



Healthy Rivers
PLAN FOR CHANGE

Wai Ora
HE RAUTAKI WHAKAPAIPAI



TŪWHARETOA
MĀORI TRUST BOARD



Outline of Waikato Regional Council dairy farming research

Presentation to Collaborative Stakeholder Group

Workshop #3, 6 June 2014



Purpose

- See an example of how the Kaine Framework has been applied
- Understand the type of information that is gathered using this approach
- Start to think about how this information can be useful for policy design

Approach



- Qualitative interviews
 - Understanding decision-making

- Quantitative survey and farm context analysis
 - How many farmers, range of reasons why or why not
 - Test identified relationships between practices and key parts of the farm system

Example of findings: standing off



Example of findings: standing off

- Key factors varied between farms so different strategies were used to manage pugging
- Wetter soils required frequent monitoring and standing off
- Free draining soils could be managed through grazing rotation



Example of findings: standing off

- Main factors influencing standing off
 - Proneness to pugging
 - Severity of pugging
- Main factors influencing pugging
 - Drainage
 - Soil type
 - Rainfall
 - Topography

*“...free draining soils so don't need a stand off pad.
Move cows around, get up early to move them.
Experience tells me what I need to do”*

(Upper Waikato, pumice soil)

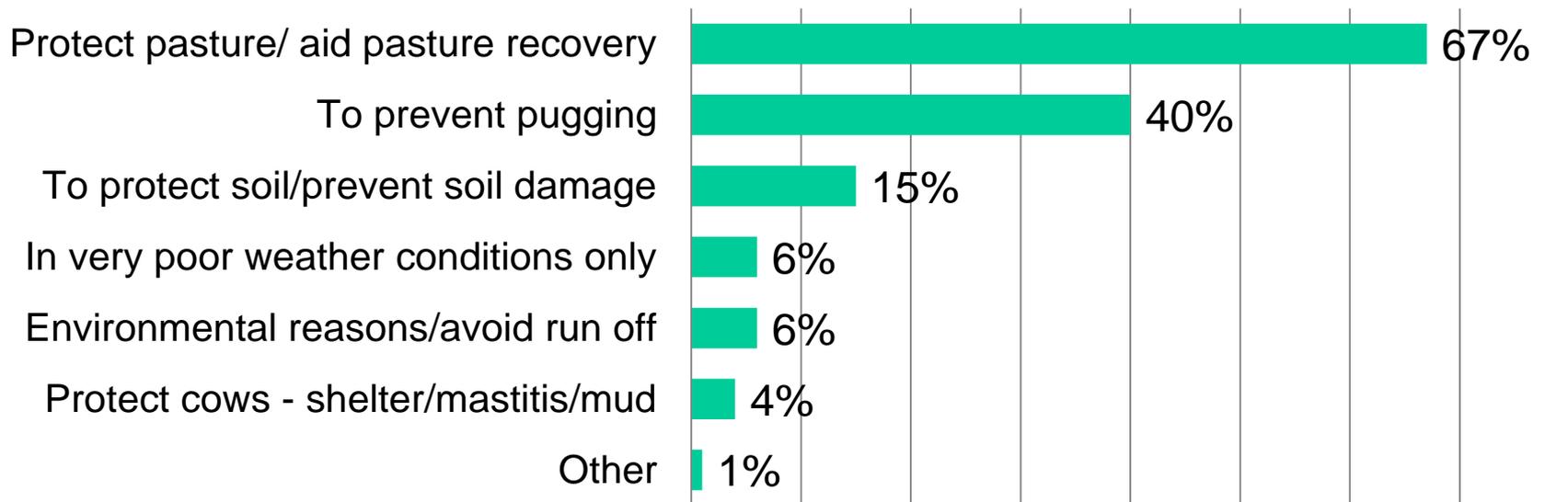
*“I hate pugging, pasture won't return so going to be
non productive land...”*

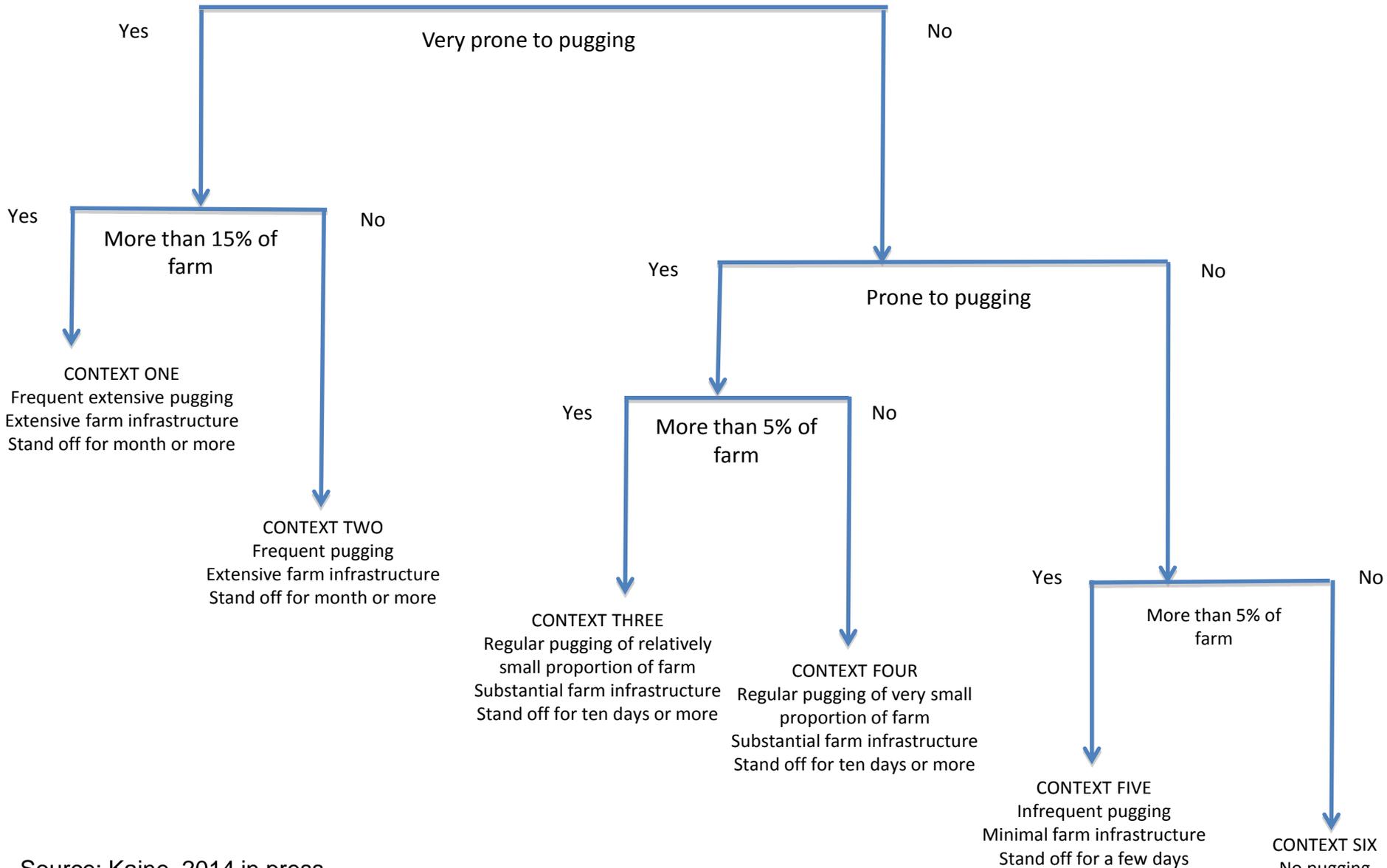
(Hauraki, gley soil)

Survey results - standing off

Reasons for standing off

Base: Farmers who stand off n= 319





Source: Kaine, 2014 in press

Key messages

- Different farm contexts result in management practice choice based on particular needs
- A requirement to implement a particular practice or technology standard would have varying impacts on different farms

Key messages

- Reasons for adopting a practice because it will meet a policy outcome may not align with the reasons why farmers currently do, or do not, use that practice
- If a farmer is prevented from using a practice or technology they normally use, or is compelled to use one they don't normally use, they may experience significant impacts

References

- Davies A and Topperwien K 2011. Dairy farming grazing management practices in the Waikato region. Waikato Regional Council Technical Report 2011/17. Hamilton, Waikato Regional Council.
- Kaine G 2014 in press. Farm context and winter grazing practices in the Waikato Dairy Industry. Waikato Regional Council Technical Report 2014/32. Hamilton, Waikato Regional Council.
- Versus Research Ltd and Davies A 2012. Waikato Regional Council dairy winter grazing survey 2011. Waikato Regional Council Technical Report 2012/30. Hamilton, Waikato Regional Council.