

3 December 2015

Department of Conservation  
Kirikiriroa/Hamilton

- 7 DEC 2015

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A submission on

TRANSFER & RELEASE OF LIVE AQUATIC LIFE  
SECTION 262M Conservation Act- 1987.

The Advocates for the Tongariro River are deeply concerned at the plans by Richard Clark to transfer and release grass carp and silver carp from Mahurangi Technical Institute into a proposed fish farm at 887 Rakanui Road in Taupo.

Our concerns are

1. A lack of public consultation
2. The process has been too fast
3. Such a farm creates too many security issues for the iconic Lake Taupo and its rivers as regards water quality & the lakes ecosystem

To elaborate:

1. A lack of public consultation.
  - The only notification of this proposal were two advertisements in The Dominion Post on the 7th + 14th November.
  - Consent was granted by Taupo District Council. The decision to grant consent did not require public notification.
  - Waikato Regional Council's decision re consent is not known to us.

It is the opinion of The Advocates for The Tongaroro River that this venture requires wider public consultation, + has been inadequate to date.

2.

2. The process has been too fast and has not allowed public input to dispel concerns by allowing the process to become widely known to the public.

3. Security Issues.

- Grass Carp and Silver Carp would upset the ecosystem of Lake Taupo should they get into Lake Taupo either by accident or human illegal activity.
- Waikato Regional Council have an extensive list of pests for which they have a responsibility to control. It is very important that this risk assessment is properly considered.

Eric Wilton  
Secretary.