



KJ & LC Morgan Partnership

██████████, *Blenheim*

We support the idea of clean waterways and retaining highly productive land but don't agree with the proposals for the following reasons:

Waterways Submissions

- In addition to vineyard operation, we also run cattle and sheep and currently graze our cattle in paddocks (which are flood plains) adjoining the Opawa river that runs through our property. If the fence set back of 5-15m was to be enforced, it would mean a weed corridor would be created through lack of grazing and it's not a suitable piece of land for sheep to graze being so close to a river as sheep often drown. So it would leave this piece highly unproductive land unusable other than growing weeds. This seems counterproductive and would in time, negatively affect the river.
- These flood plains in Marlborough are subject to weather events that often leave them littered in vegetation of all descriptions following a flood. More fencing creates even more blockages during a flooding event and in Marlborough this fencing close to rivers is often needing to be replaced which creates unnecessary cost and work to a farmer. Over the years we have found traditional fencing horrendously ineffective as the flooding tears it apart so a fence with one or two electric wires instead is very effective as flooded waters can pass through but it also protects the river from grazing cattle.
- We have no issue with monitoring and using sensible farming practises to protect our rivers and waterways but dictating land use isn't the way to go. Especially where a farmer is using highly productive land efficiently and sustainably.
- We seem to have lost view of the bigger picture. Here in Blenheim, our storm water run-off simply discharges into the Taylor with all of the urban pollution which in our view is far more destructive of water quality than using farming land to graze cattle.
- We still have a huge amount of human effluent systems right across the country that are simply primary treatment plants discharging to local creeks, rivers and other waterways, that are again, in our opinion, and I'm sure many others, far worse for negatively affecting waterway quality than animals farmed under good farming practises.

Highly Productive Land Submission



- We would like to highlight that there should be provisions in the HPL proposal to have future add-ons (measured on its merits through the standard resource consent process) to commercial activities that support the principal agricultural activity (i.e. homestays, B&Bs, cafes/restaurants, wedding venues etc...). For the landowner, it is too restrictive to be ring-fenced to just HPL.