

## **Submitter 92 - SNA hearing presentation**

### **Pairatahi Holdings Limited, Gary Leslie**

Good morning / afternoon Commissioners. My name is Gary Leslie, our farm is located in the foothills of the Ruahine Ranges, west of Ongaonga. Consisting of approximately 1300ha of rolling to steep country. We have owned the property since August last year and have run up to 1000 cattle while converting part of the property into plantation forestry.

This includes a neighbouring and adjoining property purchased earlier this year that includes SNA 119.

I would like to have all SNAs removed from my property, as per submission S92.001, Pairatahi Holdings Ltd.

I also support all the recommendation of the S42A Report to remove some SNAs from my land for the reasons given in that report.

Additionally I am seeking the removal of SNA 119 on the recently acquired land, for the same reasons.

#### **REMOVAL OF ALL SNAs FROM MY PROPERTY**

I believe the submission I lodged to the PDP was a general objection to the SNA designations effecting our farm property at 15 Alder Rd, Hinerua. I had formally requested to be heard at Hearing 1 but I was steered away by a planning officer at CHBDC, saying that my objection was a mapping issue and Hearing 6 was where I needed to be.

I would still like to address the wider issues. All proposed SNA designations on our property effect the use and future use of our land, and our property rights in relation to that land. This has various implications, more serious, long term and unpredictable in nature as policies are reviewed and changed over time.

Notwithstanding, reserving my rights to challenge and appeal, I am presenting here my bottom line compromise that I could live with which is acceptance of S42A recommendations AND additionally removal of SNA 119 from the recently acquired adjoining property for similar reasons.

#### **THE REMOVAL OF SOME SNAs FROM MY PROPERTY**

The Section 42A report recommends accepting the removal of some or part of SNAs identified on my property, but not all. Various reasons include areas primarily grazed, exotic pastureland, exotic tree land, areas without risk or threat to indigenous fauna species regularly using these areas, indigenous vegetation which is dead and areas which have low biodiversity values. Specifically:

I support the removal of those parts of SNA123 as set out in the s42A Report.

I support the removal of that part of SNA1 as set out in the s42A Report.

I commissioned Forbes Ecology, Dr Adam Forbes, to undertake an ecological assessment of SNA123 and a portion of SNA1 prior to the S42A report being released. This report dated 22 February 2022, is attached as Appendix 1 however Dr Forbes had a narrower brief to that portion of the SNA's that were spray effected and didn't go as far as Gerry Kessels and the S42A recommendations and I make it clear that I accept the S42A Report and its recommendations and reasons.

Dr Forbes report has provided a methodology to help me assess SNA 119 on a neighbouring property that I purchased in July 2022. I have assessed SNA 119 against CHBDC ecological significance criteria leaning heavily on my learnings from Dr Adam Forbes. My assessment of SNA 119 and report is attached as Appendix 2.

SNA119 is 3.3ha of primarily grazed, exotic pastureland, exotic tree land, areas without risk or threat to indigenous fauna species regularly using these areas, indigenous vegetation which is dead and areas which have low biodiversity values.

Given the low rankings for criteria 2, 3 and 7, the non-significance of the remaining criteria and the effect of previous accidental spraying, it is recommended that the triangular-shaped polygon of SNA119 be deleted from Council's SNA network.

I am asking for the removal of the triangular shaped SNA 119 from the Council's SNA network.

## **CONCLUSION**

While I would like to see all SNAs removed from my property, I support the s42A Report's recommendation to remove parts of SNA1 and SNA 123.

I recommend and request that SNA119 is removed.

These are what I consider my 'bottom line' amendments to accept, support and move forward with the PDP.