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To whom it may concern

This submission is regarding application APP-20211135 Titiroa Tide Gates.

I am in full support of the application as I have been farming my property which boundaries the Titiroa Stream for 45 years and have lived on this property for 59 years.

The changes that occurred when the tide gates were installed on the Titiroa Stream are huge in that any of my land above the tidal structure remains accessible and farmable because of no tidal water inundating it. I own 8ha of bush and tussock land up stream of the tide gates that 9 years ago I fenced off as a wetland.

In July 2022 I had Wildland Consultants commissioned to do a Biodiversity and Ecological Survey on this block of land. This study highlighted the existence of a number of native species including the South Island Fern Bird which are at risk and declining in numbers. The South Island Fern Bird spends 80% of its time on the ground only flying short distances, I fear that letting this area return to tidal land will be to the detriment of this special bird. The bush area that they live in is very low lying with a lot of natural channels intersecting the entire area, that without the tide gate structure will be inundated by tidal water.

I have also in conjunction with Environment Southland investigated creating a pond wetland area in the tussock block draining into my existing creek, without the tide gate structure this project will not be worth pursuing as the ponds will become tidal and not drain.

As a final point it is important to note that the tide gate structure when built actually replaced an existing tide gate structure that was damaged in a flood.

I hope the Council consider my thoughts and opinions and keep the tide gate structure in place.

Yours sincerely



Philip Golden



Leigh Golden