
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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Name of submitter: My full name is *Andrew William Buxton*

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 have not fished the Nevis but have visited many years ago however, recently my father in law visited and fished the river and described the great fishing and the wonderful scenery and landscape of the area. It is a place of outstanding beauty and natural values. It has therefore been my intention to visit the area to fish in the next couple of years but I was concerned to hear that I might have to bring it forward as the fishery was under threat from "development" and that I and future generations of anglers may not get the chance.

It has unfortunately been the same old story on so many of our fragile back-country rivers that one by one they have been picked off and killed. It starts off innocently enough with just a slight reduction in flow "for a good cause" usually to make money for someone else; then the water quality reduces to the point it is no longer a great fishery and a magic place to go, and then no one fishes it any more, and then no-one protects it any more, then it is gone forever. I have experienced many of these.

It is vital for the remaining wild rivers and remote places in our beautiful country to be protected and kept in their pristine unspoiled state for future generations to enjoy. Destroying or reducing their natural state even for the advancement of our consumption crazed society (of which I am a part) can not be condoned and should be vigorously opposed.

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.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Buxton

Date 25 September 2008

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Contact person: [<i>name and designation, if applicable</i>]	Andrew Buxton

Note to submitter

You must serve a copy of your submission on the applicant as soon as reasonably practicable after you have served your submission on the special tribunal.

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