

Water Conservation Order: Te Waikoropupū Springs and Associated Waterbodies

Submission Reference no: 1161

Sally-Anne Neal, **David Scotland Limited**

Submitter Type: Organisation

Source: Web Form

Overall Notes:

Clause

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

Notes

See below.

Clause

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

Position

Neutral

Notes

As land owners/users of water we do not understand fully the effects that the proposed WCO would have on our farming operation. The clarity and water quality of Te Waikoropupu Springs is remarkable. We recognised the sacredness of the springs. Is it necessary to include the waters of the entire Takaka Catchment in the WCO (See Point 3, Draft WCO)? Should only Te Waikoropupu Springs be included in the Water Conservation Order? Would it be more effective for the TDC to continue to manage the quality and quantity of water in the Takaka Catchment working with the recommendations and understandings of FLAG - collaboratively? This would be a more responsive and adaptive approach to future water quality and use, and at the same time working with existing users. Furthermore, given that much of the water ways in the Takaka Catchment have been modified over time it is unclear how the waters would be preserved in their natural state (see Point 5, Draft WCO). We dairy farm alongside the Waingaro River. We have farmed this property for nearly 13 years. We treasure the river and the life within it, on it and alongside it. We see fresh water crays, whio, and fish. We swim in our swimming hole that is downstream of the farm most days in the warmer months. On the farm the children enjoy finding eels and visiting the glow worms. In the last 13 years we have worked with the now previous owners to continue the fencing and bridging of waterways which are now complete. Our most recent project began in October - we planted 360 native plants around our pond. In June we will plant the remaining 640. This pond is used for kayaking and launching rafts and a resting place for shags. There are large areas of native trees on the property. They are home to tui, wood pigeons, wekas, pukekos, fantails, moreporks, the occasional white heron and more. We carefully manage our stock to avoid damage to the pasture. Fertilising of pasture is planned prudently. We will continue to refine our farming practise to play our part in maintaining the health of our rivers and Te Waikoropupu Springs.

Clause

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

Position

Neutral

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