

# Water Conservation Order: Te Waikoropupū Springs and Associated Waterbodies

**Submission Reference no:** 535

**Sarah Lightbody**

**Submitter Type:** Individual

**Source:** Email

## Overall Notes:

### Clause

The specific parts of the application that my/our submission relates to are:

### Notes

I support the Forest & Bird submission to grant the application. In particular I support measures for the wider catchment which will protect: the water clarity and purity the scientific, ecological and biodiversity values habitat for indigenous flora and fauna cultural values wild, scenic and natural characteristics My submission relates to all of the application. I support the application. I seek that the Special Tribunal recommends granting the order to the Minister of the Environment. I do not want to present my views at the public hearing.

### Clause

What is/are your view/s on the application?

### Position

Support

### Notes

I clearly remember visiting Te Waikoropupu Springs years ago and being absolutely amazed and entranced with the clarity of the water. I felt so proud to live in a country where we value our natural environment and look after it and where we have many natural treasures intact and in pristine condition. SO I am shocked that the nitrate levels are rising over the last 2 years due to intensive irrigation in the catchment above. It is vital that we are kaitiaki for these springs and the delicate ecosystem that lives in all parts of the spring. Given there is nothing else like it, I think it is fair to say it is likely to not survive damage well. We cannot risk damaging this ecosystem and having it never return to the way it was - and should be. Keeping the springs safe from nitrate damage is so much more important long term than irrigating land to grow more for people to consume. If the land needs such intensive irrigation then it is not good land for that type of production - we need to use our land wisely, thinking about the big picture and taking into account ALL the environmental impacts. Our environment has limits that we need to respect. Let's not be a country that is greedy for production in marginal areas over protecting the natural world. We need to be 1kaitiaki, or our Mokopuna will inherit a poor version of Papatuanuku.

### Clause

I/we seek the following recommendation from the Special Tribunal to the Minister for the Environment

### Position

Grant the order

### Notes

### Clause

Would you like to present your views on this submission to the Special Tribunal at a public hearing?

### Position

I/we do not want to present my/our views at a public hearing

### Notes