

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

Name of submitter: Billy Lobban

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 resided in the Queenstown area for about six years and I regularly visited the Nevis valley. I enjoyed fishing, tramping, photography and the remote beauty of the valley.
- I feel it is important for us as a country to stop and think about our energy consumption. I fully realise that power generation is important but we must look at our efficiency of consumption, New Zealand is one of the worst, developed countries when it comes to efficient use of energy.
- I do not agree with the idea of just building more dams to address the energy problem, there is reliable scientific data out there to indicate that it is not as renewable as the energy companies will have us believe.
- New Zealand has lost about 70% of its native forests since we humans arrived, lets not contribute more to this loss of a unique biodiversity by damming all of our rivers. I realise that the Nevis valley has been altered from its native state, but lets not alter it further, regretting it 50 years from now. We should be looking at more regeneration than more degradation.

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 not wish to be heard in support of my submission.

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

Billy Lobban
Signature of submitter

25th September 2008

Address for service of submitter: 64 Middleton Rd, Kew, Dunedin

Telephone: 03 487 8775

Fax/email: billylobban@yahoo.co.uk

Contact person: *[name and designation, if applicable]*