

Climate Change and Landowner Opportunity



Guy Salmon
NZ Landcare Trust
Moutere Hills
1 July 2021



- ❖ A time of change and uncertainty
- ❖ Difficult for farmers, growers, foresters
- ❖ Long term investing needs certainty, stability
- ❖ Catchment groups can get results, build security – and enable opportunity

Decade of change 2021- 2030



- ❖ We can't talk about compliance today, but we can foresee threats and opportunities
- ❖ Govt to set emissions budgets; review in 2024
- ❖ He Waka Eke Noa; emissions pricing decision
- ❖ Science on methane, regen ag & WAIS
- ❖ Disruption by alternative proteins – RethinkX
- ❖ Taskforce on Scaling Voluntary Carbon Markets – 15x scale-up \$50 billion/yr by 2030
- ❖ Govt's Fit for a Better World strategy; MLA

Tackling nitrous oxide – offsets will play an essential part

- ❖ Nitrous oxide is 10% of NZ total emissions – sourced across all agricultural activities
- ❖ It is a leakage by-product of the nitrogen cycle – essential for plant growth
- ❖ More efficient farming, lower stocking rates & regenerative farming techniques can reduce leakage, but offsets will also be necessary.



Tackling methane



- ❖ Methane is 42% of NZ's total emissions
- ❖ Sources are burps; manure; and landfills
- ❖ Two different impacts: (a) non-cumulative impact on peak temperature; (b) but also accumulates in the ocean, heating it and driving break-up of West Antarctic icesheet
- ❖ Big US-UK research project reporting 2024
- ❖ Uncertain remedies; may advantage feedlots
- ❖ Certification relies in part on offsets.

A way forward?

- ❖ Catchment groups can generate local solutions for climate problems
- ❖ They can do this by promoting climate-friendly practices, and by co-operating on finding land for forest offsets- a mix of pines, natives, and special-purpose exotics
- ❖ They can also enable their members to generate premiums from certified, climate-positive products.

