

# Water Conservation Order: Te Waikoropupū Springs and Associated Waterbodies

**Submission Reference no:** 676

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**Submitter Type:** Organisation

**Source:** Web Form

## Overall Notes:

### Clause

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

### Position

Support but prefer to preserve different features and qualities of the water bodies

### Notes

We support the concept of a conservation order, but oppose proposed restrictions on agriculture. We are dairy farmers in Hamama. It has been noted that water quality has improved in the last several years. This generation of farmers can take some credit for this. I am 3rd generation. My father (and Grandfather) used a hole under the cowshed to hold effluent (thomo). Most of this would have ended up in the aquifers. 18 years ago we stopped this. Since then, we have made more upgrades. Investments we have made in the past 6 years: Center pivot irrigation - lower application rates and leaching as noted on overseer. Installed soil moisture monitoring telemetry. Effluent storage - 30 days. Low application effluent application (Kline on timer and Pivot) Fenced creeks. Roughly 6 km of fencing. We have spent in excess of \$300,000 in the last 10 years on these mitigation's. The positive results are potentially coming through with lower nitrate test results. Farmers efforts need to be recognized (and celebrated). A majority of farmers respond to good science and public perception. The application does not give any credit to farmers efforts to date. Setting in stone, limiting future resource applications could very well make our business unviable to service the debt we have taken for environmental mitigation.

### Clause

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

### Position

Grant the order with changes

### Notes

### 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

### Clause

If others make a similiar submission, would you want to consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing?

### Position

Yes

### Notes