

# Resource Consent submission

To: The Chief Executive  
Environment Southland  
Private Bag 90116  
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Invercargill

**Date**  
**Online reference number**

01/09/2024 19:40  
RC240900324

**Full name of submitter**  
**Postal address**  
**Contact phone number**  
**Email**

Logan James McKenzie

Section 53

## Applicant details

**Name of applicant**

Te Runanga o Awarua, Department of Conservation and  
Environment Southland

**Activity location**

Waituna Lagoon

**Application number**

APP-20242456

## Submission details

**My submission relates to the whole application**  
**Parts of the application my submission relates to**  
**Details of my submission**

No, my submission only relates to parts of the application.  
Trigger levels for opening the Lagoon for flushing to the sea  
I am writing against the proposed joint submission as an  
affected landowner and lifelong fisherman at Waituna Lagoon.  
Our property is at 235 Waituna Lagoon Road and has Carran  
Creek flowing through it.  
Traditionally fishing has been better on an open lagoon but do

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admit sometimes on a closed Lagoon we have also had marvelous success. However, after sustained closure it is not a pleasant place to be with brackish water, smell and increased weed levels. We tend to stay away when it's like this. Destruction/limited access to public property e.g. road and new bridge heading to the DOC look out/viewing platform and track. Our family have regularly utilized the walking track but are unable to at the moment with the road closed. Why was a new bridge built at that height?

The hydraulic effect on all of the surrounding land on subsurface drains and soil profiles. Raising the lagoon negatively affects our downstream drainage and property rights and values as landowners.

Erosion of tributary banks due to high water levels for a long time saturating them making them soft and easily eroded which increases sediment losses to the lagoon

Birdlife are being pushed further out such as geese onto farmland causing damage to pasture. I have personal experience on how much damage geese can do to farmland.

The lagoon margins will be pushed further out which will influence the vegetation ecology such as vegetation on lagoon edges dying from flooding i.e. it has adapted to the lower levels over the last 100 or so years, some of it may die out with higher lagoon levels and increase the nutrient loading with dying vegetation floating around in the lagoon

It is not just the incoming nutrients and sediment from farmland that is a concern for the lagoon - it's also the historical nutrients and sediments that are stored within it, which is why the lagoon must be flushed regularly to avoid algal blooms

No

No

**Submission uploaded**

**I am a trade competitor of the applicant (for the purposes of section 308B of the Resource Management Act 1991)**

## Outcome sought

**I wish Environment Southland to make the following decision**

**Why I wish Environment Southland to make this decision**

To oppose the application.

Currently it is my understanding that this is the proposal  
For years 1-5, summer openings may occur if water levels are at or above 2.5m for 24 hours and winter openings may occur if water levels are at or above 2.3m for seven days;

For years 6-15, openings may occur if water levels are at or above 2.5m for three days; and

For years 16-20, openings may occur if water levels are at or above 2.5m for seven days.

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There needs to be a short-term (5 year with conditions as above) consent to help understand the effects of the higher lagoon levels on the ecology of the area, local economy and access to the area.

After the first 5 years of the consent how easy will it be to review and alter certain consent conditions?

Will all 3 parties (DOC, ES, iwi) actually be able to agree in the future and how much consultation will there be with landowners and recreational users?

## Hearing details

**I wish to be heard in support of my submission** No

**I wish to be involved in any pre-hearing meeting that may be held for this application** No

## Confirmation

**I will serve a copy of my submission on the applicant and I confirm all of the above information is correct**

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