

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

Name of submitter: Paul Henry Young

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 application seeks a water conservation order for the preservation and protection of the outstanding features of the Hurunui River including its Lakes, tributaries and contributing waters

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

The whole application

My submission is:

I oppose the order for the following reasons;

I am local farmer in the immediate area of the Hurunui River, farming around 1200 SU. Year after year I struggle for farming performance owing to the regular drought conditions that occur each summer. It is my opinion that we now experience quite serious drought conditions one year in three compared with one in seven to ten some 50years ago. The proposed water harvesting project would reverse this situation with very little or no effect on the Hurunui River, its Lakes, tributaries or contributing rivers, while at the same time having huge benefits with respect to substantial increased production and also reliability of production. It would make my farming enterprise an economic unit and contributor to national wealth through increased taxation payments, employment of staff, increased expenditure with local businesses and those further afield eg Christchurch . The Hurunui River has the potential to meet the vital needs of the local farming community as well as the weekend recreational users.

I do not accept that the characteristics of the Upper Hurunui or lower Hurunui, as outlined in the Application can be considered outstanding. Other rivers in the Canterbury region have the same characteristics.

Prohibiting the ability to develop the Hurunui water resource is contrary to s207(b) of the Resource Management Act

Being a local to the Hurunui River, my needs and those of my fellow primary producers and secondary industries must be taken into consideration in the interests of sustainable farming and the future growth of the north Canterbury farming community.

The Application is an additional process to the proposed Natural Resources Regional Plan, the Hurunui District Plan, the Hurunui River Management plan and the Canterbury strategic water study, all of these processes have considered the values that need protection and how they should be protected. It is a waste of taxpayer money to consider further protection of the Hurunui River

I seek the following decision from the special tribunal:

That the application for a Water Conservation Order on the Hurunui be declined.

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

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

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Date 11 December 2008

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

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Contact person: [<i>name and designation, if applicable</i>]	Paul Young