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MFE - South Island Office

Submission on Water Conservation Order Oreti River

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I would like to strongly SUPPORT the order as applied in total.

I have fished for trout all over New Zealand and in most of Australia including Tasmania. Most of Southern Africa, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho and Colorado and parts of New Mexico, Michigan, Alaska, British Columbia, Alberta and New Brunswick. Some of the consistently biggest and best conditioned trout I have caught anywhere were on the Oreti especially above Mossburn.


This is an absolutely world class fishery and needs to be preserved for future generations. As a number of these big fish move up and down to the sea the whole river system needs to be preserved particularly no obstructing dams.

Having trout fished seriously for almost 25 years in New Zealand I am appalled at the rate of destruction of our previously pristine waterways. I can name 10 in about an hours drive of my home in Nelson that now have a fraction of the trout (and that no doubt includes native fish) that they had only 10 years ago. I know there is a similar story all over New Zealand.

We have to preserve at least what remains of our water resources and natural rivers and fisheries, that become more valuable each year, for those that follow us.

I would like the Tribunal to grant the order as it has been applied for.

I am unfortunately not able to be heard in support of this submission.

  
R Blackbeard 31/10/06