

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

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Submitter 600 / Further Submitter 1132

Proposed Queenstown Lakes District Plan – Historic Heritage

Summary of Evidence on behalf of Federated Farmers of New Zealand

My name is David Cooper. I am a Senior Policy Advisor for Federated Farmers of New Zealand. I have a Bachelor of Commerce in Economics and a Master of Arts in Politics.

Proposed Historic Heritage Chapter

Federated Farmers is supportive of the overall approach proposed for the Historic Heritage chapter. We recognise that there is a need to manage and protect historic heritage within the District. We also recognise this requires identifying and offering some form of protection to those historic heritage values. This is important from a plan user's perspective so that there is clarity around the values being protected, and the responsibilities of resource users.

At the same time, from a farming perspective it is important that protection of historic heritage values does not adversely and unreasonably impact on or hinder primary production activity and values.

As a result we support the purpose proposed for the Chapter, in that it is designed to promote the sustainable management of the District's historic heritage features.

Federated Farmers has specifically supported proposed Objective 26.5.2, which seeks to "provide for the sustainable use of historic heritage features", and subsequent policies. We consider it is important for the plan to provide for sustainable use, rather than simply attempting to 'protect' these values. We consider that sustainable use and enjoyment can in fact be hindered by an overly protective approach, and that sustainable use can in fact underpin the maintenance of these values, both socially and economically.

We also support the specific exclusion of farm track access, fencing, firebreaks and public use tracks in the Heritage landscape matters outlined in Activity Standards 26.6.21. Farm tracks and fencing are important and expected farm practices with no significant adverse impacts on heritage landscapes. As a result it is important these are excluded from the heritage landscape activity standards.