

From Paul Kershaw , 163 Royal Park drive Christchurch

Hurunui River Water

Conservation Order

I completely support the suggestion of a conservation order for this river and its entire catchment area. The Hurunui river and its surrounds are one of the few truly wild and unspoilt destinations within easy reach of Christchurch .

Not only is the river a challenge for kayakers it is also an outstanding fishery, the river supports a large trout population and is also a significant salmon fishing river. Many of the local waterways are under threat from corporate dairy companies and hydro developers

And as yet this one has been untouched this is the reason that this river deserves absolute protection. Once a river is modified either from extraction or hydro development it will never be the same again.

From my own personal experiences I have fished the river at various points , I have climbed the mountains that are the boundaries to its catchment , I have also taken a jet boat on a significant length of the river.

When flows are high it is possible to navigate the river from its discharge into the sea all the way up to beyond Lake Sumner, its major water source.

I have enjoyed using this river for the last thirty years as a fisherman as a hunter as a boater, and particularly as someone who appreciates our beautiful scenery in all its unspoilt glory, it would be a tragedy for this river to not be given the protection it deserves.

If a protection order is not given the inevitable will happen, and we will lose another magnificent river system and that would be criminal in my view.

The Hurunui river should be given absolute protection for now and for future generations to enjoy.

Yours sincerely Paul Kershaw