

Resource Consent submission

To: The Chief Executive
Environment Southland
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| Date | 11/07/2022 17:36 |
| Online reference number | RC220720048 |
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Applicant details

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|---------------------------|--|
| Name of applicant | Ewen Pirie on behalf of the Lake Waituna Control Association |
| Activity location | Coastal bar between Waituna Lagoon and the sea |
| Application number | APP-20211669 |

Submission details

My submission relates to the whole application

Yes

Details of my submission

I am submitting in support of this application because if this consent is not granted we will then be adversely affected.

- If the consent is not granted, higher lagoon levels will result, more erosion will occur in the feeder creeks through the farms, more sediment will end up washed into the lagoon, and the health of the lagoon will be compromised. If the lagoon is not opened as per the consent application vegetation around the

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water's edge will be submerged, it will rot and further degrade the lagoon.

- Land values in the catchment will be affected if the consent is not granted as per this application.

Already the catchment is known to be in a "sensitive" area which makes land sales difficult. If the consent is not granted then risk of flooding will make it even more difficult to sell property in the area and land values will be adversely affected. I have plenty of bank debt and cannot afford to have the value of my land plummet.

- Our farm will sustain increased flooding damage if the lake level is allowed to surpass 2.2m. The damage will be severe if the lagoon is held above this level for sustained periods as is the wish of some opponents of this application by Ewen Pirie. This will result in financial loss, damage to our property, stock losses, animal welfare issues and increased sediment being flushed into Waituna Lagoon. This would be detrimental to me and my property and it certainly would also be detrimental to the health of Waituna Lagoon.

- If the consent application is not granted the entire Waituna Catchment will be adversely affected. More flooding will result, access to the reserve itself will be compromised. At less than 2.2m access is lost to Waghorn Road and could be impeded to the whitebait huts on the Big Bend if this consent is not granted.

- As a SDC ratepayer we are adversely affected if this consent is not granted. The bridge on Waghorn Road goes under water when the lagoon is high. At 1.8m it is well under water and access is lost.

- Also negatively impacted would be the migratory aquatic species which require access to both the sea and the lagoon – eels and whitebait etc.

- My preference is for Ewen Pirie and the Lake Waituna Control Association to continue to hold the lake opening consent. They have proven to have the necessary knowledge and they are well placed to monitor suitable conditions for opening the lake. I would not want the consent held by an organisation that is based in the city and is not directly (and financially) affected by any flooding in the catchment. The organisations which have shown interest in holding the consent are renowned for working 9 to 5, Mon to Fri and they have proven to be elusive when members of the Control Association have attempted to contact and meet with them to discuss Waituna Lagoon and lake levels.

- I am aware that other organisations are studying lake closing options and I would be in support of their efforts in this regard as I see this as positive for lagoon health.

- The goals of the Trust are admirable but I believe their land

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purchases have been inadequate in terms of lagoon levels.
• I regard the ecological health of the lagoon as of huge importance, but I think the Lagoon Technical Group has become too singularly focussed on Ruppia and has forgotten that the catchment is not in its original pristine state and that the flushing effects of opening the lake are indeed necessary and positive.

Submission uploaded

No

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

No

Outcome sought

I wish Environment Southland to make the following decision

To support the application.

Why I wish Environment Southland to make this decision

Environment Southland should grant the consent in its entirety as per the application by Ewen Pirie on behalf of the Lake Waituna Control Association

Hearing details

I wish to be heard in support of my submission

Yes

I would consider presenting a joint case if others make a similar submission

Yes

I wish to be involved in any pre-hearing meeting that may be held for this application

Yes

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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