

I've lived in the Ag Reserve since 1986 and seen it evolve slowly with several large fights to keep the emphasis on successful farming and not development. Hopefully we have learned enough to look carefully at what the end result of this legislation will be and what it should be intended to be, given the success of the Ag Reserve.

I am particularly concerned about input from the existing farms, the size and impact of the structures, especially on septic areas. What kind of inflow of people is looked for? How are roads set to handle people and the services/deliveries? How is the septic/well situation going to work.

I feel it is very important to highlight the best soils, locations for farming and contiguous areas to move equipment. In addition, we should locate which areas are close to existing infrastructure and population and might be able to handle additional strain.

Farmland once lost is lost forever, we rely on our public servants to be forward looking when it comes to protection of finite resources. Balanced agritourism policy that protects the very farms people want to visit is worth the care and attention to get it right. This ZTA is has been the wrong approach from the start and needs to be withdrawn. Commercial lodging is not farming.

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