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To: [Mailroom Mailbox](#)
Cc: radams@fishandgame.org.nz; thawker@fishandgame.org.nz; centralsouth@fishandgame.org.nz; northcanterbury@fishandgame.org.nz; [Hamish Stevens](#); [Doug Harpur](#); [Sara Lydiatt](#); [Simon Wright](#); [Riki Sinclair](#)
Subject: "Plan Change 7 to the LWRP Submission"
Date: Wednesday, 11 September 2019 2:54:02 AM

Mari Hill Harpur
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Dear Environment Canterbury,

By way of introduction my name is Mari Harpur and I am a Run Holder associated with Forest Creek Station in the Upper Rangitata Gorge Area. Deep Stream, the well known fishing stream runs through our property. Our station has spent considerable funds restoring Deep Stream and protecting our sport fish and wetland habitat. Also recognising that while this work was primarily aimed at sports fish (trout and salmon) habitat, native fish and other native species have also benefited significantly from the work we have accomplished over several years. My family and I have fished throughout the North and South Islands and also at other fisheries in Canada, USA, and Bermuda.

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I am personally opposed to Policy 4.102 because it encourages building structures that propose to restrict the present fish movements through the Northern and Central South Island recreational fish population. I am particularly concerned with short sighted language that implies it is alright to install the following:.

Structures that specifically enable the safe passage of indigenous fish, while avoiding as far as practicable, the passage of any invasive, pest or nuisance fish species by an appropriate design, construction, installation and maintenance of new in-stream structures; and the modification, reconstruction or removed of existing in-stream structures.

It is not alright. Think about it this way. Sports fishing is an accepted part of New Zealand's long-established outdoor recreation. Kiwis and visitors alike expect to participate in their own experiences. The restrictions that you are suggesting could have a detrimental impact.

As an owner of private forests, farming, and agricultural lands, I oppose the Plan Change 7 to the LWRP Submission. If your proposed policies are implemented it would establish a very dangerous precedent by supporting a short-sighted approach to changing or destroying habitat rather than enriching it. Policy 4.102 is designed to prohibit the important and valuable practices of our current fishery programmes that were developed specifically to enhance and sustain our entire valley watershed. If anything should be decided by the government, it would be to remove the obstacles to the fishes' passage and help free up our waterways to the fish migration. In Canada and the United States, it is today's common policy to eradicate restrictions to waterways rather than create them. This has proven to be a very successful in-stream benefit toward restoration of the environment. This improvement also encourages the protection of our water quality.

We, as property owners are very aware of sustainable management principles and we appreciate that we share our property with other responsible recreational users. As run holders we have treated our investments with dignity and respect for their natural regeneration. We use our property wisely and we do not abuse our responsibility. We are proud of our long-term accomplishments and expect to be allowed to practice our sustainable management for future generations.

New Zealand already has strict environmental regulations in place. If you feel our policy needs to be amended, please ensure it adequately recognizes the value of sports fish and that your policy ensures their passage is maintained and / or improved.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in opposition to “Plan Change 7 to the LWRP Submission”.

Mari Hill Harpur

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CC:

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