

Bay of Plenty Regional Council

10 April 2016

Attn: Mary-Anne Macleod  
Chief Executive

Dear Mary-Anne

In my submission to you I feel you should know more about Lake Rotorua. I first set eyes on Rotorua at the age of 18. 1954 I was invited to go fishing on Lake Rotorua. We caught four trout, that evening I was given one for tea. One mouthful and I had to spit it out and no way could I eat it. It tasted like typhoid material to me. My associates who were of a different race to me must have had a disease resistance that I did not have. At that time, the Lake Rotorua was fully polluted, by the rubbish dump at the edge of the Lake and all city sewerage going into the Lake. Six years later I had Murray Linton doing survey work for me. He was also Mayor of Rotorua at that time. He was well aware that the Lake was in trouble. He invited an American Scientist to give him advice. The American told him his Lake was nothing more than an unflushed toilet. Murray told him to go home and flush his own (that was published in the local newspaper. That would have been in the early 1960,s. I do know that a certain amount of research was done regarding the dredging of the Lake by H. Allen Mills and one other big roading contractor of the day. Tests were done and I am led to believe the sewer sludge was anything up to sixty feet deep in places, and it was uneconomic to do so at that time. That sewer sludge will still be billowing out nitrates and phosphates to this day, as proven by the film put on by the American Scientist that cleaned up Lake Donovan in Wisconsin. At Lake Donovan they persecuted their farmers to no avail. They found they still had to dredge the Lake to restore fish life which they had successfully done.

I ask you why hasn't more notice been taken by the Council after going to the expense of getting American Scientist advice?

I have taken the trouble to see how I could possibly pollute the Lake from my farm and on scientific advice from my Agronomist of some forty years, assures me nothing will go through our Mamaku soils and that our underground water is some of the purest in the World. I understand he has also written to our Local Council in this respect. My neighbour who was awarded the Waikato Best Farm Environment Award, tested my surface water one week after I had fertilised, that was flowing into her farm after heavy rain, it tested exactly the same as her rain guage and also the surface water off her own Mamaku farm tested exactly the same as her rain guage, so how are we possibly polluting the Lake with all the water bores between my property and the Lake being drinkable and the Spring water being sold to tourists for \$3.20 per bottle. I checked it out. How are we farmers polluting the Lake? Because I am vcrly unconvinced.

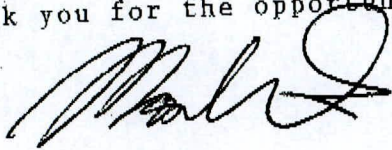
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You have our Local Council washing all the bird excrement along our Lake Front back into the Lake every morning at 6 a.m. a rubbish dump covered in sea gulls, dining and excreting in the Lake and God knows how many ducks and other birds excreting in the Lake.

With the research I have managed to do, I can only conclude that I should be able to carry on farming this land that no man before me ever farmed the way I always have. I do not use nitrogen fertiliser

Should you like to discuss any part of my submission with me I will be only too pleased to do so.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit.



Max Winders