

2 December 08

Special Tribunal-Hurunui River Water Conservation Order  
c/- Alex Miller  
Ministry for the Environment  
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Wellington 6143

Copy to:  
Hurunui river Water Conservation Order  
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From: Belinda McLean  
Secretary  
Forest & Bird NZ, Horowhenua Branch  
47 Te Manuao Rd  
Otaki 5512

This is a submission on an application from the *NZ and North Canterbury Fish and Game Councils* and *The NZ 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:

- Paragraphs 39-42 of the application, which summarises the outstanding amenity and intrinsic values of the waters, and
- Paragraphs 96-115 of the application, which addresses the outstanding recreational attributes of the Hurunui River.

On behalf of the 155 members of the Horowhenua Branch, I am writing in support of this water conservation order. Like many of our members, I have appreciated the beauty and natural attributes of the Hurunui River when camping in the area.

In particular, Forest and Bird members value the natural character of parts of the Hurunui, not only for the scenery, but for the important habitats it provides for native plants, birds, insects and fish. These intact habitats are now retained only in the ever-diminishing areas of the country which remain relatively wild and untouched, such as the Upper Hurunui River and its tributaries.

Along with other groups, many Forest and Bird members regularly tramp, botanise and bird watch and share their experiences both informally and more formally, therefore encouraging other New Zealanders to visit and appreciate such areas as this.

We believe that a water conservation order would benefit future generations of New Zealanders by helping to retain the Hurunui River and its tributaries, its scenic and recreational values and its flora and fauna in a relatively pristine state.

**Our group therefore strongly supports the application for the water conservation order as it has been sought.**

I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission. I nominate the NZRCA to present in support of my submission.



Belinda McLean  
Secretary  
NZ Forest & Bird, Horowhenua Branch

December 2, 2008-12-02

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