



Preparing for the Hearing




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In two hour's time you will...

- Know what to expect at the hearing.
- Know how to leave a favourable and lasting impression on the decision makers.
- Understand what the s42A report means for your hearing statement
- Have started writing your hearing statement, and have the tools to finish it at home.


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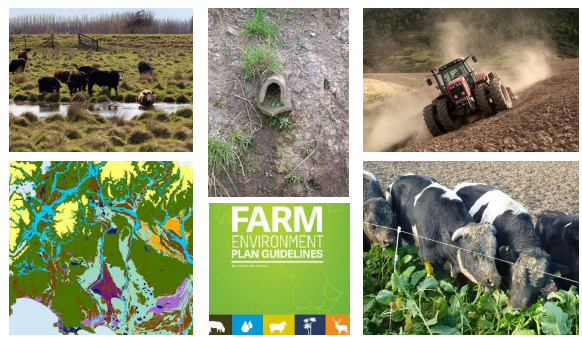
Tools we'll be using today

- Workbook – use this to record your ideas – you can take these home with you.
- Sticky notes – use these to write questions/ record ideas - we will collect up loose sticky notes at the end of the session.
- Everything you see today is available online.

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The Song Sheet



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At the hearing you will...



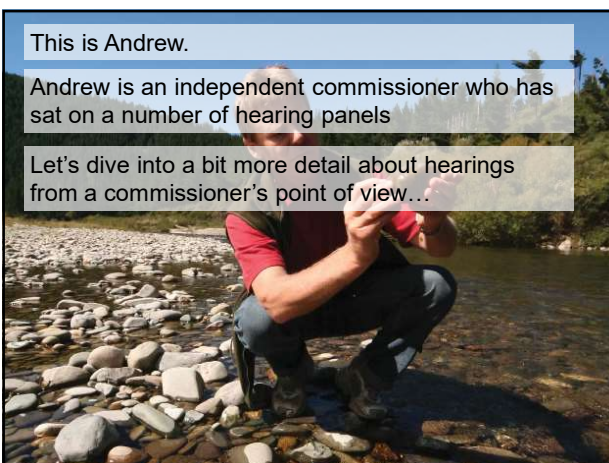
- Show your evidence – pictures, etc
- Use these to tell the commissioners how the plan will affect you and what changes you want made
- Answer the commissioner's question

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This is Andrew.

Andrew is an independent commissioner who has sat on a number of hearing panels

Let's dive into a bit more detail about hearings from a commissioner's point of view...

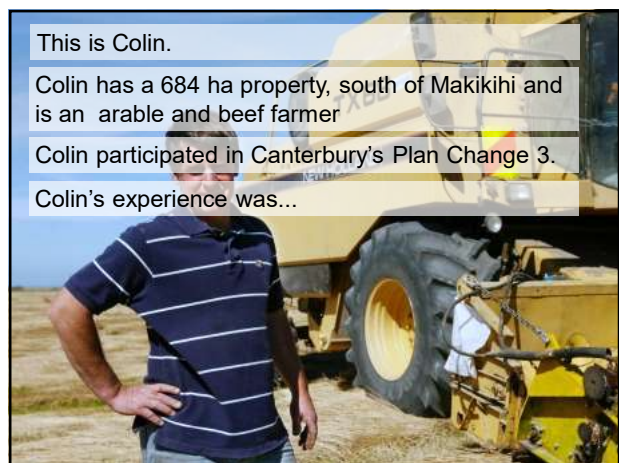


This is Colin.


Colin has a 684 ha property, south of Makikihi and is an arable and beef farmer

Colin participated in Canterbury's Plan Change 3.

Colin's experience was...




Key points



- The hearing is formal, but don't be nervous or scared – get in there!
- Powerful when entire catchment group turns up – but nominate just one spokesperson.
- Farmer evidence considered personal experience not expert evidence. This gives you more flexibility.
- Be respectful and polite. Speak only to the panel members – no cross examination in planning hearings
- Be prepared – do your homework, practice your hearing statement and speak to other farmers/ B+LNZ and your other advocacy groups
- Bring your photos/ PowerPoint material etc. with you

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Discuss what you've heard with your neighbours.



Got questions? – write them on a sticky

We will answer your questions as a group shortly



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How to leave a lasting impression with the hearing panel...

Let's go back to Andrew and Colin

What's their advice about leaving a lasting impression?



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Key points

Be specific and focused

- How does the Plan affect you?
- What do you want changed?
- What are the consequences if those changes are not made?

Consistent message across the sector

- Sector singing off the same song sheet
- But delivered through your unique story

Be honest, grounded and genuine – your demeanour is important

Use materials to bring your issues to life – photos/ maps etc.

You don't need to bring your guitar!

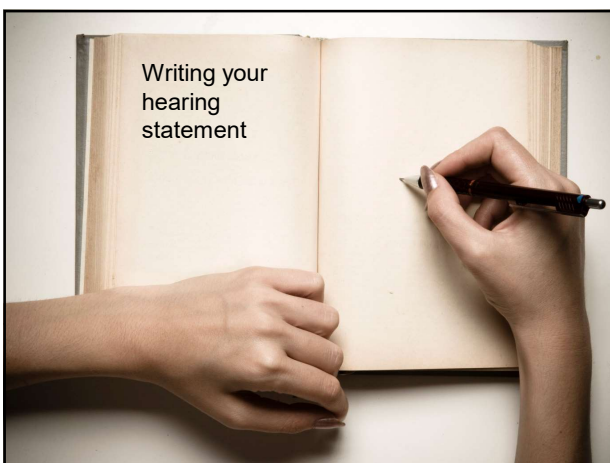
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Discuss what you've heard with your neighbours.

- What can you do to make sure the hearing panel hears and remembers you?
- Record your ideas in your workbook
- Got questions? – write it on a sticky

We will answer your questions as a group shortly

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Let's go back to Andrew and Colin
What's their advice about writing a hearing statement?

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Key themes

- The sector needs to sing from the same song sheet
- Keep your hearing statement specific and focused
 - Talk about how the Plan affects you?
 - If you don't support something – make sure you give an alternative
 - Tell your unique story, but powerful if the same key themes keep coming across
- Be honest, grounded and genuine – your demeanour is important
- Turn the Plan from the abstract into real life - Bring your farm to the commissioners! - use materials to tell your unique story.
- Use evidence like powerpoint slides/ videos/ recordings of people/ soil maps/ OVERSEER results/ photographs.
- Make sure you stick to the key points of your submission – you can add more detail, but you can't introduce new topics.

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Discuss what you've heard with your neighbours.

- What evidence could you use?
- Got questions?

Record your ideas in your workbook and/or stickies


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Let's answer your questions



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Get your ideas on paper



- Four tools
 - Your submission
 - Song sheet
 - Brainstorm template
 - Hearing Statement template

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Tool 1 : The Song Sheet

FARM ENVIRONMENT PLAN GUIDELINES

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Stock Exclusion

Notified Plan

- Stock (not sheep) must be excluded from all water bodies by 1 May 2018 (cattle) or 1 May 2020 (deer)
- Except within hill country/bedrock physiographic zone >16°

s42A report

- Stock (not sheep) must be excluded from waterways by:

	Slope 0-3°	Slope 3-15°	Slope > 15°	Where break feeding
Deadline	1 July 2025	1 July 2030	N/A	1 July 2022
Waterbody type	All waterbodies	Waterbodies larger than 1 m wide		All waterbodies

- To think about...** The s42A recommendations appear to be more lenient than the notified rule.

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Physiographic Zones

Notified Plan

- Southland separated into nine physiographic zones.
- Zones determined by factors such as climate, topography, geology, and soil type.
- Land use within each zone has a different influence and different risk factors on water quality.
- Different rules apply in some physiographic zones.

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- No change to notified Plan

To think about...

- Do the notified physiographic zones match your farm.
- How will an incorrect physiographic zone change your on-farm management actions?

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Intensive Winter Grazing

Notified Plan

- Up to 20 ha of winter grazing permitted in 'high risk' physiographic zones.
- Up to 50 ha of winter grazing permitted in 'other' physiographic zones.
- Broad definition captures many crop types
- Buffers required

S42A


- Up to 50 hectares of intensive winter grazing per landholding
- Definition - excludes pasture and cereal crops
- Buffers – permanent fence before 3 June 2016

To think about...

- Definition in the s42A report appears to be better
- However, setback distances appear overly restrictive, especially the permanent fence requirement.

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Subsurface drains



Notified Plan

- Map new tile drains or when upgrade/ maintain existing drains.
- Map to include drain location, and drain outlet's relative depth and position.
- Within intensive winter grazing – **all** subsurface drains must be mapped

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- Must map **all** existing drains, including the location of the outlet position

To think about...

- Will the increased requirements to map all drains result in better water quality outcomes on your property?

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Cultivation on Slopes



Notified Plan

- Permitted if waterway buffer zones
- Not above 700 metres
- No mechanical cultivation on land with a slope greater than 20 degrees.
- Develop a cultivation plan as part of farm environment plan.

S42A report

- Waterway buffer zones
- No mechanical cultivation on land steeper than 20 degrees or other cultivation on land steeper than 25 degrees


To think about...

- What would the proposed buffer zones mean for you?




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Farm Environment Plans



Notified Plan

- Many farmers will be required to develop a farm environment plan for their property.
- Likely triggers for sheep and beef farmers are rule 20 (farming), or rule 23 (intensive winter grazing)
- Your Farm Environment Plan will contain:
 - Critical source areas; physiographic units; subsurface drainage (depth, location, outlet position); A nutrient budget; Good Management Practices etc.

s42A


- Nutrient budget not required on sheep, beef and deer farms without dairy support and less than 20 ha of intensive winter grazing
- Staging by FMU not physiographic zone

To think about...

- Fewer sheep and beef farmers required to get nutrient budget – far enough?
- FMU vs physiographic zone – how does this affect you?

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Tool 2: Hearing Statement Template



BEFORE THE Southland Regional Council

IN THE MATTER OF Southland Water and Land Plan

STATEMENT OF *(your full name here)*

Date: _____

Contact for service:
Name: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

STATEMENT OF *(your full name here)*

Scope of statement

- The statement:
 - Introduces my farming business, and the ways that I aim to be the natural capability of my property
 - Outlines which parts of the proposed Plan will make it difficult to continue delivering these on-farm environmental goals
 - Specifically, will focus on:
 - How I intend to:
 - Physiographic Zones: Rules 41,2
 - Intensive Winter Grazing: Rule 23
 - Etc...
 - Outlines alternative ways to better meet the Plan's objectives; and
 - Outlines my future vision for my farm.


You may like to write your own scope of statement. Our tool has been developed to help you do this.


Consider the sections that you will complete in your own statement template.

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Tool 3: Brainstorm template


Dump as many ideas as you can onto your paper



	Did you comment on this provision in your submission?	Why don't you like this provision?	What would a better alternative be?	Evidence I can use to back up my statement
 Stock exclusion	Yes	Difficult to implement on hill country due to cost of fencing, low stocking rate, and large area required to fence off.	Identify priority areas through Farm Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Photos of relevant waterways on my farm 2. Cost to fence these waterways 3. Excerpt from my farm plan outlining my planned waterway fencing 4. Photos of work I've already completed using my farm plan

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Your Hearing Statement



- Transfer your brainstorm into your hearing statement – use the prompts in the green boxes to guide you.
- You may not use all your brainstorm ideas – that's fine if you don't.
- Paste your evidence into your hearing statement as you go.
 - For example – if you're talking about physiographic zones and you want to show a photo as evidence, paste that photo into your hearing statement

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Submitting your information



- If you have any 'new' evidence – such as photos, soil information or you reference the s42A report
- You must submit a copy of your completed statement to Environment Southland by **12pm on 12 May**
- If no new info can turn up on the day and read your hearing statement
- If not sure – suggest you submit on 12 May – talk to me afterwards if you want to check in

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At the hearing




- The commissioners will have read your hearing statement and your submission – so you don't need to read this out
- Bring your pictures and farm map with you and use these to help summarise the key points of your hearing statement
- Make sure you only cover off the most important parts and leave time for discussion – you can request more time but you should do this as soon as you can.
- You may like to write down what you're going to say on the day. If you do, bring 10 copies of this with you.

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Want help?



- Get in touch at any stage if you need some help – our contact details are on the back of your workbook



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