

Brief of Evidence

A & C Rushton 11 Patiki St, Whangarei Submission 500

We do not support Submission 92 changes which covers the area identified in map 17.

Clause 89 states that although Fraser “considers areas of exotic weeds and manuka have been innappropriately included” and ‘the Submisson 92 changes are intended to exclude such areas’, the area is still far to large. The weed vegetation covers a huge area as shown by Rushton map 4, which if these were removed would expose a large area of exposed soil and be ‘non-green’.

Mr Farrow considers in clause 87 that “the remaining overlay is an integral visual part of the adjacent bush ... even though it many contain exotic species”. This statement ignores the meaning of ONL – Outstanding Natural Landscape, where in this case Natural infers ‘Native’. Native species is not ‘Exotic’ so including exotics as the component to part of ONL goes against its intent. Exotic is exotic, native is native, so exotic cannot be ‘an integral part of the adjacent bush’.

We propose that the ONL area be restricted to where mature stands of native trees are currently growing.

Photographs of the area showing the significant area of exotic species coverage will be available at the hearing.