practice, and where no fixed buildings are used for the continuous housing of animals.</u></p>	
S55.010	<p>Reverse sensitivity</p> <p>Add new definition as follows:</p> <p><b><u>Reverse sensitivity</u></b></p> <p><u>Means the potential for an approved (whether by consent or designation), existing or permitted activity to be compromised, constrained, or curtailed by the more recent establishment or alteration of another activity which may be sensitive to the actual, potential or perceived adverse environmental effects generated by an approved, existing or permitted activity.</u></p>	<p>Reverse sensitivity effects are one of the principal means by which lawfully established intensive primary production activities are being curtailed throughout NZ.</p> <p>The plan would benefit from a specific definition and associated rule structure to manage reverse sensitivity effects in order to enable the continued effective operation of primary production activities in the district.</p>
S55.011	<p>Sensitive Activity</p> <p>Ensure definition of sensitive activity covers activities that are sensitive to the effects of primary production in the RPZ. E.g.:</p> <p><u>1. means:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Residential activities;</li> <li>b. Education facilities and preschools;</li> </ul>	<p>The plan and RPZ rule structure would benefit from the inclusion of a definition of Sensitive Activity which covers activities (some of which are proposed to be permitted) sensitive to the effects of primary production.</p>



Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Guest and visitor accommodation;</li> <li>d. Health care facilities which include accommodation for overnight care;</li> <li>e. Hospital;</li> <li>f. Marae; or</li> <li>g. Place of assembly.</li> <li>h. <u>Home business</u></li> <li>i. <u>Recreational activity</u></li> <li>j. <u>Commercial activity</u></li> <li>k. <u>Community facility</u></li> <li>l. <u>Service activity</u></li> </ul>	
<b>PART 2 – DISTRICT WIDE MATTERS</b>		
<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTION</b>		
<b>RURAL ENVIRONMENT</b>		
S55.012 SD-RE-01	Retain objective as proposed	Support recognition of the contribution of primary production activities to the district and of enabling efficient and effective operation within the district’s rural environments.
<b>SUBDIVISION</b>		
S55.013 S55.014 S5.042	Retain overview as proposed. Amend policies and standards to give effect to reverse sensitivity protection described in the overview.	<p>Support the acknowledgement that subdivision should not result in reverse sensitivity effects that result in the inability to undertake activities enabled in the relevant zone.</p> <p>However, this acknowledgement is not supported by clear policies or rules to give effect to this statement in the rural zones</p>





Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
Objectives		
<p>S55.015</p> <p>S55.016</p> <p>S55.042</p> <p>SUB-O1</p>	<p>Retain as proposed.</p> <p>Amend policies and standards to give effect to the objective.</p>	<p>Support the objective to avoid reverse sensitivity issues that would prevent or adversely affect activities already established on land from continuing to operate. However, this objective is not supported by clear policies or rules to give effect to this statement in rural areas.</p>
Policies		
<p>S55.017</p> <p>SUB-P11</p>	<p>Include the potential for reverse sensitivity effects on lawfully established operations in the matters for consideration, as follows:</p> <p>Manage subdivision to address the effects of the activity requiring resource consent including (but not limited to) consideration of the following matters where relevant to the application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. consistency with the scale, density, design and character of the environment and purpose of the zone;</li> <li>b. the location, scale and design of buildings and structures;</li> <li>c. the adequacy and capacity of available or programmed development infrastructure to accommodate the proposed activity; or the capacity of the site to cater for on-site infrastructure associated with the proposed activity;</li> </ul>	<p>Subdivision policies should give effect to avoiding reverse sensitivity effects of subdivision, as per the section overview.</p>



Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. managing natural hazards;</li> <li>e. Any adverse effects on areas with historic heritage and cultural values, natural features and landscapes, natural character or indigenous biodiversity values; and</li> <li>f. any historical, spiritual, or cultural association held by tangata whenua, with regard to the matters set out in Policy TW-P6.</li> <li>g. <u>The potential for reverse sensitivity effects that would prevent or adversely affect activities already established on land from continuing to operate.</u></li> </ul>	
<b>Rules</b>		
S55.018 S55.019 S55.020  SUB-R1 SUB-R2 SUB-R3	Amend the rules to clearly reference reverse sensitivity effects as follows:  <b>Matters of control are limited to:</b>  ...  h. <del>adverse</del> <u>reverse sensitivity</u> effects arising from land use incompatibility including but not limited to noise, vibration, smell, smoke, dust and spray.	The objective to avoid reverse sensitivity issues should be clearly articulated within the rules.
S55.021	SUB-R6 Retain as proposed.	Support the potential for reverse sensitivity effects as a matter of discretion.
<b>EARTHWORKS</b>		
<b>RULES</b>		



Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
S55.022 EW-R4	Amend the definition of farming to account for intensive primary production activities within this rule.	<p>The proposed definition of farming excludes intensive indoor primary production. Therefore, any earthworks in relation to this activity would fall under rule EW-R14 as a Discretionary activity.</p> <p>Typical earthworks required as part of an intensive primary production activity would be similar to those required as part of any other farming activity, including building tracks, installing fences or culverts etc. There is no reason why earthworks for an intensive primary production activity would create more risk than those for a farming activity, so these should be permitted, subject to the same standards.</p> <p>Intensive primary production activities cover both intensive indoor primary production and intensive outdoor primary production, as per our suggested definitions.</p>
S55.023 EW-R5	Amend definition of farming to account for intensive primary production activities within this rule	<p>The proposed definition of farming excludes intensive indoor primary production. Therefore, any earthworks in relation to this activity would fall under rule EW-R14 as a Discretionary activity.</p> <p>Typical earthworks required as part of an intensive primary production activity would be similar to those required as part of any other farming activity, including building tracks, installing fences or culverts etc. There is no reason why earthworks for an intensive primary production activity would create more risk than those for a farming activity, so these should be permitted, subject to the same standards.</p>



Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
		Intensive primary production activities cover both intensive indoor primary production and intensive outdoor primary production, as per our suggested definitions.
<b>PART 3 – AREA SPECIFIC MATTERS</b>		
<b>ZONES</b>		
<b>RURAL ZONES</b>		
<b>RURAL PRODUCTION ZONES</b>		
S55.024 Overview	Amend overview to include a description of the character and amenity of the zone, to link to objective RPROZ-O4.	Support the description of the RPZ, but this should include a description of the character and amenity of the zone that is to be maintained.
<b>Objectives</b>		
S55.025 RPROZ-03	Define “more productive forms of primary production”	Point a. of this objective enables the use of highly productive land for more productive forms of primary production. This intent of this objective is vague and requires clarification. What is defined as ‘more productive forms of primary production’ and how will it be measured/assessed?
<b>Policies</b>		
S55.026 RPROZ-P1	Retain as proposed	Support policy to enable primary production activities and recognition that typical adverse effects associated with such activities should be anticipated and accepted within the rural zone.
S55.027 RPROZ-P2	Retain as proposed	Support enabling primary production activities as the predominant land use, on the understanding that this includes intensive primary production activities.
S55.028 RPROZ – P3	Retain as proposed	Support requirement to avoid or mitigate reverse sensitivity effects on primary production activities.



S55.029

S55.030

Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
RPROZ-P4	Retain as proposed	Support land use and subdivision being undertaken in a manner that reflects character and amenity of the RPZ.
RPZOZ-P5	Retain as proposed	<p>Support policy to avoid land use that is incompatible with the purpose, character and amenity of the RPZ and does not have a functional need to locate there.</p> <p>Intensive primary production, while not directly dependent on the soil resource, has a functional and locational need to operate in the rural production zone.</p> <p>Indoor pig farms are often part of a larger farming enterprise incorporating either an arable or pastoral operation. Effluent from the piggery is applied to the land as a natural fertiliser. The land can, in turn, grow feed or bedding for the pigs. For this reason, pig farms are often situated by necessity on highly productive land, as they are integrated with operations that do rely on the productive capacity of the soil.</p>
<b>Rules</b>		
RPROZ-R1	<p>Add new standard for new sensitive activity setback from an existing intensive primary production activity, as follows:</p> <p><u>RPROZ-S8 Sensitive activities setback from intensive primary production activities:</u></p>	There is no provision within the plan to address the impacts of new sensitive activities on existing indoor primary production (both indoor and outdoor) activities.

S55.031



Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
	<p><u>All buildings used for new sensitive activities will be setback 300m from any hardstand areas, treatment systems, buildings housing animals and any other structures associated with an intensive primary production activity located on a separate site under separate ownership.</u></p>	<p>RPRZ0Z-P3 specifies a requirement to avoid or mitigate reverse sensitivity effects on primary production activities, but there is no associated rule or standard to give effect to the policy.</p> <p>Reverse sensitivity effects caused by new sensitivity activities establishing in close proximity to indoor pig farming activities are one of the leading causes of constraints on commercial pork production.</p> <p>To protect the legitimate operation of established primary production activities, standard should be put in place to restrict the location of new sensitive activities.</p>
S55.032	<p>RPROZ-R3</p> <p>Add new standard for new sensitive activity setback from an existing intensive primary production activity, as per RPROZ-R1</p>	<p>Residential activities are defined as a sensitive activity and therefore have the potential to cause reverse sensitivity effects on established intensive primary production activities.</p>
S55.033	<p>RPROZ-R4</p> <p>Change activity status to RD.</p>	<p>Visitor accommodation is defined as a sensitive activity and therefore have the potential to cause reverse sensitivity effects on established intensive primary production activities.</p>
S55.034	<p>Add condition for new sensitive activity setback from an existing intensive primary production activity, as per RPROZ-R1</p>	<p>The potential impact of sensitive activities within the rural production zone should be thoroughly assessed via a consenting process</p>
S55.035	<p>RPROZ-R6</p> <p>Change activity status to RD.</p>	<p>Educational facilities are defined as a sensitive activity and therefore have the potential to cause reverse sensitivity effects on established intensive primary production activities.</p>
S55.036	<p>Add condition for new sensitive activity setback from an existing intensive primary production activity, as per RPROZ-R1</p>	<p>The potential impact of sensitive activities within the rural production zone should be thoroughly assessed via a consenting process</p>



Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
S55.037	Add new standard for new sensitive activity setback from an existing intensive primary production activity, as per RPROZ-R1	
S55.038	RPROZ-R7 Amend rule structure as required to account for the definition of farming including intensive primary production (as per previous submission points).	Support extensive farming activities as permitted without restriction in the rural production zone. Support separate rules for intensive primary production.
S55.039	RPROZ-R23 Amend rule as follows:  <del>Buildings or structures</del> <u>Any hardstand areas, treatment systems, buildings housing animals and any other structures associated with an intensive primary production activity</u> are set back at least 300m from any sensitive activity on a site under separate ownership.  Activity status where compliance not achieved with RDIS-1: <del>Non-complying</del> <u>Discretionary</u> .	Adverse effects on sensitive activities can arise from intensive farming areas other than buildings housing animals – such as effluent ponds or stock yards. Expanding the definition will encompass more of the farm operation and ensure it is appropriately located away from existing sensitive activities. The rule should apply to the broader definition of intensive primary production, which encompasses both intensive indoor and intensive outdoor operations.  Intensive farming should not be a non-complying activity anywhere within the rural production zone. If a new operation seeks to locate within 300m of a sensitive activity, the effects of the activity along with appropriate remedying actions can be assessed and put in place via a discretionary consent process.
S55.040	Standards	
S55.041	RPROZ- <del>S6</del> <u>S5</u> Amend standard to provide an exclusion for mobile pig shelters.	Mobile pig shelters a critical part of outdoor pig farming systems, and can come in a variety of forms and sizes (as per Section 2.4)  Mobile farrowing huts used in outdoor systems are small - designed to accommodate one sow and her offspring every farrowing cycle.



Provision to which our feedback relates:	The decision we are seeking from Council:	Reasons:
		<p>After each farrowing cycle, the huts are moved to fresh ground for biosecurity and environmental purposes.</p> <p>Mobile pig shelters should be exempted from this standard, owing to the small nature of the buildings (low amenity and environmental impact) and the necessity of moving them to various locations around the property.</p>

End of submission.

