

John Hower  
 P.O. Box 105 Lincoln  
 Christchurch 7640  
 10th Dec 2008

Special Tribunal - Hauraki  
 C/- Alex Miller  
 Ministry for the Environment  
 Wellington.

Dear Sir, I support the water conservation order to protect the Hauraki, its lakes and tributaries.

Since 1985 I have kayaked, canoed, rafted and also fished on all sections of the Hauraki.

I have witnessed a growth in recreational use of the Hauraki over the last 25 years, from having to organise a group of kayakers in advance, to being able to go the Maori Gutty alone and invariably finding other people to paddle with.

The upper reaches downstream to Maori Gutty offer challenging but non life threatening white water on which to enjoy and maintain kayaking skills, involving outdoors people of all levels, not exclusively elite paddlers. All sections from the headwaters to the sea can be accessed by both road and river craft are habitats for trout.

The moderate but challenging nature of the Hauraki, coupled with relative easy access, to which an increasingly large number of river users of all abilities take advantage of makes it outstanding in relation to South Island east coast rivers and probably unique.

I want the tribunal to approve the water conservation order.

I would like to speak to my submission at the hearing.

Sincerely,  
 John Hower  
 John Hower.

Copy to Hauraki Water Conservation Order  
 Andrew Lloyd  
 Private Bag 9089  
 Dunedin 9056

