

Water Conservation Order: Te Waikoropupū Springs and Associated Waterbodies

Submission Reference no: 874

Judith Hilda Spencer

Submitter Type: Individual

Source: Web Form

Overall Notes:

Clause

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

Notes

Along with the application made by Nati Tama Ki Te Waipounamu Trust and Andrew Yuill for a Water Conservation Order (the Order) for Te Waikoropupu Springs/Arthur Marble Aquifer and associated water bodies, I recommend that the Special Tribunal to the Minister for the Environment grant the order.

Clause

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

Position

Support

Notes

Clause

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

Position

Grant the order with changes

Notes

That steps be taken to reduce the nitrate pollution entering the aquifer as a result of intensive dairy farming Steps be taken to replenish the reducing levels of dissolved oxygen in the aquifer as a result of intensive dairy farming Steps be taken to reduce the levels of silt washing into the aquifer following heavy rain as a result of intensive dairy farming Steps be taken to reduce the length of the extended intensive dairy season which is causing faeces and nitrate to wash into the aquifer during the heavy autumn rains Very urgent steps be taken to reduce the size of intensive dairy herds fertilizer used in the Takaka valley be reduced and regulated 21stC learning tells us that there are alternatives to drowning land in fertilizer and pesticides. That intensive farmers be encouraged to follow the example of sustainable farmers who have reduced herd sizes, reduced fertiliser use, sown heritage grasses, farm without irrigation and yet are still able to make a healthy income. Also, an incentive system and rebranding of what constitutes a 'farmer' and what is merely a profit-taker using all NZers' precious resources - water is necessary to life. And if there is a mindset in NZ that seeks to take/damage/destroy our pure water resources goodness knows how little respect they have for our already less than pristine water and land resources. Farmers need to pay pollution levies; they have no responsibility for their actions otherwise. That no further water rights be granted to intensive farmers and after a 5 year period all water rights be reduced. I ask that the tiny creatures and bugs (stygofauna) within the aquifer be fully protected. It is the stygofauna who clean the waters and create the crystal clear flow we see at Te Waikoropupu. Too much nitrate pollution and not enough dissolved oxygen will kill the stygofauna. I ASK THAT THIS PRECIOUS ECOSYSTEM BE FULLY PROTECTED.

Clause

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

Position

I/we do want to present my/our views at a public hearing

Notes