

**From:** [Emily Arthur-Moore](#)  
**To:** [Plan Hearings](#)  
**Subject:** Evidence North Canterbury Fish & Game Plan re plan change CL&WRP  
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## **Evidence: Canterbury Land & Water Plan**

### **NORTH CANTERBURY FISH & GAME COUNCIL**

North Canterbury Fish and Game  
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Fish & Game is the statutory agency that manages sports fish and game bird species in the recreational interests of anglers and hunters and represents over 140,000 licence holders around the country. Sports fish form the backbone of the popular and highly valued recreational fisheries in lakes and rivers around the country.

**17<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

### **Schedule 17 of the Canterbury Land & Water Plan**

The Canterbury Land & Water Plan Schedule 17 areas were established some time ago to offer a level of protection for the breeding grounds of salmon. We are pleased that the geographic extent of these areas is being extended through plan change 7, and that the Otukaikino, one of the few lowland salmon spawning areas in Canterbury, is being included in the schedule.

Isaac Wildlife and Conservation Trust have opposed the inclusion of some of the upper reaches of the Otukaikino that ECan have mapped for inclusion in Schedule 17. Their rationale being that the upper reaches do not currently contain the right conditions for actual redd (nest) creation.

NCFG would like to reiterate our earlier submission stating the importance of protecting source areas that feed into areas suitable for redd creation. When cattle have access to these areas, or the land adjacent to them is intensively farmed, nutrients and sediment are transported downstream affecting the survival of salmon ova (eggs). These nests are created in the gravel on the streambed and are very vulnerable to sedimentation which restricts oxygenated water being able to flow through the gravel. Also the ova stage is very sensitive to nitrate toxicity.

While North Canterbury Fish & Game can see value in debating some of the geographic extent of these schedule 17 areas for the Otukaikino, it is important that the intent of the Schedule 17 classification is not forgotten, that being to reduce the impacts of land use on salmon populations and therefore protect this valuable recreational resource.

Emily Arthur – Moore  
Fish & Game Officer