

**IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT AT
AT CHRISTCHURCH**

ENV-2025-CHC-000110

**I TE KOTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA
KI ŌTAUTAHI**

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of an appeal under clause 14(1) of the First Schedule of
the Act and pursuant to Section 274 of the Act

BETWEEN **BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Appellant

AND **THE TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN COMMITTEE**

Respondent

**NOTICE OF FEDERATED FARMERS OF NEW ZEALAND
INCORPORATED'S WISH TO BE PARTY TO PROCEEDINGS**

2 February 2026



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TO: The Registrar of the Environment Court at Christchurch

AND TO: Buller District Council (**Appellant**); and
the Te Tai o Poutini Plan Committee (**Respondent**).

1. Federated Farmers of New Zealand Incorporated (**Federated Farmers**) gives notice pursuant to section 274 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**) that it wishes to be a party to the following proceedings:

Buller District Council v Te Tai o Poutini Plan Committee ENV-2025-CHC-000110 (**the Appeal**).

2. Federated Farmers has an interest in the proceedings that is greater than the interest that the general public has. The subject matter of the proceedings is a matter of interest to farmers who are affected by land use controls that impact their ability to farm. Federated Farmers is a primary sector organisation that represents the interests of farmers and rural communities.
3. Federated Farmers is not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308C or 308CA of the RMA.
4. Federated Farmers is interested in Appeal point 5A of the proceedings which deals with the use of the Threatened Environment Classification (**TEC**) as a consideration for indigenous vegetation clearance in Rule ECO-R1.1(iii) of the Te Tai o Poutini Plan.
5. Federated Farmers supports the relief sought, for the reasons listed by Appellant. The relief sought is also supported for the following reasons:
 - (a) The TEC is a broad, national-scale modelling layer designed for high-level biodiversity prioritisation, not for regulating site-specific land-use effects; and

- (b) TEC categories refer to how much of a land environment remains nationally, not the conservation status of a specific area of vegetation. Using TEC confuses the threat status of land environments (a broad national statistic) with the actual ecological value of vegetation on the site.
6. Federated Farmers agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.



K L Sannazzaro
Senior Policy Advisor

Dated: 2 February 2026

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Advice

If you have any questions about this notice, contact the Environment Court in Auckland, Wellington, or Christchurch.