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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,  
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Wellington 6143  
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Name of submitter: My full name is **Jeffery David Jones**

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:**

As a trout fishing enthusiast I have fished the Otago & Southland rivers for more than 40 years. My first of many trips into the Nevis was in 1976.

I began my career as a professional fishing guide in 1988 and have conducted hundreds of fishing expeditions for high end angling clients over the 20 seasons. During this time I have learned the angling secrets of the Nevis River and have regularly fished there over the seasons.

The scenic and fishing value of the Nevis is well documented, the road from Bannockburn over to Garston along the only trout river flowing South to North. The Nevis holds trophy trout and that priceless highcountry experience is too important to our tourism industry to lose, I hold the Nevis river in high regard.

The proposed lake will produce fishing opportunities but lake fishing experience is available all over the world and many lake fishing opportunities exist in Otago, the river experience is finite and is the very sought after experience by overseas anglers. Foreign anglers contribute very significant income to the regional economies throughout New Zealand. **The Nevis river's proximity to Queenstown, New Zealand's main tourist destination makes its importance as a river fishery of high value to our tourist industry, 'A River of National Importance' and the creation of yet another fishing lake will not come close to replacing this wilderness highcountry river fishing experience.**

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**I seek the following decision from the special tribunal:**

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 wish to be heard in support of my submission.**

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

**Date 25 september 2008**

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

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