

OUR WINS SAVE FARMERS THOUSANDS ... with membership just \$1.22 a day*



for example

QUARTER OF A BILLION MORE FOR RURAL BROADBAND

Federated Farmers intensive work with the Government has seen it announce new targets for rural broadband of \$300 million, up from the \$48 million initially proposed. **Due to lobbying from Federated Farmers, rural New Zealand will receive quarter of a billion more.**

INTEREST RATES PRESSURE BUILDS ON BANKS

Federated Farmers pressure on the banks pushed them into passing on cuts to the OCR. With rural debt totalling \$45 billion, a one percent fall in interest rates **saves the agricultural sector \$450 million.**

BIOSECURITY COMPROMISE

Federated Farmers successfully lobbied against planned staffing reductions in Biosecurity Operations and will **continue to fight for improvements in biosecurity** that threaten any of our farming industries.

ENVIRONMENT SOUTHLAND WIN SAVES FARMERS \$1040 EACH

Environment Southland has decreased its dairy differential, **saving each of the region's dairy farmers, on average, \$1040.** The Federation is now gearing up to take on the proposed water rate, which was deferred until next year.

TARGETED RATES WIN SAVES ROTORUA DAIRY FARMERS UP TO \$7,733

For the second time in three years, Rotorua farmers have successfully convinced Environment Bay of Plenty to drop its targeted dairy rate. While the rate has been deferred, **each dairy farmer will save, on average, \$4,912 in 2009 and \$7,733 in 2012.**

TB FUNDING REINSTATED

In a victory for commonsense, the Federation has convinced Environment Waikato, Environment Canterbury and Environment Southland to **reinstate pest control funding** so that these regions remain Tb free.

HIGH COUNTRY FARMERS: 1, HOOK AND BULLET: 0

Fish and Game New Zealand members have been left facing a six figure bill after its abortive High Court challenge over the property rights of high country farmers. The High Court is due to award costs against Fish and Game shortly.

SKILLED MIGRANT WORKERS' SAVED

After intense lobbying by Federated Farmers, **skilled dairy workers have been maintained on the Immediate Skills Shortage List**, ensuring dairy farmers have access to migrant workers so they can farm efficiently.

NO TO DIESEL TAX

In response to Federated Farmers lobbying, the **Government will not be implementing a diesel tax.** A diesel tax would have required our members to go through a costly refund process to claim back the tax on their off-road diesel use. This is on top of the \$3,000 saving per tank by last year's stopped proposal of the ERMA rules.

EIGHTEEN COF OFFSITE STATIONS SAVED FROM CLOSURE

Federated Farmers successfully lobbied the New Zealand Transport Agency to **keep open 18 out of the 54 planned sites to be closed.**

ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY'S WATER MANAGEMENT CHARGE POSTPONED

Thanks to intense lobbying, **ECan has postponed the introduction of a water management charge.** Canterbury farmers already pay heavily for water.

TIME FOR TOURISM TO PAY ITS OWN WAY

Federated Farmers has convinced the Tasman and Waitaki district councils to **introduce a targeted tourism rate.** For too long, tourism businesses have been cross subsidised by farmers but this sets a much needed precedent for all councils to follow.

CHATHAM ISLANDS' FARMERS GAIN TAX RELIEF PACKAGE

The Federation worked closely with Inland Revenue to secure a much needed **tax relief and income assistance package** for the farmers of the Chatham Islands.

WATERVIEW AND WATER STORAGE

After Federated Farmers lobbied for a review of this \$3.2 billion tunnel project the Government listened. **This saw the cost reduced to \$1.5 billion.** The Federation has always argued that water storage would be a far better option than a tunnel under Auckland. At the 2009 Jobs Summit, the Prime Minister agreed and has made water storage infrastructure a major priority.

MORE WINS FOR FARMERS

- **Federated Farmers put Kiwi dollar under the microscope.**
- **Whangarei District Council ends GE consultation madness.**
- **Hurunui rates increase by just 0.30 percent.**
- **Whakatane farmers have early say on district plan.**
- **Big trucks to increase productivity.**
- **T150 campaign continues.**

* Based on full Farm/Business rate of \$444.00 + GST per annum.