

Submission to Regional Council on Draft Coastal Plan.

Brian Patrick Jones on behalf of B.P and C.A Jones and the Kongahu Rating District

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Date 19/3/2016

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Groups I represent include: B P and C A Jones (partnership – dairy farming operation) and the Kongahu Rating District (spokesperson).

I/we would gain no Trades advantage from the aspects of the Coastal Plan that I am submitting on, but the groups I represent would benefit from their inclusion.

I would like the opportunity to speak to the submission.

My/our submission is:

Rule 20. Channel clearance in Otumahana Estuary and Granite Creek.
Our Submission is that it is essential that this rule be adopted. It would enable drainage and sedimentation issues associated with this area to be dealt with in a timely fashion and ensure protection of community infrastructure and assets and sustainability of land usage.

At a time where erosion and associated sedimentation are causing problems with channels in the estuary this is extremely important. (See supporting photos which show a current blockage and the resulting water back-up through farmland)

The conditions included in the Coastal plan are directly transferred from the current consents held by the Kongahu Rating District for the past 20 years for the Blackwater channel, and the activity has been ongoing periodically since the Kongahu Drainage scheme started in the late 1970s without complaint (to the best of our knowledge).

We would like to see the following change made to the proposal:

Remove Condition “(g)” - channel clearance shall not be undertaken during

2)- the whitebait spawning season(1 March-30 April inclusive)

Reasoning:

We see this as of very little relevance to the protection of whitebait. Any works carried out in the estuary have traditionally been of very minor nature in disturbance of material or time taken (usually only a few hours).

None of the activities take place in identified spawning areas.

To remove 2 months of a year at a time when weather conditions are reasonably settled and conducive to carrying out this sort of activity with minimal disturbance is unnecessarily restrictive.

(Submission contains supporting photos)

Brian Jones

For B.P and C.A Jones and the Kongahu Rating District

Brian Jones and Kongahu Rating District – Photos to accompany submission on Proposed Coastal Plan 2016

Photo 1 – Backed up water raises drain level to paddock



Photo 2 - Old channel (foreground) with blockage and water trapped behind



Photo 3 – Trapped water cutting new outlet in Otumahana Estuary



Photo 4 - Trapped water cutting new outlet in Otumahana Estuary



Photo 5 – Water backed up from Estuary encroaching on farmland

