**Beef + Lamb New Zealand’s *Action for Health Waterways* Farmer Submission Template**

Use this blank template to structure your submission on the government’s freshwater proposals by making the points you wish to make under the section headings that are relevant to them.

We have provided a separate document with the information you can cut and paste into this or adjust the wording as you see fit: <https://beeflambnz.com/sites/default/files/Essential%20Freshwater%20Farm%20Submission.docx>

Once completed, you can email it to consultation.freshwater@mfe.govt.nz or you use the responses to fill in the Ministry for the Environment’s online form at: <https://submissions.mfe.govt.nz/consultations/essential-freshwater-f483240c-4b48-4713-acaa-539915e31f4e/make-a-submission>

 **Personal Information**

*\* indicates required fields*

Company name:

Given names\*:

Surname:

Contact person:

Address:

Region\*:

Country:

Phone:

Email\*:

Background about your farm:
*(Keep this section brief. It is not required for your submission, but does help set the scene)*

Types of information include:

Where you are farming (catchment) and type of country you are farming (flat, rolling, hill);

What type of farm;

Stock class and ratio and whether or not this changes overtime;

How long has the property been in your family and how long have you been farming the property;

Property under development – future aspirations and motivations?

Describe your environmental management? Are you actively planting riparian strips or allowing native regeneration, do you have QEII covenants, plantation forestry, manuka, wetlands or lakes? Have you already fenced off waterways and if so what was the cost of doing so?

Type of fertiliser use and application, and nutrient leaching rate if it is known.

**General responses to the proposals:**

*Please insert your overall comments about the proposals.*

**Impacts and implementation:**

*This section is an ideal opportunity for you to detail what the specific impact of these proposals could be on your farm. Do you have significant stretches of waterways that would require fencing? How much would this cost? What are your concerns around the cost and limitations of using tools like OVERSEER or MitAgator on a sheep and beef farm? How will grandparenting provisions that lock in discharges and land use limit your ability to adapt your farm system to pay for the environmental mitigations you need to take elsewhere? What will be the impact on your community if over two thirds of sheep and beef farms were converted into forestry?*

**NPSFWM Nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment attributes:**

**I support or oppose the above provision/s:**

**My submission is that:**

*Give reasons for your submission and outline your concerns or those areas you agree with. Keep it clear, concise, and constructive.*

**The decision I would like the Government to make is:**

*Clearly outline the changes you would like to see. Bullet points are a good way to go. You can also include catch all phrases ie “I support the establishment of clear environmental bottom lines for freshwater health, where these are based on the best available science, and which take into account local conditions. Environmental bottom lines must provide for community and economic wellbeing, along with healthy freshwater systems. Make sure you say if you want something to be deleted, ie a standard, and clearly set out if you think it should be replaced with something else.*

**Restricting further intensification:**

**I support or oppose the above provision/s:**

**My submission is that:**

**The decision I would like the Government to make is:**

*Clearly outline the changes you would like to see. Bullet points are a good way to go. You can also include catch all phrases ie “delete all grandparenting provisions from the proposals including restrictions on land use change and requirements under FM\_FP which seeks reductions across all potential emissions, ensure management frameworks are tailored to the environmental effects which need to be managed. Ensure flexibility in land uses and farming systems are provided to enable innovation and adaption…”. Make sure you say if you want something to be deleted, ie a standard, and clearly set out if you think it should be replaced with something else.*

**Farm plans:**

**I support or oppose the above provision/s:**

**My submission is that:**

**The decision I would like the Government to make is:**

**Immediate action to reduce nitrogen loss:**

**I support or oppose the above provision/s:**

**My submission is that:**

**The decision I would like the Government to make is:**

**Excluding stock from waterways:**

**I support or oppose the above provision/s:**

**My submission is that:**

**The decision I would like the Government to make is:**

**Controlling intensive winter grazing:**

**I support or oppose the above provision/s:**

**My submission is that:**

**The decision I would like the Government to make is:**

**Feedlots and stock holding areas:**

**I support or oppose the above provision/s:**

**My submission is that:**

**The decision I would like the Government to make is:**

**Other comments on the proposed National Environmental Standards for Freshwater:***(Feel free to add any additional comments that you wish to add here)*