

Proposed Southland Water and Land Plan

Frequently asked questions

What are further submissions?

For any notified plan, once the initial submission period has closed, the council must summarise and publicly notify the decisions requested by submitters. Then there is an opportunity to make further submissions.

A further submission must be limited to a matter in support of or in opposition to a relevant submission. You may make a further submission if:

- you represent a relevant aspect of the public interest; or
- you have an interest in the proposed Southland Water and Land Plan greater than the interest that the general public has; or
- you represent the local authority.

The further submissions period is a statutory requirement under the Resource Management Act, which sets out specific timeframes.

When do further submissions close?

Submissions must be received by **5pm, Monday 19th December**. Contact us on 0800 76 88 45 for more information.

The further submissions period has strict timeframes on it under the Resource Management Act.

Why are further submissions important?

This period is for people to support or oppose the submissions received earlier this year. It is not an opportunity to raise new ideas or concerns. Submitters will need to indicate which submissions they support or oppose and why. They don't need to go through every decision requested in the 898 submissions, but can select the ones that they feel strongly about.

What happens after the further submission period closes on the 19th December?

Next year, all the original submissions and the further submissions will be considered by the hearing panel. The hearings will get underway mid-year. This is the time when those submitters that indicated they wanted to be heard, have the opportunity to speak to the panel. The hearings are a public process and any person is able to attend, even if they are not speaking.

How can I make a further submission?

Please use the form available on our website or in the council offices and libraries. You can submit your written or electronic form by email, policy@es.govt.nz, or post it to Southland Water and Land Plan, Environment Southland, Private Bag 90116, Invercargill 9840.

Alternatively, submit your views online using our online portal. There you can browse through all the submissions, the summary of decisions requested document and the plan. Go to www.es.govt.nz and follow the links.

Under the Act, anyone making a further submission must provide a copy to those submitters they have either supported or opposed.

Additional background:

What is the proposed Southland Water and Land Plan?

The Southland Water and Land Plan is a statutory document that aims to halt any further decline in water quality by placing controls on activities carried out on land, and in, on and under water and includes policies and rules for extracting/taking freshwater, discharging to freshwater, and discharging to land. It defines what can be done without resource consent, what will require consent, and what is prohibited (which means resource consent cannot be applied for).

In addition, the Plan supports Environment Southland's continuing work to educate, advise and assist the community to maintain and improve Southland's water bodies, for example through the successful Focus Activity Farm Plan programme.

How do I find out more?

Download a copy of the plan and supporting information from our website, www.es.govt.nz or give us a call on 0800 76 88 45.

There are lots of ways to be involved.

- We are currently inviting further submissions (until 19th December 2016). You can lodge your further submission using the form provided, or using our online portal.
- Keep up to date with the project by signing up to the *Water and Land 2020 & Beyond* project e-newsletter through our website www.es.govt.nz/waterandland/.
- As we make progress we'll add new information, factsheets and videos to our website. Check it out and tell us what you think and what you'd like to see there.
- To get some free one-on-one advice for your property, including how you might implement good management practices specific to the physiographic zones on your property, call one of our land sustainability officers.
- Talk to your neighbours about the work that's happening around water and land, and catchment limit setting. Encourage them to get involved too.

Process

