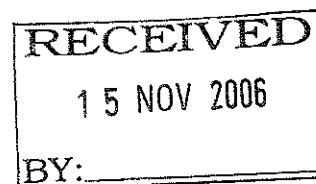


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13 November 2006

The Special Tribunal
Oreti River Water Conservation Order
Ministry for the Environment
Te Waipounamu House
Level 7, 158 Hereford Street
PO Box 1345
CHRISTCHURCH

Dear Sir/Madam

Submission on Water Conservation Order Oreti River.

1. Otago Fish & Game Council supports the application by Southland and New Zealand Fish and Game Councils for a Water Conservation Order in respect of the Oreti River. The application is supported in its entirety.

2. Otago Fish and Game is the body responsible for managing sports fish and game resources in Otago Fish and Game Region.

3. The Oreti River, which is situated in Southland Fish and Game region is regularly used by Otago anglers who value it highly as an angling destination. The upper reaches particularly are renowned as supporting a trophy brown trout fishery in a backcountry setting while the more accessible lower reaches provide productive angling for large numbers of anglers.

4. The maintenance of the quality of the fishery and angling amenity in the Oreti River is dependent on protecting water quality, river flows in the mainstem and tributaries and connected groundwater resources, and the habitat characteristics of the river's channel and berm areas.

4.0 The Oreti River, its trout fishery and its other amenity values are outstanding and deserve to be protected through the granting of a conservation order. The order should include a prohibition on damming..

3.0 Otago Fish and Game submits that a water conservation order over the Oreti River, as applied for, be granted.

Yours faithfully

Niall Watson
Chief Executive
n.watson@fish-game.org.nz

Statutory managers of freshwater sports fish, game birds and their habitats

Otago Region

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