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Enquiries to: Hannah Craven



1 June 2023

Plan Change 9 – Historic Heritage and Natural Environment Hearings Panel
Hamilton City Council

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Dear David Hill (Chairperson),

Additional evidence of Hannah Craven relating to the Waikato Regional Council Submission to Proposed Plan Change 9 – Historic Heritage and Natural Environment to the Operative Hamilton City District Plan

1. This letter follows the hearing for Hamilton City Council's Plan Change 9 (PC9) – Historic Heritage and Natural Environment on 24 May 2023. Specifically, it relates to the Panel's question directed at Counsel for Hamilton City Council on the definition for pest control and whether it applies to specific pest species.
2. I did not attend or present at the hearing for PC9, instead I tabled a letter to the Panel which supported the Section 42A recommendations relating to the Waikato Regional Council (WRC) submission.
3. Having watched the recording of the hearing on 24 May 2023, I am aware that the Panel sought clarification from Hamilton City Council on whether the definition of pest control should clarify which pest species it applies to, specifically, if it should refer to the list of pest species in the Waikato Regional Pest Management Plan (WRPMP).
4. In this letter I seek to clarify WRC's position on the matter, given that it directly relates to WRC's RPMP.
5. WRC made a submission point on the notified definition of pest control. Specifically, that "the definition of pest control is limited to species identified under the Waikato Regional Pest Management Plan 2021-2031 (WRPMP). WRC has just approved a new WRPMP, which has limited the number of listed pest species. There is risk that restoration activities or management activities to protect human health or ecological values that includes management of weedy or nuisance non-indigenous species will be severely limited if the definition connects only to the WRPMP. Therefore, we believe the definition for pest control should be more holistic and more far reaching."
6. The WRC submission sought that the definition of pest control is amended to include any pest species able to cause an adverse effect at the site or wider environment, and recommended the following wording:

Pest control: Means any activity undertaken by, or at the direction of a local authority or by a landowner, or occupier for the management of a nuisance plant or animal species that is impacting on the values of a site or area.

7. Essentially, the WRPMP does not contain a complete list of pest plants or animals, including many common pests. The WRPMP rather contains only the pest plants and animals for which WRC intends to contribute funds for the eradication or control of.

8. This matter was discussed at expert conferencing where it was agreed that the definition could be amended to:

Pest control: Means any activity undertaken by, or at the direction of a local authority for the control, management or eradication of species identified in the Waikato Regional Pest Management Plan prepared under the Biosecurity Act 1993/2021-2031 for the management of a nuisance plant or animal species that is impacting on the ecological values of a site or area.

9. This definition was recommended in the Section 42A report which I supported in my letter to the Panel dated 27 April 2023.

10. I still support the amended definition in the Section 42A report which reflects the relief sought in the WRC submission and ensures management of pest species is not restricted to the limited list of pest species identified in the WRPMP.

11. Should you have any queries regarding the content of this letter please contact me directly on (07) 859 2831 or by email hannah.craven@waikatoregion.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely,



Hannah Craven
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Waikato Regional Council