

Form 30
**Submission on publicly notified application for water conservation order
or for revocation or amendment of water conservation order**

Sections 205 and 216, Resource Management Act 1991

To: Special Tribunal - Hurunui River Water Conservation Order
c/- Alex Miller
Ministry for the Environment
PO Box 10362
Wellington 6143

Copy to: Hurunui River Water Conservation Order
c/- Maree Baker
Anderson Lloyd
Private Bag 1959
Dunedin 9054

Name of submitter: Peter THOMAS

This is a submission on an application from the *New Zealand and North Canterbury Fish and Game Councils and the New Zealand Recreational Canoeing Association* for a water conservation order for *Hurunui River*.

My submission covers and supports all of the application, but in particular relates to my personal association with the wonderful natural resource which is the Hurunui River and my deep belief that it should be protected from all development for the benefit of future generations. My association with the Hurunui river dates back to 1968 when I first fished this river to the outlet of Lake Sumner. I have continued to visit the river (including both the North and South Branches above and below Lake Sumner on numerous occasions over the past 40 years for fishing, hunting and tramping. The river then and remarkably still is, a world class brown trout fishery and is one of the finest and most productive fisheries of its type in the South Island. Any impoundment or extraction of water of, or from, the river will destroy this marvellous aesthetic and recreational asset and impact heavily on the economic values it currently generates from recreational use.

Having travelled all over the world I marvel that in this day and age we are so fortunate to have a wild river like the Hurunui so accessible to all and within such close proximity to the major urban area of Christchurch. The river and its catchment are a source of deep spiritual meaning to me. I am a Cantabrian and avid conservationist, trumper and fisherman. My outdoor experiences and conservation values were to a large degree formulated by my experiences on the Hurunui and its catchment and by the beauty of the associated landscapes. To this day, these remain one of my central touchstones or points of personal reference and are fundamental to the development of my personal values and conservation ethic. The river also has a special meaning to me as a source of precious memories – memories of fishing trips with close friends, most of whom have now sadly passed away but all of whom would have fought to the bitter end to save this

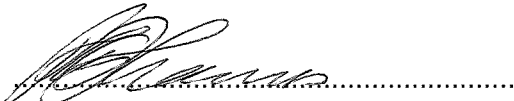
river from short sighted "development" and would have wholeheartedly supported this application. For me its protection will also help protect those special memories of wonderful times past with very fine men.

It is incumbent on the current generations of New Zealanders as stewards of our natural environment to ensure the protection of this marvellous natural asset so countless future generations of young new Zealanders can have similar experiences to mine and hold, as I do, this river as a special influence in their development and indeed, their life. Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission

I seek the following decision from the special tribunal:

Support of the application in its entirety and in particular, the protection of the outstanding angling sections of the Hurunui including the North and South Branches, tributaries, and sections of the main stream upstream of the Mandamus confluence.

I nominate Fish and Game to present in support of my submission.



Signature of submitter (or person authorised to sign on behalf of submitter)



Date 28 November 2008

(A signature is not required if you make your submission by electronic means.)

Address for service of
submitter:

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Avonhead

Christchurch.

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Fax/email:

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Contact person:

Peter THOMAS

Note to submitter

You must serve a copy of your submission on the applicant as soon as reasonably practicable after you have served your submission on the special tribunal.