

**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; Steve Gerard

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 for a Water Conservation as set out by the applicants.

I work as a fishing guide of about 12 years experience, a fishing tackle shop owner and tourism booking operator for guided fishing trips.

The Hurunui River is very important recreational asset in its present form. It is hugely significant for the Guided Fishing industry and also for the local recreational anglers. It is undoubtedly in my opinion, one of the best of the remaining trout fisheries in Canterbury, and the closest quality trout fishery to Christchurch. The Hurunui is a special river, it is very scenic, its fishing is outstanding, and the quality of the fish is outstanding with the potential to produce trophy fish. Its upper reaches are the very type of river that the visiting overseas angler wants to experience and indeed travel from around the world to do so.

The area's the applicants seek to protect provide a variety of quality fishing water, offering diverse scenery and experiences, from quite remote to easily accessible, from braided rivers to gorgy sections. I can identify 3 significant sections of river; that part above Lake Sumner, the part from the Lake Sumner to the confluence with the South Branch and the South Branch itself as being particularly outstanding fisheries. The stretch of water below Lake Sumner is often one of the few quality river fisheries in the area remaining fishable after Nor West conditions cause other rivers to run dirty making it a very valuable asset.

Anglers and Guided parties of overseas anglers use this river from Christchurch, Hamner and the West Coast, access is by 4x4 and Helicopter.

I seek the following decision from the special tribunal:

I wish the Special Tribunal to grant the Water Conservation order as applied for in this application to protect the fisheries and the environment in its present form. Those angling sections of the Hurunui being protected in their current state, being the North and South Branches, tributaries, and

sections of the main stem upstream of the Mandamus confluence and also the lower river to maintain fish passage to the upper river

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

Steve Gerard

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

Date 8/12/2008

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

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submitter:

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Contact person: Steve Gerard

**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.

The special tribunal may require you to provide further information on your submission.