

# URGENT NOTICE - Council changes threaten private property rights

**The Northland Regional Council (NRC) is currently “consulting” with the community about controls to limit what you can and can’t do on your own private property.**

The NRC has taken on this new initiative after the Whangarei District Council (WDC) twice failed to do so following strong public opposition. Their first attempt was in 2006, which at the time local MP Phil Heatley described as... *“an appalling abuse of planning powers”*.

He went on to say... *“Council staff are downgrading the freedoms of private landowners simply by drawing lines on paper. These are lines drawn by 22-year old graduates straight out of university who have no comprehension of how the real world works.”*

In 2011 the WDC again tried to impose their restrictive controls over arbitrarily drawn “outstanding” landscapes. That too failed. They backed down after being confronted by hostile landowners.

It’s now July 2012 and councils are once again proposing to designate large areas of land for protection, from you! As Phil Heatley stated in 2006,

should they succeed landowners are likely to face restrictions on such everyday rural activities as fencing, minor land clearance, animal stocking, fertiliser use and building.

Cr Ian Walker from the NRC, who once championed private property rights on behalf of farmers, was reported as saying their proposal was a “win, win”. We fail to see how anyone wins when rights and freedoms are taken from private property owners and given to bureaucrats and planners.

Unfortunately we must now for the third time make a stand against the relentless environmental activists working within our local councils, and do what councillors have consistently failed to do, and that is to stand up on behalf of private landowners.

The Landowners Coalition is committed to fighting this latest attack on private property rights. You are invited to hear more at a public meeting to be held at Forum North, on Tuesday the 24th of July at 7.30pm. Submission forms will be available. This madness will only be stopped if you join us and stand up for your rights.

- Bob Syron, Convenor, Landowners Coalition, ph 0274 737 914.

## FIND OUT MORE - PUBLIC MEETING 24 JULY, 7.30pm

Where: Cafler Suite, Forum North, Whangarei. Contact 0274 737 914