

20-4-08
31 Hewitts Road
Christchurch 8014

The Chairman
West Coast Regional Council
P. O. Box 66
Greymouth



Mokihinui Hydro Proposal

Dear Sir

I hope that your council will decline consents to this scheme.

As a member of the Ornithological Society, Forest + Bird, and a trapper and frequent visitor to the Karamea area, I would be distressed to see this beautiful river ruined by the flooding of its gorge, with its centuries-old rata and rimu and beech forests, and its pristine waters.

The river is home to the endangered whio or blue duck, the long-finned eel and Kokopu, while the forest is habitat for weka, Kereru, long-tailed bats and the powelliphanta snails.

It is also valuable for its recreational uses, such as white-water rafting and kayaking, hunting and tramping.

Meridian Energy's own report admits there is no way to mitigate the impact

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of the scheme on native species.

Though the dam might produce enough power for 45,000 homes, it will not necessarily solve the West Coast's power and transmission problems.

In view of these facts, and that other power-generating schemes already in the pipeline may render this one pointless and unnecessarily destructive, I ask your Council to withhold Resource Consents.

Yours faithfully,

M A Macbeth