

IN THE MATTER

of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

In the matter of the Proposed Waipara  
Catchment Environmental Flow and  
Water Allocation Regional Plan.

**EVIDENCE OF PETER MCLEOD FOR PERNOD RICARD NEW ZEALAND  
LIMITED**

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**Peter McLeod, Commercial Manager South Island Vineyards, of Blenheim  
to say;**

1. I am employed by Pernod Ricard NZ (PRNZ) as a Commercial Manager for the South Island Vineyards. I have held this role for a period of six years. I am authorised and able to give evidence on the matters relevant to this application for and on behalf of the Company.
2. I am familiar with the application for resource consent to take water and use water at Kings Road, Omihi.
3. I am familiar with the Pernod Ricard Vineyard which is served by the application.

**VINEYARD**

4. The "Omihi Vineyard" Vineyard is 78.4ha in total and contains 53.0ha of close planted vineyard. It forms an integral part of our overall Waipara Vineyards operation of 200.0ha with the balance being our Camshorn Vineyard located approx. 10km south on SH1.
5. The Omihi Vineyard plantings comprise of Pinot Noir -135.0 row km with 93,944 planted vines and Riesling – 119.0 row km's with 80,411 planted vines.

6. We produce annually 350 tonnes of Riesling and 260 tonnes of Pinot Noir which form part of our ultra premium brands portfolio of Camshorn, Brancott Estate Reserve and Boundary Vineyards.
7. The Omihi Vineyard employs 10 FTE's which include permanent, casual and contract staff with annual operating cost spend in excess of \$400,000
8. The irrigation system was first developed in the 1970's as part of the Glenmark Irrigation Scheme; the vineyard was first planted by John & Pat Corbett in 1982 and extended by Pernod Ricard in 2001.
9. The Omihi Vineyard is of significant importance to Pernod Ricard as a major portion of the fruit from the vineyard is utilised for domestic brands Boundary Vineyards & Camshorn as well export brands being primarily Brancott Estate.
10. The arrival of PRNZ (then as Montana Wines Ltd) in Waipara gave many other wine companies encouragement to expand in the Waipara Valley

#### **DETAILS OF THE WATER USE ON THE VINEYARD**

11. The water take is utilised for filling a 127 mega litre clay lined dam to supply a ring main system for overhead spray irrigation. It is also utilised for spraying and machinery wash down purposes. The current method of abstraction is via a "sump" which consists of a concrete slotted pipe submerged in the Omihi Stream. At our abstraction rate of 45 L/s the reservoir takes around 33 days to fill.
12. This storage reservoir provides sufficient water for up to 40 hours use which equates to around 4 to 5 nights of frost fighting, depending on the severity, and up to 70 days of irrigation depending weather conditions.
13. We utilise a moisture probe which is overseen by Fruition Horticulture to manage and monitor soil moisture conditions to optimise available water for plant uptake.
14. We consider our water use to be very efficient, and it is essential component of the successful operation of our vineyard. Our operation is

based around reliability of supply that has been available to the property since it was first planted in 1982.

15. Given the length of time we have been operating in this area and the significance of our operation we would like to be treated as an A Block consent holder and are concerned that the need for sharing water with other consent holders via partial restrictions will reduce the reliability of supply to us. In particular it is very important that we are given the most reliable allocation of water during the months of July – October to fill our reservoir before the peak irrigation season commences.
16. If any changes that reduce our allocation are required in order to protect the environment then we ask that we be given a 5 year period before such restrictions are introduced. We also ask that the decisions on this plan place equal weight on the economic and social benefits of efficient water abstraction, along with the requirements of the natural environment.



Pernod Ricard New Zealand  
**Waipara Vineyards**



Omihi

WAIPARA

Cams horn Crushing Plant

Cams horn

AMBERLEY

**Legend**

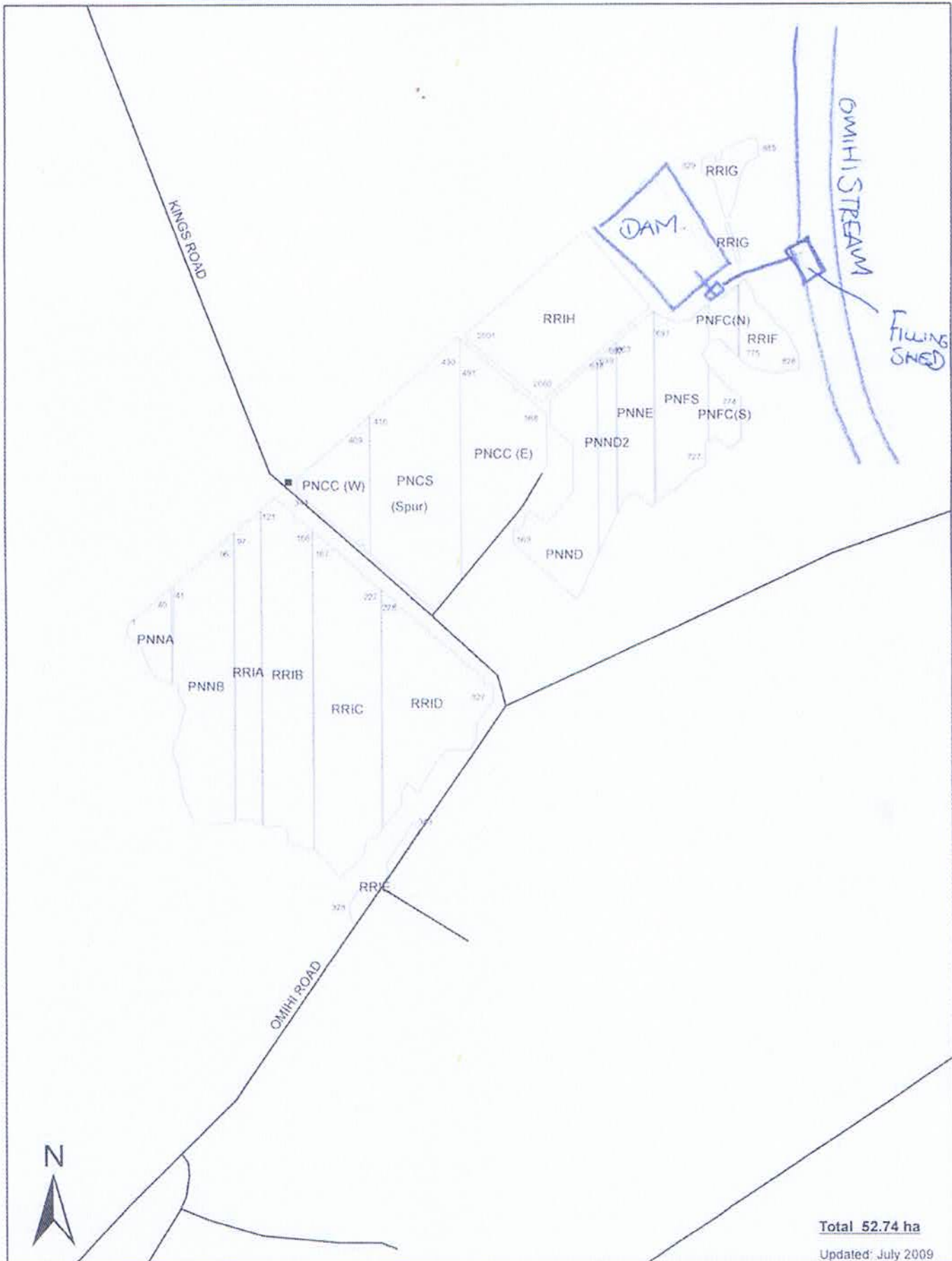
- PRNZ Corporate Vineyards
- PRNZ Contract Growers
- Planted Vineyards

Scale 1:100,000



**WP1**

# PRNZ Omihi Vineyard



Total 52.74 ha  
 Updated: July 2009