

Water Conservation Order: Te Waikoropupū Springs and Associated Waterbodies

Submission Reference no: 136

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Submitter Type: Individual

Source: Web Form

Clause

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

Notes

Protection of Te Waikoropupū Springs, the Takaka river and related aquifers

Clause

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

Position

Support

Notes

It is of paramount importance to preserve the Springs and Takaka river from further degradation as consequence of Intensive irrigation and dairy farming.

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

Position

Grant the order

Notes

I went to Te Waikoropupū Springs on my first trip as a tourist to New Zealand more than 10 years ago which were identified in my travel guide as a landmark not to be missed (the clearest and purest water of the world!). Since then, I came every year to New Zealand first as a visitor and now I am a resident since a few years. Whenever I have visitors, as a proud "local", I always take them to Te Waikoropupū Springs. However, since 10 years I observe a continuous and probably irreversible degradation of the waterways in New Zealand, mainly due to a massive - and sometimes irresponsible- increase of intensive irrigation as well as heavy pollution from pesticides and dairy farming. Catching a trout with a fly on a day fishing is now becoming the exception! When I was made aware that the TDC is considering to further increase the allocation rights for irrigation from this pristine water, I could not just shake my head in despair as usual but had to react with this submission. It is time to start to protect the jewels which are our springs and rivers and particularly Te Waikoropupū Springs and keep them a famous landmark of this country. There are only a few places left where Kiwis can be proud of their water quality and the Pupu springs are one of them. It's time to stop chasing the mirage of the GDP and start considering what is the real value and attractiveness of this country.

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

Notes

It will depend on location and availability.