

Submission Form

To reach the CEO, Bay Of Plenty Regional Council, PO Box 364, Whakatane 3158 or email to rules@boprc.govt.nz or Fax to 0800 884882

no later than 4pm on Wednesday 27th April 2016.

This is a submission on Proposed Plan Change 10 (Lake Rotorua Nutrient Management) to the BOP Regional Water and Land Plan.

I am an individual submitter and I wish to be heard as an individual.

My name is: Wendy and John Roe

My address is 887 Dansey Road, R D 2 Rotorua 3072

My contact details are daytime phone 073325808 after hours 073325808

Email address roesville@yahoo.com Fax. N/A

We have lived at this address since October 2012 (previously 127 South Road August 1984 – Oct. 2012) and we own approx. 333_Ha of land.

I am not a trade competitor for the purposes of the submission but the Plan Change has a direct impact on my ability to farm.

I wish to be heard in support of this submission.

Background Information:

Our ancestors came to Mamaku in the 1890s to mill Rimu. They pioneered milling, and farming here - battling "bush sickness" etc. - for a period of time, part of the family "walked off" the land and worked elsewhere for some years. However, they returned and carried on.

In 1981, John told his family "that is the last bush we will clear!" – a telling statement!

With the intention to remain farming in Mamaku, the immediate family purchased and developed adjoining land until, in 1984, it was separated into two farms and we took on the South Rd land, farming a couple of thousand sheep and 100 or so Friesian steers, whilst John's brother continued milkings on the dairy farm.

Over the last 30 years, we have spent many hours (and many dollars) developing our farm into a Sustainable, Productive entity with a minimal environmental footprint! We have fenced native bush and steep gullies, created wetlands, and planted over 7,000 native trees, in our endeavour farm with a minimum environmental footprint.

In 2012 we commissioned a feasibility study to purchase adjacent 110 ha Dairy farm, combine the two blocks and create a dairy farm, retaining some dry stock. We presented it to the Regional Council and were told "I wish more people would pick this up and run with it". In October 2012, we purchased the property and created our dairy farm with a milking platform of approx. 280 ha. We continue to farm by our own standards as stewards of the land. We are definitely on path to reach required reduction by 2022..

I support finding the right environmental solutions for Lake Rotorua but the solutions must be fair and equitable across the entire community. Our elected representatives on Council have chosen to notify the rules, even though the lake is already at the target level required & there is legitimate concerns around the evidence, the science, the accuracy & enforcement.

My concerns with Plan Change 10 Rules are:

1. The Plan Change 10 Rules to be imposed on pastoral land owners are not fair nor equitable. The impact on my property :-

Devaluation of original farm due to being in Rule 11 boundary (2012) approx.. \$10,000 per ha.

Banks imposition of 20% reduction in value when calculating 'risk' – some banks "only 15%

Increased rates at District Council and Regional Council level.

Incredible amount of extra time and energy trying to calculate whether or not we are operating "within the

rules" – increased costs of using professionals, etc. to ensure we are on the "right path"
Interruption to family succession. Who would want to invest their lives (and livelihood) in a farm operating under such limitations? We didn't go farming to have to justify everything we do to some anonymous individual who has little or no concept of the big picture.
We pride ourselves on farming in an environmentally sustainable way – in more ways than just protecting waterways and the lake!

2. The sustainable load to Lake Rotorua was first estimated in the early 1980's & has not been verified by actual scientific truth testing since then. I request the recalculation of the sustainable load target to Lake Rotorua and the recalculation of the nitrogen input from land use to the Lake as part of a larger Science Review to be started in 2017.

3. I do not support the Policies, Method or Rules of Plan Change 10. I do not support the nitrogen discharge allowance process and the requirement that land owners reduce nutrient loss by way of regulation. I do not support the requirement for land owners to complete farm management plans that will be part of a compliance process. I do not support BOP Regional Council micro managing my farming business. It is impossible to develop a plan committing ourselves to actions up to 15 years in the future. Regional and District councils are only required to make 10-Year Plans – and that get annual reviews!

Signed _____

W.D. Roe

J.M. Roe