From: Vance Hodgson <vance@hpcplanning.co.nz>

Sent: Thursday, 2 September 2021 8:54 a.m.

To: RPS

Cc: Penny Cairns

Subject: Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement 2021 - Submission of NZPork

Attachments: NZPork Submission Otago RPS21 2 Sep 21.pdf; NZPork form-5-written-submissions-form-on-

proposed-otago-rps-2021.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Submission - Sector stakeholder

Please find attached the submission of NZPork on the Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement 2021.

Regards



Vance Hodgson
HODGSON PLANNING CONSULTANTS
Planning Consultant / Director

027 555 5450 / **09 235 3252** 15 Martyn Street Waiuku PO Box 97 Pukekohe 2340 www.hpcplanning.co.nz

Written Submission on Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement 2021

(Submissions must be received by Otago Regional Council by 3 pm Friday 3 September 2021

To: Otago Regional Council

1.	Name of submitter (full name of person/persons or organisation making the submission. Note: The submissions will be referred to by the name of the submitter)

NZ Pork

- 2. This is a submission on the Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement 2021.
- 3. I could/could not (Select one) gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission. (See notes to person making submission)
- 4. I am/am not (Select one) directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that
 - a. adversely affects the environment; and
 - **b.** does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition (See notes to person making submission)
- 5. I wish/do not wish (Select one) to be heard in support of my submission
- 6. If others make a similar submission, I will/will not (Select one) consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing
- 7. Submitter Details
 - a. Signature of submitter (or person authorised to sign on behalf of submitter)

VAME

b. Signatory name, position, and organisation (if signatory is acting on behalf of a submitter organisation or group referred to at Point 1 above)

Name Vance Hodgson

Position Consultant Planner

Organisation NZ Pork

c. Date

01 September 2021

Address for service of submitter (*This is where all correspondence will be directed*)

d. Contact person (name and designation, if applicable)

Penny Cairns; Environmental Advisor

e. Email:

Penny Cairns <penny.cairns@pork.co.nz>

f. Telephone:

03 357 1407

g. Postal address (or alternative method of service under <u>section 352</u> of the Act):

PO Box 20176 Christchurch 8543

8. My submission is:

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
The specific provisions	I support or	The reasons for my views are:	I seek the following decision from the
of the proposal that my	oppose the		local authority:
submission relates to	specific provisions		
are:	or wish to have		
(Please enter the relevant objective, policy, method, or 'other' provision reference where possible. For example, 'AIR-O1'.)	them amended . (Please indicate "support" or "oppose" or "amend")"		(Please be as clear as possible – for example, include any alternative wording for specific provision amendments.)

Refer Attached

Note: Additional rows for each separate provision or submission point should be added as required.



SUBMISSION ON

Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement 2021

1 September 2021

To: Otago Regional Council

SUBMITTER: New Zealand Pork Industry Board



Introduction

The New Zealand Pork Industry Board (NZPork) welcomes the opportunity to submit on the Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement 2021.

NZPork could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

NZPork wishes to be heard in support of our submission and would be prepared to consider presenting our submission in a joint case with others making a similar submission at any hearing.

Contact for service:

Penny Cairns
Environmental Advisor
NZPork
PO Box 20176
Christchurch
8543







The New Zealand Pork Industry

About NZPork

The New Zealand Pork Industry Board (NZPork) is a statutory board funded by producer levies. The board's statutory function is to act in the interests of pig farmers to help attain the best possible net on-going returns while farming sustainably into the future. The Board employs an Environmental Advisor to assist farmers with implementation of environmental good practice and to represent their interests in planning regulations.

Commercial Pig Farming in New Zealand

The pig farming industry in New Zealand is small by international standards, with around 90 registered commercial pork producers nationally. Although it is a small industry, pork producers have an important flow-on effect to their communities, forming an integral part of the rural economy as they utilise other farming resources such as grains for feed production as well as providing employment. In 2007, it was estimated by the NZ Institute of Economic Research that the total economic activity associated with domestically farmed pigs was approximately \$750 million per annum.

Pigs' needs are unique compared to other farmed animals. They need constant access to shelter, a balanced diet and regular care and supervision. To meet these needs, New Zealand's commercial pig farmers have adopted a range of farming methods. Many farmers prefer indoor farming because they believe it allows them to provide the best care for the modern animal by allowing them to carefully manage their environment. Approximately 55% of New Zealand's pigs are farmed in this way.





The other 45% of New Zealand's commercial breeding herd is farmed outdoors. Outdoor breeding (also called free-farmed pork) can only occur in a moderate climate with low rainfall and free-draining soil conditions. In New Zealand, these conditions are mostly found in Canterbury. In most free-farmed systems, sows are farmed in groups in paddocks during gestation with huts for shelter and shade. When sows farrow, they are provided with individual, dry and draught-free huts with straw for warmth. A variety of housing systems are then used to house pigs after weaning, including indoor barns or open-air sheds.

Many farmers use rotational outdoor systems in which pigs are kept outdoors in paddocks that are used in rotation with a crop-pasture phase. During the stocked phase, the pigs are supplied with prepared feed, but can also forage. The crop-pasture phase is then used to remove nutrients deposited in manure from the pig phase by cutting and removing plant material from the area.

Most pork produced in New Zealand is consumed locally. This means that unlike other primary sector industries, the continued viability of pig farming in New Zealand is not needed for the continued export of commodities, but for the continued ability of kiwi farmers to produce food for kiwi families.

New Zealand pig farmers are facing several economic, social and environmental challenges in order to remain viable. The contribution of imported pork to New Zealand's total pork consumption has increased significantly in recent years (now more than 60%), putting pressure on the domestic pork industry. New Zealand pig farmers currently operate to animal welfare standards that are higher than the welfare standards in countries providing imports to New Zealand. In 2015 the use of gestational stalls was banned for domestic pig farming in New Zealand, but imports from countries permitting the use of gestational stalls continue – as other countries are not held to New Zealand's animal welfare standards.

While our farmers embrace providing well for the welfare of their animals, meeting welfare standards higher than imported foreign pork puts New Zealand farmers at a cost disadvantage, by adding to building and labour costs, increasing mortality and lowering productivity. Further restrictions on the ability of New Zealand pig farmers to operate in a sustainable and profitable way could lead to a further decline in domestic pork production or the removal of the whole New Zealand industry.

The spread of African Swine Fever in 2019 is now affecting the availability of pork globally. New Zealand can no longer rely on imported pork products in the wake of the spread of the disease. Maintaining domestic pork production is therefore essential to maintaining the availability of pork in New Zealand.

Environmental Stewardship in Pig Farming

The New Zealand pork industry is dedicated to producing environmentally sustainable pork. NZPork is proactive in supporting farmers to reduce environmental impacts through investing producer funds into research, innovation and technologies in a range of environmental areas including nutrient management, greenhouse gas emission reductions and by-product reuse.

Commercial pig farmers have a long history of environmental innovation and stewardship. Farmers using outdoor systems operate to industry agreed Good Management Practice (GMP) Standards for Outdoor Pigs, which includes maintaining stocking densities appropriate to the type of piggery operation (rotational or fixed), maintaining ground cover to minimise nutrient leaching and sediment



runoff, and excluding stock from waterways. Farmers using indoor systems have a high degree of control over nutrient application to land and are able to store effluent and defer application to land until environmental conditions will result in minimal leaching of nutrients.

NZPork is part of the Good Farming Practice Action Plan for Water Quality Governance Group and actively support and promote agreed national good farming practice principals within the commercial pig farming industry, including the implementation of farm environment plans (FEPs). NZPork provides guidance to farmers on environmental management, and has produced guidelines on Environmental Management, Nutrient Management and Carcass Composting.

Pig Farming in the Otago Region

As described above, the New Zealand Pork Industry is small, based on about 90 commercial pig farms, supplying about 40% of the pork consumed in New Zealand. The National sow herd is in the order of 26,600 sows.

In the Otago region there are six commercial pig farms with sow herds totaling 1,740 sows. In addition, there is a small number of breeders and other farms with pigs. These farms will have a wide range of manure handling systems, from an outdoor free farmed herd, and the rest a mixture of liquid and solid effluent material to utilize. Effluent can either be in a solid or liquid form depending on the housing system used. Nutrients produced are utilised to fertilise pasture or crops on farm or may be on sold for nutrients or as a soil conditioner.





The specific provisions of the proposal that my submission relates to are: PART 1 – INTRODUCTION	I support of oppose the specific provisions wish to have then amended	or n	The reasons for my views are:	I seek the following decision from the local authority:
Purpose	Support Part	in / in	Support the statement that the ORPS responds to identified significant regional	Amend the <i>Purpose</i> of the ORPS 21 to identify an additional regionally significant value and resource management issue relating to Otago's food production capacity.
Description of the Region	Part	in / in	activities and in particular pig farming is	Amend the Description of the Region of the ORPS 21 to describe Otago's food production capacity.



				perspective it is also a critical part of New Zealand's food production system.	
partnerships	and with ocal	Support		Support the statement that local authorities together can clearly define their resource management roles and responsibilities to reduce duplication of effort and streamline processes for Otago's communities. For the pig farming	Retain as proposed.
				sector this is critical and has not been the practice in many districts/regions resulting in unnecessary regulation, duplication and cost.	
PART 2 – RESOU	RCE N	ANAGEME	NT C	OVERVIEW	
	ant res	ource ma	nage	ement issues for the region	
Introduction		Support Part Oppose Part	/	As noted above, primary production activities and in particular pig farming is not only significant from an economic perspective it is also a critical part of New Zealand's food production system. The introduction to the regions significant resource management issues notes and economic perspective from resource use. It also notes social and cultural perspectives relating to recreation, housing, and cultural activities. The introduction fails to identify food production values.	Amend the Introduction to the Significant Resource Management Issues for the Region of the ORPS 21 to describe Otago's food production values and in the relation between natural resources, resource use and strategies (Figure 2). Amend the Introduction to identify an additional regionally significant value and resource management issue relating to Otago's food production capacity.
SRMR-I1 - Natur	ral ha	zards pose	a ri	sk to many Otago communities	
Statement		Oppose Part	in	Natural hazards pose a risk to food production and supply either through disruption to the primary production activity or through a breakdown in	Amend the <i>statement</i> to note that Natural hazards pose a risk to food production and supply.
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			infrastructure (including transport connections).	
Context	Support Part	in	The context notes that the Otago region is exposed to a wide variety of natural hazards that impact on people, property, infrastructure, historic heritage and the wider environment.	Amend the <i>context</i> to note that Natural hazards pose a risk to food production and supply.
Impact Snapshot: Economic	Support Part	in	notes that "Food security can also be affected." This is not just and economic impact but also a social impact and an impact on the health and safety of people and communities.	Identify an additional regionally significant value and resource management issue relating to Otago's food production capacity and that the effects of natural hazards on food security extend beyond economic impacts.
			o impact our economy and environment	
Impact Snapshot: Economic	Support Part	in	The assessment of economic impacts notes that Climate change impacts will result in both impacts and opportunities for regional industry in terms of jobs, business income and profitability. Key industries likely to be impacted include sheep, beef, dairy and deer farming, cropping and viticulture, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, as well as tourism. Indoor and outdoor pig farming is another key primary production activity in the region to be acknowledged. This is not just and economic impact but also a social impact and an impact on the health and safety of people and communities.	



SRMR-13 – Pest speci	es pose an	ong	oing threat to indigenous biodiversity, econ	omic activities and landscapes
Statement	Oppose Part	in	biodiversity, economic activities and landscape, pest species also pose a threat to biosecurity and the rural production systems producing food for domestic consumptions and export.	· · ·
Context	Support par	in	The context identifies that ORC has established a Biosecurity Strategy sets out ORC's objectives for biosecurity management in the region with priorities providing for protection of indigenous biodiversity, protection of landscape, recreation, cultural and amenity values and minimising the impact on agricultural production.	To ensure a clear linkage through the ORPS, the <i>statement</i> above should be amended to note that Pest Species pose a risk to biosecurity and food production.
Impact Snapshot: Economic	Support Part	in	The assessment of economic impacts notes that pests impacts include costs to agriculture, business and government to control pests and mitigate impacts are considerable, as are biosecurity costs to prevent pest incursion which are reflected in biosecurity fees and taxes. Biosecurity failure can have serious economic impacts on existing industries. This is not just and economic impact but also a social impact and an impact on the health and safety of people and communities.	Identify an additional regionally significant value and resource management issue relating to Otago's food production capacity and that the effects of pests and biosecurity on primary production activities extend beyond economic impacts.
SRMR-15 - Freshwate	r demand	exce	eeds capacity in some places	
Context	Support Part	in		Amend context to note that population growth also increases food demand.



Impact Snapshot: Economic	Support Part	in	demand for freshwater for human consumption, irrigation and other economic uses. Population growth also increases food demand and particularly domestic food supply. This is a separate use to irrigation or economic uses and should be identified. The assessment of economic impacts notes that freshwater in the Otago region is a factor of production that directly contributes to human needs (urban water supply), agriculture (including irrigation), hydro-electric power supply, and mineral extraction. Freshwater is also a factor that directly contributes to food production which is another human need. This is not just and economic impact but also a social impact and an impact on the health and safety of people and	Amend Impact snapshot to note that freshwater in the Otago region is a factor of production that directly contributes to food production as a human need.
			communities.	
				activities and the presence of pests and predators
Impact Snapshot: Economic	Support Part	in	The assessment of economic impacts notes that the economic costs of lost productivity due to pests, erosion and damage to land, are likely to be significant and there is potential for loss of biodiversity to adversely impact on the economy. This is not just and economic impact but	Identify an additional regionally significant value and resource management issue relating to Otago's food production capacity and that the effects of pests and biosecurity on primary production activities extend beyond economic impacts.
			also a social impact and an impact on the	



			health and safety of people and	
			communities.	
		estic	activities in Otago use natural resources bu	at do not always properly account for the environmental stresses or
the future impacts th	-			
Statement	Support Part Oppose Part	in / in	that agriculture makes to employment and economic wellbeing, the statement fails to identify the value and contribution of food production in Otago for domestic food supply.	Amend the statement to identify the value and contribution of food production in Otago for domestic food supply.
Context	Support Part Oppose Part	in / in	that agriculture makes to employment	Amend the context to identify the value and contribution of food production in Otago for domestic food supply.
SRMR–I11 – Cumula being reached	tive impact	s an	d resilience – the environmental costs of o	ur activities in Otago are adding up with tipping points potentially
Statement	Support Part Oppose Part	in / in	through explicit recognition of food	Amend statement to provide explicit recognition of food production values and the relationship to human health as a necessary consideration for decision making that responds to ORPS issues.
Context	Support Part Oppose Part	in / in	The context would be improved through explicit recognition of food production values and the relationship to human health.	Amend context to provide explicit recognition of food production values and the relationship to human health as a necessary consideration for decision making that responds to ORPS issues.
IM – Integrated mar			The same Parameters and the state of the same of the s	Delete NLDO and destite to a secretaria title Dest O and Discourse (
IM-P2 – Decision Priorities	Oppose		The policy applies a decision-making hierarchy for all resource management decisions that appears to be an extension of Te Mana O Te Wai to all resources and is inconsistent with Part 2 and Purpose of the RMA.	Delete IN-P2 or redraft to be consistent with Part 2 and Purpose of the RMA.
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PART 3 – DOMAINS A	ND TOPICS			
DOMAINS				
AIR				
AIR-P3 Providing for discharges to air	Support		Support policy that supports discharges to air provided they do not adversely affect human health, amenity and mana whenua values and the life supporting capacity of ecosystems.	Retain AIR-P3 as proposed.
AIR-P4 Avoiding certain discharges	Oppose part	in	The policy sets an 'avoid' outcome based around a determination on what are 'offensive, objectionable, noxious or dangerous effects'. These terms are not defined but will be in the Air Plan and at an RPS level guidance should be provided on what these effects are.	Delete or provide guidance on the terms 'offensive, objectionable, noxious or dangerous effects'.
AIR-P5 Managing certain discharges	Support Part	in	Support a policy that seeks to manage the effects of discharges to air beyond the boundary of the property of origin from activities that include but are not limited to farming. The reference should be to primary production activities noting th st this includes intensive primary production.	Amend AIR-P5 as follows: Farming Primary Production Activities
AIR–M3 – Territorial authorities	Support Part Oppose Part	in / in	No later than 31 December 2029, territorial authorities must prepare or amend and maintain their district plans to include provisions that direct an urban form that assists in achieving good air quality by: managing the spatial distribution of activities. The method is also relevant in the rural context to separate sensitive activities from primary production activities.	Amend AITR-M3 or include a new method that requires that territorial authorities must prepare or amend and maintain their district plans to include provisions that manage the spatial separation of sensitive activities from primary production activities.





AIR-M5 Incentives and other mechanisms LF – Land and Freshw	Support	in	Support a method that sets out that in collaboration with territorial authorities, iwi authorities, key stakeholders and industry, Otago Regional Council must, on an ongoing basis, use other mechanisms or incentives to assist with achieving the air quality objectives. The plan would be improved by also recognizing the role that good management practices and industry guidelines and codes can play in achieving the outcomes.	Amend AIR-M5 to recognize the role that good management practices and industry guidelines and codes can play in achieving the outcomes.
LF-VM-O2 - Clutha	Support	in	Support a vision and objective that in the	Retain vision and objective.
Mata-au FMU vision	part	Iri	Dunstan, Manuherekia and Roxburgh rohe of the Clutha Mata-au FMU, innovative and sustainable land and water management practices support food production in the area and reduce discharges of nutrients and other contaminants to water bodies so that they are safe for human contact where that contact is necessary.	Retain vision and objective.
LF–VM–O3 – North Otago FMU vision	Support		Support a vision and objective that by 2050 in the North Otago FMU: innovative and sustainable land and water management practices support food production in the area and improve resilience to the effects of climate	Retain vision and objective.
LF–VM–O4 – Taieri FMU vision	Support		Support a vision and objective that by 2050 in the Taieri FMU, innovative and sustainable land and water management practices support food production in the area and improve resilience to the effects of climate change.	Retain vision and objective.

LF-VM-O6 -Catlins	Cupport	Support a vision and objective that by	Retain vision and objective.
	Support	Support a vision and objective that by	Refain vision and objective.
FMU vision		2030 in the Catlins FMU healthy, clear and	
		clean water supports opportunities for	
		recreation and sustainable food	
		production for future generations.	
LF-VM-M3 -	Support	Support Otago Regional Council working	Retain as proposed.
Community		with communities to achieve the	
involvement		objectives and policies in this chapter,	
		including by supporting industry-led	
		guidelines, codes of practice and	
		environmental accords where these	
		would contribute to achieving the	
		objectives of this RPS.	
LF-FW-O8 - Fresh	Support in		Amend LF-FM-O8 as follows:
water	part	water bodies and their catchments: the	
	- - - - - - - - -	health of the wai supports the health of	(1) the health of the wai supports the health and well-being needs
		the people and thriving mahika kai. The	of the people and thriving mahika kai
		objective would be improved by	
		identifying that it is the health and	
		wellbeing needs of people to be	
		supported.	
LF-FW-AER7	Onnoso	The specified Anticipated Environmental	Delete or amend LF-FW-AER7 as this outcome is an essential need
LI-FVV-AEK/	Oppose		
		Result is that Water in Otago's aquifers is	and relevant only to those water sources (ground and surface)
		suitable for human consumption, unless	necessary to satisfy that need.
		that water is naturally unsuitable for	
		consumption.	
		This outcome is an essential need and	
		relevant to those water sources (ground	
		and surface) necessary to satisfy that	
		need. This is not necessary for the health	
		and wellbeing of water bodies and	
		freshwater ecosystems in all locations and	
		an unrealistic outcome.	
LF-LS – Land and soil			

LF-LS-O11 Land and	Support	Support an objective to supports the	Highly productive land should be defined in the RPS.
Soil	συρροπ	safeguarding of the life supporting capacity of soils and the availability and productive capacity of highly productive land for primary production.	riigriiy productive idrid sriouid be defilied in the KFS.
		Intensive primary production activities (both indoor and outdoor) may, by locational necessity, be situated on highly productive land where there are economic and operational benefits associated with concentrating such enterprises in specific rural localities.	
		To assist plan administration and interpretation to lower order planning documents, highly productive land should be defined in the RPS.	
LF-LS-O12 Use of land	Support	Support the objective to maintain soil quality and its contribution to achieving environmental outcomes for fresh water.	Retain as proposed.
LF-LS-P16 Integrated management	Support	Support policy that recognizes the interconnections between soil, vegetation and water quality and quantity are important.	Retain as proposed.
LF-LS- P17 Soil values	Support	Support policy that recognizes the soil is a critical component of production systems.	Retain as proposed.
LF-LS- P18 Soil erosion	Support	Support the approach to implement management practices to minimise potential for loss of soil to water bodies.	Retain as proposed.
		NZPork has developed guidelines and codes of practice for outdoor pig farming activity to assist with such management	

		practices and in particular achieving			
		good management practice.			
LF-LS -P19 Highly productive land	Support	Support maintaining the availability and productive capacity of highly productive land. Implementing the policy requires Highly Productive Land to be defined.	Highly productive land should be defined in the RPS.		
LF–LS–P20 – Land use change	Support	Support policy that promotes changes in land use that promote the health and quality of soil. Rotational outdoor pig farming is a method to achieve the outcome.	Retain as proposed.		
LF–LS–M11 – Regional plans	Support in Part	Council must publicly notify a Land and Water Regional Plan no later than 31 December 2023 and then, when it is made operative, maintain that regional plan to: (1) manage land uses that may affect the ability of environmental outcomes for water quality to be achieved by requiring: (c) effective management of effluent storage and applications systems, and Plan Change 7 to the regional plan is clarifying terminology around effluent systems, facilities, storage and application. The RPS must be consistent with that terminology.	Ensure consistency with terminology determined through Plan Change 7 to the regional plan.		
UFD – Urban form and development					
UFD–O4 – Development in rural areas	Support in Part	While supportive of the objective and polices that support achieving the objective, this is an uncomfortable fit within a chapter that seeks to address Urban Form and Development. The objective and relevant policies are better	Add new standalone topic on Rural Areas.		

		included in a standalone topic on Rural Areas.	
UFD-P7 – Rural Areas	Support in Part		Add new standalone topic on Rural Areas.
UFD—P8 — Rural lifestyle and rural residential zones	Support in Part	While supportive of the objective and polices that support achieving the objective, this is an uncomfortable fit within a chapter that seeks to address Urban Form and Development. The objective and relevant policies are better included in a standalone topic on Rural Areas.	Add new standalone topic on Rural Areas.
UFD-E1 Explanation	Support in Part	The explanation provides a direction on the outcome for rural areas. This is an uncomfortable fit in the Urban Form and Development chapter.	Add new standalone topic on Rural Areas.
UFD—PR1 — Principal reasons	Support in Part	The principal reasons provide a direction on the outcome for rural areas. This is an uncomfortable fit in the Urban Form and Development chapter.	Add new standalone topic on Rural Areas.
UFD-AER11	Support in Part	The anticipated environmental result is an uncomfortable fir within the chapter on Urban Form and Development and relates only to some narrow aspect of the matters covered in this chapter that are related to rural areas.	Add new standalone topic on Rural Areas.

