

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: alex.miller@mfe.govt.nz (ie: Special Tribunal - Hurunui River Water Conservation Order c/- Alex Miller, Ministry for the Environment, PO Box 10362, Wellington 6143)

CC: maree.baker@andersonloyd.co.nz (ie: legal counsel for the applicant)

Name of submitter:

Clare Margaret McLennan

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*.

The Applicants consider that the amenity and intrinsic values of the Hurunui River and its associated lakes and tributaries are nationally outstanding and should be recognized and sustained by a Water Conservation Order.

The Hurunui River and its associated lakes and tributaries are under increasing threat from major irrigation and hydro-electricity proposals. The Hurunui River needs robust and durable statutory protection to ensure that future generations are able to continue to experience its outstanding values.

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

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 address the outstanding recreational attributes of the Hurunui River.

My submission is:

I believe the Hurunui is an amazing river that is worthy of protection. It is the river where I have taught many people to kayak on and in which I learnt and perfected my own paddling in the early years.

Being so close to Christchurch, the Hurunui probably accounted for about 50% of my paddling time on the river in those early years since I was based in Christchurch. Had it not been there in its unaltered state I believe it is unlikely that I would have gained enough experience to go overseas and kayak in many countries and compete in competitions with many of the world's best kayakers at the TEVA extreme games in Italy and Extreme week in Voss, Norway. For

details see my blog <http://claremclennan.blogspot.com/search/label/Kayaking>. The experience and skills I have gained from these international experiences not only contribute to my kayaking skills but also cross over into the rest of my life making me a better manager and more a more caring member of my community.

Also there are many other rivers in near Christchurch but none have the combination of varied whitewater ideal for beginners (grade 2) and improvers (3) which run all through the summer. Also most of the other rivers are of a different nature with a continuous flow, and lack river features such as eddies, holes and waves which make the river more enjoyable to paddle. Learning to go in and out eddies is a basic skill that beginners need to learn so they can safely navigate rivers. It is also the same skill that needs perfecting in improvers if they wish to step up to grade four and become good enough to paddle the amazing rivers on the West Coast. So good eddies are one of the most important features on a river for kayaking.

In particular Maori gully, the grade III section, is a fine piece of water and deserves protection in it's own right. There simply are not enough rivers at this grade. Grade III is probably the grade that is most enjoyable paddling for a large number of people who call themselves kayakers and provides opportunities to practice skills for harder rivers in a relatively safe environment.

The Hurunui is an accessible, varied and user-friendly whitewater resource. No other large city in New Zealand has such a valuable river on its doorstep. If we are to encourage recreation and in particular adventure based training then we need to have opportunities to do such activities. I believe adventure based training provides an antidote to the stress of modern living. With our fast-paced lives and worry over petrol prices I believe it is increasingly important that the places we can do the activities are close to where we live. For these reasons I whole heartedly support the granting of the Hurunui Water Conservation Order.

I seek the following decision from the special tribunal:

I seek a decision from the tribunal to grant the Water Conservation Order for the Hurunui river

I wish (*or do not wish*) to be heard in support of my submission

I wish to be heard in support of my submission

* If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature of submitter (*or name if sent electronically, or person authorised to sign on behalf of submitter*)

Clare McLennan

Date

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Contact person: [<i>name and</i>	Clare McLennan

<i>designation, if applicable]</i>	
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Note to submitter

You must copy of your submission to the applicant as soon as reasonably practicable after you have served your submission on the special tribunal. If your submission is by electronic means, this is accomplished by CC-ing the applicant's legal counsel as at the top of this form.

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