

02 SEP 2024



environment SOUTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Te Taiāo Tonga

SUBMISSION FORM

Submission on a Notified or Limited Notified Application for a Resource Consent

To: The Chief Executive
Environment Southland
Private Bag 90116
DX YX20175
Invercargill

I: Timothy John Fogarty
(Name(s))

of: Section 53
(Address)

at: Section 53
(Phone) (Fax) (E-mail)

Wish to ~~SUPPORT~~ / OPPOSE / submit a NEUTRAL submission on (circle one) the application of:

Name: Te Rūnanga o Awarua, Dept of conservation

And/or Organisation: and Environment Southland.

Application Number: APP-202456 Location: Waituna lagoon

My reasons for my submission are: (State the nature of your submission and give clear reasons. Continue on attached pages if necessary)

I have served a copy of my submission on the applicant.

Yes

No

Signed

Kim Byrd

Date

3/9/24

If you have any queries about this form or its purpose, please contact the Consents Division of Environment Southland (03) 211 5115 or 0800 76 88 45.

Notes:

1. This submission will become publicly available information.
2. The person making this submission must send a copy to the applicant as soon as reasonably practicable after serving Environment Southland.
3. A list of all submissions received will be provided to the applicant.
4. Please be aware that third parties may request a copy of submissions received and that request is subject to the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

I wish the Council to make the following decision *(Give precise details, including the nature of any conditions sought)*

I, am/am not *(choose one)* a trade competitor* of the applicant (for the purposes of Section 308B of the Resource Management Act 1991).

**If trade competitor chosen, please complete the next statement, otherwise leave blank*

I, am/am not *(choose one)* directly affected by an effect as a result of the proposed activity in the application that:

- (a) adversely affects the environment; and
- (b) does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

I, do/do not *(choose one)* wish to be heard in support of my submission.

I, do/do not *(choose one)* wish to be involved in any pre-hearing meeting that may be held for this application.

Ko Hananui te maunga
Ko Tutaekawetoweto te awa
Ko Te Ara a Kiwa te moana
Ko takitimu me Makawhiua ngā waka
Ko Kāiterakiamoa te hapu
Ko Tahu Potiki, Ko Tuahuriri raatou ko kuri ngā Rangatira
Ko Te Rau Aroha te Marae
Ko Bravo Island/Maiatanga me Whenua Hou ngā tuurangawaeawae

We oppose the new opening regime because:

1. Too much sediment and nutrients are entering the lagoon, it needs to be flushed out regularly. If it isn't opened for extended periods of time, it will flip algal blooms. (?) This is what happened earlier when it wasn't opened for over 2 years.
2. More attention must be given to waste going into the lagoon ie. gorse, which has gotten out of control on the trust land and public land administered by D.O.C, I've attached paper to read about the problem.
3. Fouling of localised shallow water around the lagoon and Farmland from too many canadian geese and swans.
4. Sediment from drain clearing, creek bank collapsed and run off from gravel roads particularly around bridges and culvert.

Our other problem is the wording of the consent it says may open it, it should read will open. Also With higher lagoon levels our ~~for~~ access is very vulnerable. Last year we were cut off from access to our forestry block for a number of days when it got to 2.500 metres. The higher water level has also affected the surrounding farmland, water is lying stagnant where it never has before causing vegetation to die off and rot. There also seems to be no plan if the water level is high. Approaching 2.500 metres and more rain to come, now it might be inconvenient and not fit into the plans that have been hatched but we do have property rights. Which means we have the right to enjoy our property and any economic benefits. It seems to us that people with power and influence are not taking this seriously. I would like to point out what happened in Wairoa earlier this year when the bar was not opened after locals told the council to do it. For some reason I've been told that drainage of land doesn't come into it, well that's clearly unethical and morally wrong. New Zealand has had a bad history of alienating and confiscating people of their land. I think this is happening again, as my grandfather had told me in 1956 at the Maori land court the first words the judge said to them:
"I'll have no nonsense out of you people today"
In summary, we would like the lagoon opened at least once a year to drain out sediment and nutrients and opened if it goes over 2.200 metres.

First 3 videos show sediment and flooding at approx 2.3 metres

Video 4 fouling of water from geese

Video 5 gorse lower Waituna creek

Video 6 shows flooding out the front of our property at 2.3 metres

Video 7 swans forced out of lagoon onto farmland

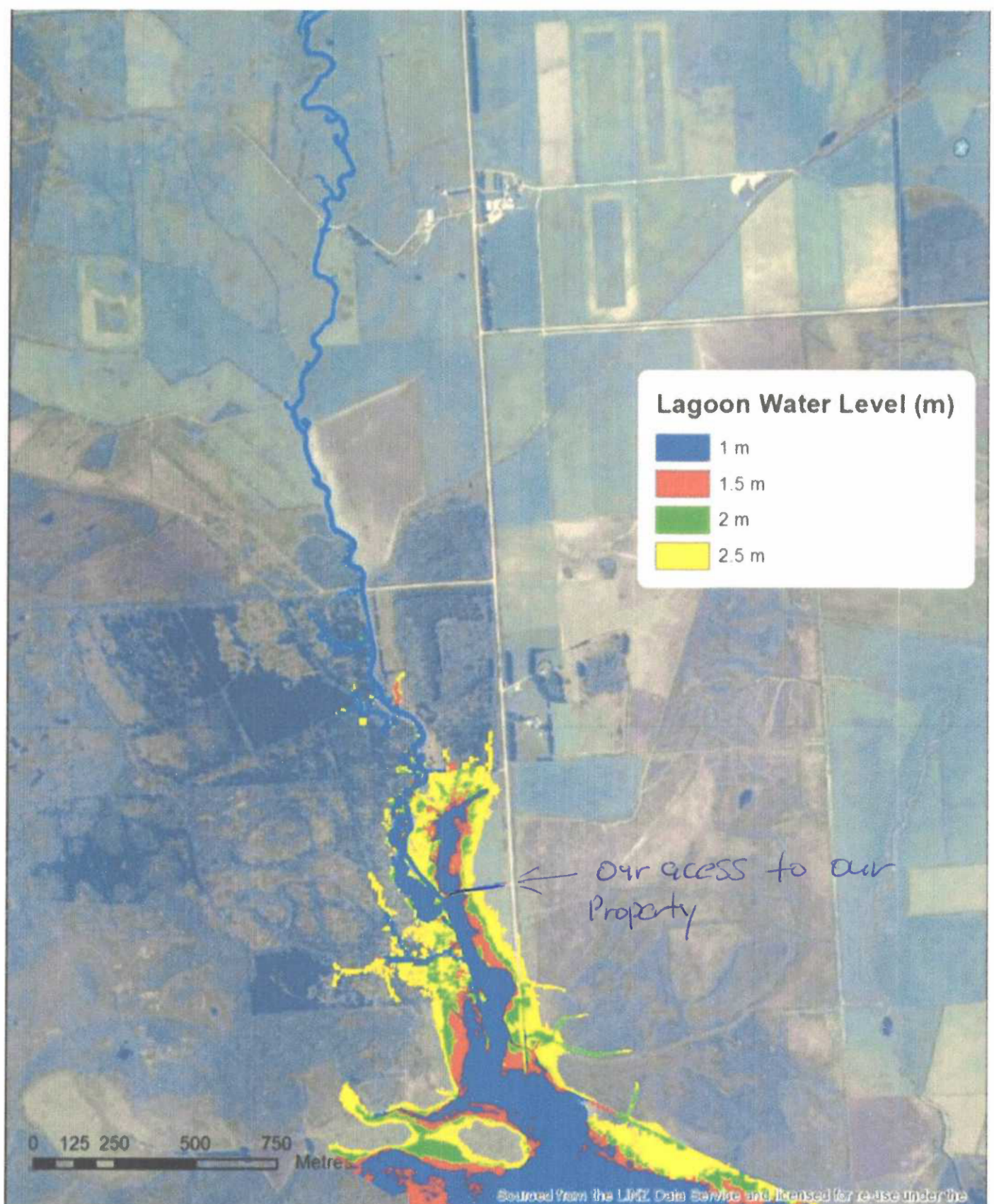


Figure E-5: Extent of land bordering Waituna Creek that is potentially drainage affected under scenario “ Q_{mean} -Channel Vegetated”. Potentially drainage affected land is taken to be land adjacent to the channel with ground elevation less than 1.0 m above the channel water level. Scenario “ Q_{mean} -Channel Vegetated” models mean flow with a vegetated main channel.

Gorse a potential water pollutant

Thursday, 4 September 2008, 4:22 pm

Press Release: Scion research

For immediate release
4 September 2008

Gorse a potential water pollutant

A potential source of nitrogen pollution in New Zealand's lakes and waterways has been identified and measured by a leading water and soil quality scientist.

Dr Guna Magesan, a senior scientist with Crown Research Institute Scion, recently completed a two-year study on nitrogen leaching from mature gorse stands in Rotorua lakes catchments.

The results indicate that in the areas studied, gorse leaches 40 to 60 kilograms of nitrogen per hectare per annum through the soil into underground waterways and on into the region's lakes. If compared on a per hectare basis, these figures equate to levels of nitrogen leaching from dairy farming.

In contrast, a stand of radiata pines in the control area produced less than 1 kilogram of nitrogen per hectare annually over the same period.

The study, funded by Environment Bay of Plenty, covered two catchments in the Rotorua lakes region, which were monitored over a 20-month period.

"Nitrates and phosphates are two of the major nutrients that damage water quality," says Dr Magesan.

"Our study concentrated on nitrogen, which is an important growth stimulant and contributes significantly to algal bloom and weed growth in water bodies, particularly lakes.

"This in turn can cause environmental hazards, for example making the water harmful for drinking, unsafe for recreation, and uninhabitable for aquatic life.

"Significant sums have been spent both in New Zealand and globally trying to resolve water eutrophication, which is a particular problem in the Rotorua area. Much of the focus has been on agriculture and other sources, but very little research has been conducted into gorse and other leguminous weeds, such as broom."

Dr Magesan says gorse is already widespread in New Zealand. It is highly invasive and fast growing, and has already taken over 900,000 hectares nationwide. It can live here for more than 40 years, and seeds can remain in the soil for up to 30 years.

"Until 1984 the Government offered subsidies totalling \$17 million annually in an effort to eradicate gorse, but these were discontinued because the problem was thought to be unsolvable.

"My hope is that these results will motivate interested parties such the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Ministry for the Environment and the Department of Conservation to take another look at how we can reduce th

detrimental effect of such weeds.

"Areas for research could include not only eradication methods, but also alternative uses for gorse, such as new materials or bioenergy."

Environment Bay of Plenty (EBOP) spokesperson Rob Donald, said the agency commissioned Dr Magesan's study because of the uncertainty about the impacts of gorse on nutrient levels.

"We were aware that there are areas of gorse in the Rotorua lakes catchments but that existing information offered conflicting views on what effect, if any, the weed has on nutrient levels in groundwater. We wanted to fill this information gap, and approached Dr Magesan because of his expertise in the subject.

"We were very surprised that the research showed such high levels of nitrogen leaching, and are now evaluating the scale of the issue within the Rotorua lakes catchments.

"It is thought that the area covered by gorse in the lakes catchments is relatively small but without detailed information it is difficult to put the problem into perspective. We are now measuring gorse coverage, after which we will be better positioned to plan appropriate remediation policies if and where necessary.

"The research again points to land use being a major factor in managing lakes' water quality. The more information that becomes available on both sources of nutrient pollution and best land management practices, the better the region will be equipped to resolve the problem."

Dr Magesan has now started discussions with some local governments on extending his research to other areas of New Zealand.

ENDS