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## Submission on an application for an amendment to the Kawarau River Water Conservation Order

**To :** Special Tribunal – Kawarau River Water Conservation Order  
c/- Alex Miller, Ministry for the Environment,  
PO Box 10362,  
Wellington 6143  
[alex.miller@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:alex.miller@mfe.govt.nz)

Name of submitter: My full name is *Anthony Edward Loader*

This is a submission on an application from New Zealand and Otago Fish and Game Councils for an amendment to the water conservation order for the Kawarau River which relates to its tributary, the Nevis River. The application seeks to recognise the Nevis River's outstanding values – wild and scenic characteristics; back country trout fishery; natural characteristics, in particular outstanding natural landforms; trout spawning habitat; adult trout habitat (trophy trout); native fishery habitat; scientific – biogeographic river capture; historic and cultural values.

The application seeks to protect those outstanding values by adding a prohibition on damming and diversion of the river and adding a condition on water takes so as not to breach a minimum river flow.

I support the whole application

My submission is that I support the proposed amendments to the order both to recognise those outstanding values mentioned above and to add a prohibition on damming and diversion of the river and conditions on minimum river flow.

The reasons for my submission:

I am a fly fisherman. I return to my native New Zealand several times each year specifically to fish for trout in rivers. The Nevis River is a trophy trout stream and, as such, a national treasure. Demonstrably, it supports a healthy ecosystem. Additionally, this pristine river sustains grazing, fishing, kayaking, eco-tourism and other recreational activities.

Worldwide, such natural rivers are vanishing faster than most endangered species. Impoundments, even those incorporating fish ladders, are no substitute.

I am appalled to think that the Nevis might be reduced to a trickle simply to provide electricity to power a few more television screens or fry more obesity-producing hamburgers. Such electricity could, and should, be generated by other means, e.g. wind turbines situated on deserted alps.

People should be encouraged to visit and appreciate this unspoilt remnant of their environment. The Nevis is priceless and irreplaceable. It must be protected and maintained in its natural state. The next and subsequent generations of New Zealanders deserve no less.

I seek the following decision from the special tribunal:

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To recognise those outstanding values of the Nevis River identified by Fish and Game in the Application.

To add a prohibition on damming and diversion of the river and to add minimum river flow conditions to protect the river.

I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission.

Anthony Loader.....

12<sup>th</sup> September 2008 .....

Address for service of submitter:	20 Epping Avenue Eastwood NSW 2122 Australia
Telephone:	61 2 9874 5280
Fax/email:	a.loader@bigpond.com