

IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT
AT AUCKLAND

ENV-2025-AKL-

I MUA I TE KOOTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA
TĀMAKI MAKĀURAU

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991

A N D

IN THE MATTER of an appeal pursuant to clause 14(1) of the First
Schedule of the Act

BETWEEN ROYAL FOREST AND BIRD PROTECTION
SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (INC)

Appellant

A N D WAITOMO DISTRICT COUNCIL

Respondent

NOTICE OF PERSON'S WISH TO BE PARTY TO PROCEEDINGS

Section 274, Resource Management Act 1991

21 August 2025



444 Anglesea Street
PO Box 447
Hamilton, 3240.
Email: fcasey@fedfarm.org.nz

To: The Registrar
Environment Court
Auckland

Federated Farmers of New Zealand Inc (“**Federated Famers**”) gives notice pursuant to section 274 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (“**RMA**”) that it wishes to be a party to the following proceedings:

Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc v Waitomo District Council ENV-2025-AKL-

Federated Farmers made a submission about the subject matter of the proceedings

Federated Farmers is not a trade competitor for the purpose of section 308C or 308CA of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Federated Farmers is interested in all of the proceedings.

1. Federated Farmers received notice of the proceedings on Friday 1 August 2025.
2. Federated Farmers is interested in all the issues raised by the appellant.
3. Without limiting the generality of the above, Federated Farmers specifically opposes the relief sought by the appellant to:
 - a. introduce a new definition for *Vegetation Clearance* because common farming activities like cultivation, irrigation and overplanting will inappropriately become subject to the clearance and threshold limits.
 - b. amend objective ECO-O1 for the reason that it will expand the scope of this provision to include all indigenous biodiversity regardless of its significance, and no assessment of regulatory benefit has been conducted.
 - c. amend Policy ECO-P1 for the reason that it will potentially lead to restrictions on land use, increased compliance costs, and reduced flexibility for routine activities like fencing, grazing or pasture renewal, without an assessment of regulatory cost and benefit.

- d. delete ECO-P2(5) for the reason that retaining this clause to recognise regionally significant activities while protecting indigenous biodiversity values, will achieve the balancing of wellbeings as required by section 5 of the RMA. Two activities that are located in Schedule RPROZ-SCHED1 are meat processing sites, one of which is classified as regionally significant. These sites are required for farming in the district.
 - e. amend ECO-Rules R1-R10 and Table 1 as this will have a regulatory impact on farming activities and will potentially lead to increased restrictions on land use, increased compliance costs and reduced flexibility for routine farm activities, without an assessment of regulatory cost and benefit.
 - f. amend ECO-R11 and ECO-12 as it is difficult to fully understand the reasons behind the appellant's relief sought in relation to these rules.
 - g. increase the activity status of rule ECO-R16 to non-complying, for the reason that full discretionary status and the list of standards are thorough and appropriate.
 - h. amend NATC-R1 as it is difficult to fully understand the reasons behind the appellant's relief sought.
 - i. amend NFL-Rules and NFL-R15 for the reason that the decision already address the appellant's concerns regarding section 6(c) of the RMA.
 - j. amend CE-R15 for the reason that the decision rules already address the appellant's concern regarding section 6(c) of the RMA.
 - k. amend the GRUZ-Rules and GRUZ-R15 for the reason that it will potentially lead to restrictions on land use, increased compliance costs and reduced flexibility for routine activities like fencing grazing or pasture renewal, without an assessment of regulatory cost and benefit.
4. Federated Farmers agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.



Rhea Dasent
Senior Policy Advisor, Federated Farmers

Dated: 21 August 2025

Address for service of person wishing to be a party:

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