Submission on Plan Change 7 to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan

By Woolstencroft, H

Submitter Identification number: PC7-553

Wishes to be heard: No

Would consider making a joint submission at the hearing: No

Submitted on: 12/09/2019

This submission was submitted via Environment Canterbury’s online submission portal. The Submissions portal generates pdf files of submissions (as attached). However, some of the information that appears in the pdf files is not consistent with information the submitter entered into the portal, specifically, where submitters have ticked:

- “I wish to be heard in support of my submission” ; and
- “If others make a similar submission I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing”.

Additionally, the submissions portal has generated submitter and submission point numbers that are not consistent with the numbering applied in the Summary of Decisions Requested. Submission points in the Summary of Decisions Requested (SODR) are numbered using the following format:

    PC7 – Submitter ID #.Submission point #

The correct submitter identification number and submitter information is specified above. This will be the number referred to in the SODR.
Proposed Plan Change 7 to the Land and Water Regional Plan

Form 5 Submission on publically notified proposal for policy statement or plan, change or variation

Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991

To Environment Canterbury - Tavisha Fernando
Date received 12/09/2019 11:30:26 AM
Submission #83

Address for service:
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42 Mowbray Street Watlington Timaru 7910
Phone: 0225481143
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Wishes to be heard? No
Is willing to present a joint case? No

Proposed Plan Change 7 has been developed to respond to emerging resource management issues, to give effect to relevant national direction, to implement recommendations from the Hinds Drains’ Working Party, and to implement recommendations in the Waimakariri and Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora (OTOP) Zone Implementation Programme Addenda (ZIPA).

• Could you gain an advantage in trade competition in making this submission?
  - No
• Are you directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that
  (a) adversely affects the environment; and
  (b) does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition
  - No

Submission points

Point 83.1
Submission

The Temuka river is one of our major recreational waters and has a high level of water extraction. I have noticed significant dropped levels of Flora and Fauna on the river bed and in the river itself. I do not believe the quality of water has been sufficiently addressed, given we started this plan nearly 6 years ago and is not fully expected to be achieved until 2035. That is more than a generation of local family and whanau who will not get to experience this river at its pristine best. We need to work more quickly and more efficiently to restore the health of the lifeblood of our community.

Relief sought
General
Section: Section 14 Orari-Opihi-Pareora
Sub-section: Temuka Freshwater Management Unit
Provision
General

Point 83.2
Submission

This water plays a substantial role in our horticulture, recreation, economy and life style and yet remains the most trauma effected of all our local waterways. The Opuha, I believe has had a direct detrimental effect on the water quality, ecosystems, and recreational use. The quality of our Kai has been some severely compromised. This river has such historic and cultural significance and should be something we should be proud of. The flow of this river needs to maintained at between 10-12m3/s if she is going to be able to cleanse and maintain herself.

Relief sought
The Opihi Freshwater Management Unit encompasses the North and South Opuha, Opuha, Upper Opihi, Te Ana Wai, and Opihi rivers and the Opuha Dam. The Opuha Dam augments flows in the Opuha and the Opihi rivers providing for environmental values as well as providing a reliable source of irrigation water via run of river takes for shareholders of Opuha Water Limited, and urban...
and industrial users of Timaru via the Timaru District Council’s community water take. There are three irrigation schemes that abstract water from the Opuha and Opihi rivers and there are also shareholder irrigators who abstract directly from the Te Ana Wai, the Upper Opihi and North and South Opuha rivers.

An environmental flow and allocation regime for the Opihi Freshwater Management Unit is contained within this section. It includes a two staged approach for increasing minimum flows alongside capping allocation at current consented levels. The purpose of the two staged approach is to increase minimum flows so as to enhance instream health of the waterbodies within the Opihi Freshwater Management Unit, while providing time for abstractors to adjust to the new flow and allocation regime. To offset some of the adverse impacts on irrigators due to a reduction in reliability of supply, an additional allocation block has been established that allows water to be abstracted and stored during periods of high flows in the river.

A mātaitai reserve, which designates an area of particular importance for mahinga kai, extends up the Opihi River from the Opihi Lagoon and is managed by tangata kaitaki nominated by tangata whenua.

Section: Section 14 Orari-Opihi-Pareora
Sub-section: Opihi Freshwater Management Unit
Provision

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Point 83.3

Submission

I believe that the Plan should include stronger directive to monitor and investigate other nutrients and additives that have the potential to cause further trauma to our water ways. Including Urea, Manganese, and copper but not limited to as there are good number of pesticides and herbicides that should be raising huge red flags

Relief sought

14.4.18

Water quality is improved in the Orari, Opihi and Timaru Freshwater Management Units by:

a. defining the Rangitata Orton High Nitrogen Concentration Area, Fairlie Basin High Nitrogen Concentration Area and Levels Plain High Nitrogen Concentration Area within which targeted reductions of nitrogen in accordance with Table 14(2c) are required; and
b. avoiding the grant of any resource consent that will result in the nitrogen loss calculation from a farming activity exceeding the Baseline GMP Loss Rate, except where Policy 14.4.20 applies.

Section: Section 14 Orari-Opihi-Pareora
Sub-section: 14.4 Policies
Provision

14.4.18

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b. avoiding the grant of any resource consent that will result in the nitrogen loss calculation from a farming activity exceeding the Baseline GMP Loss Rate, except where Policy 14.4.20 applies.