



Further submitter #95

Statutory managers of freshwater sports fish, gamebirds and their habitats.

23 August 2023

TO: Far North District Council
By email: pdp@fndc.govt.nz

SUBMITTER DETAILS:

Full name: Northland Fish and Game Council
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RE: Further submission on the Proposed Far North District Plan

1. Northland Fish and Game Council (NFGC) represents a relevant aspect of the public interest and has an interest greater than the public generally.
2. NFGC could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.
3. NFGC wishes to be heard in support of this submission, and would be prepared to consider presenting this submission in a joint case with others making a similar submission at any hearing.

Introduction

4. The New Zealand Fish and Game Council is the statutory manager for sports fish and game, with functions conveyed under the Conservation Act 1987. The organisation is an affiliation of 13 separate Fish and Game Councils – 12 regional Councils and one national Council. Together, these organisations represent roughly 140,000 anglers and hunters.
5. The sports fish and game resource managed by Fish and Game is defined and protected under the Conservation Act and the Wildlife Act 1953. The species within include introduced sports fish and a mix of native and introduced waterfowl and upland game.
6. NFGC supports a number of submissions which seek to retain or amend provisions of the plan which would ultimately protect, maintain and enhance fish and game bird habitat in the Far North District. NFGC is also concerned that some of the decisions sought by submitters to the Proposed Far North District Plan (FNDP) are inconsistent with the requirements Resource Management Act 1991. Our further submissions are set out in the table below.

Submitter name	Provisions	Submission number	Support /oppose	Reason for supporting/opposing	Decision sought
Horticulture New Zealand	Definitions – Bird scaring device	S159.009	Oppose	Oppose the proposed amendment to exclude firearms from the definition of bird scaring device. Firearms are commonly used as bird scaring devices and the permits NFGC issue under the crop depredation SOP include the use of firearms as a method of dispersal.	Disallow FS95.001
Kapiro Conservation Trust	Public access - objectives	S445.015	Support	Support the proposed amendments which can provide for the protection of conservation values of riparian margins, maintenance of water quality and aquatic habitats and the enhancement of public access and recreational opportunities, including sports fish angling and game bird hunting.	Allow FS95.002
Kapiro Conservation Trust	Public access – PA – P2	S445.002	Support	Support retaining these provisions for the creation of esplanade reserves and strips along the coast and water bodies when consents are granted for subdivision, land use and other forms of development.	Allow FS95.003
Kapiro Conservation Trust	Public access – PA – P3	S446.019	Support	Support the submission point that the waiving of esplanade requirements is not supported however if it is to be included it should be amended so	Allow FS95.004

				as to only occur in exceptional circumstances.	
Northland Regional Council	General / Plan Content / Miscellaneous	S359.019	Support with amendment	Support the proposed amendments to include stronger reverse sensitivity provisions however we seek to extend these to include constraining housing and industrial developments near areas with recreational hunting values.	Allow with amendment FS95.005
Kapiro Residents Associations	General / Plan Content / Miscellaneous	S427.014	Support	Support the submission point to amend the plan to include stronger policies and rules with regards to compact urban/residential development and preventing sprawl. A proliferation of rural 'lifestyle' blocks in the Far North District will allow future landowners to object to hunting activities. Growth of settlement into as-yet undeveloped land is a threat in terms of potential effects on sensitive ecosystems, particularly wetlands, and fauna.	Allow FS95.006
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand	SD – EP - 01	S511.026	Support	Support amendments that provide greater recognition of the values of wetlands.	Allow FS95.007
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand	IB – P6	S511.062	Support	Support the proposed amendments to include nature based non-regulatory solutions / methods.	Allow FS95.008

Director-General of Conservation (Department of Conservation)	Definitions - wetland	S364.019	Oppose	Oppose the proposed amendment to the wetland definition as it would mean wetlands within the Coastal Marine Area would be excluded from the Far North District Plan. The NPS-FM wetlands definition only applies to 'Natural Inland Wetlands'. We support the definition as written in the proposed plan.	Disallow FS95.009
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