

Water Conservation Order: Te Waikoropupū Springs and Associated Waterbodies

Submission Reference no: 1814

Margaret McEwing

Submitter Type: Individual

Source: Email

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 support the application for a Water Conservation Order to protect the crystal clear waters of Te Waikoropupū Springs. Having visited Te Waikoropupū Springs as a child I was struck by the clarity of the water. It is vital that this water clarity and purity is protected. Growing up in Canterbury and enjoying swimming in any river as a child I am now deeply saddened that my own children are now unable to do this as most rivers have been slowly and steadily polluted by nitrate runoff and so much water has been taken for irrigation that the flow is stagnant and the river unsafe for swimming. It is vital that the few pure water sources left in New Zealand be protected. The Tasman District Council's proposition to allow 70 percent more irrigation in the area that feeds the catchment will surely pollute these crystal clear waters. They are a national treasure, made even more precious by the scarcity of such springs and by being the Southern Hemisphere's largest freshwater springs. The Resource Management Act is very clearly meant to be used to protect such precious taonga as this. Kaitiakitanga is already acknowledge in legislation and is defined as follows: ... the exercise of guardianship by the tangata whenua of an area in accordance with tikanga Māori in relation to natural and physical resources, and include the ethic of stewardship (section 2 RMA) There should not need to be any debate about this - it is the responsibility of those in power to protect resources like the Te Waikoropupū Springs for future generations to come. Already testing over the last two years shows nitrate levels in the main spring are rising. Please don't let this continue.

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

The submitter have elected to withhold their personal details from publication.