

Water Conservation Order: Te Waikoropupū Springs and Associated Waterbodies

Submission Reference no: 976

As above, **Sharon Anne Campbell**

Submitter Type: Individual

Source: Web Form

Overall Notes:

Clause

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

Notes

All

Clause

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

Position

Support

Notes

Te Waikoropupū Springs and Associated Waterbodies are some of the most pristine waterways in New Zealand, and the world yet here we are debating whether to protect them. There ought not to even be the need for this type of forum, it ought to be patently obvious to any right minded person that it's time our government (No matter which party) stopped the rape of our resources by local and foreign business and farming interests. To not protect Te Waikoropupū Springs and Associated Waterbodies would be unconscionable, as to not do so would leave them vulnerable to pollution from any business interests that may try to exploit their potential, to make a quick dollar. Given that there appears to be research which informs us that it can take 3-4 years for water to seep through the aquifers to reach the springs, the risk of pollution from business and farming would be incalculable, and the impact may not be obvious until it was too late. When thinking about the springs one must take into account the wider value. Will a few farm incomes and a water bottling plant owned by a foreign interest (Who will access this incredible water source for a pittance), bring more revenue into the Golden Bay area than the thousands of tourist's who visit the Golden Bay area each year. There is also the cultural and spiritual significance of the springs to the local iwi = Waitapu means 'Sacred Water' and the springs are seen by local iwi as Wai Ora; the Water of Life, which is the purest form of freshwater. Therefore to permit further desecration of the springs and the surrounding waterways by business and farming interests, who see them only as a way to line their pockets with a quick and cheap source of profit, would reduce them to nothing more than another area where the river flow is reduced to a minimum, and the spring (River, stream, or lake etc) becomes totally unusable, which is totally disrespectful of their cultural significance. Maori were here long before any western or other interests that may choose to pillage these beautiful waterways, let them be the guiding force in the preservation and conservation, by granting the highest for of protection these pristine springs and waterways.

Clause

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

Position

Grant the order

Notes

We have lost too many of our waterways to pollution and overuse, it's time to begin to realise how valuable our resources are and protect them before it is too late.

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