

<b>Officer responsible</b> Water Services Manager	<b>Author</b> Bob Hopkins
Corporate Plan Output: Waterways and Wetlands (Vol 2 Ch 9.3)	

The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of a decision of the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board, to explore options for the possible restoration of Bottle Lake.

**CURRENT SITUATION**

Bottle Lake is shown as a large water body equivalent in size to Horseshoe Lake on the early maps (1856). However the lake has been steadily reduced in size and is in danger of disappearing. Windsor Golf Club leases land from Waitikiri Links Ltd and administers the land around the lake. In 1975, after a period of flooding of the land downstream from the lake outfall, the club was required to obtain a water right for stormwater discharge to the Styx River. The water right stated that the lake was 9.3ha in extent and the club obtained a right to assist stormwater drainage using a surge chamber and pumps to boost the hydraulic capacity of the pipe. A condition of the water right was that minimum level of the lake was to be held at not less than the outfall pipe invert. However the lake has been pumped to 1m lower than the invert and what was once lake and wetland has become a large thicket of exotic trees.

More recently Council staff became involved in the administration of the water right when they realised that the club was filling the lake bed without a resource consent. The Canterbury Regional Council, which administers the water right, has been asked to enforce the water right and is endeavouring to stop the club from lowering the lake below its outfall pipe invert.

Various options were suggested for the restoration of Bottle Lake from full restoration to partial restoration and at its July meeting the Board decided:

1. To support Bottle Lake being recorded as a Natural Feature in the City Plan to be protected from further degradation.
2. To support the establishment of a working party comprising the key stakeholders (for example the owners, Windsor Golf Club, local residents’ association, Water Services and Parks Units) to explore opportunities for the restoration and protection of Bottle Lake.

3. That the Chairperson, David Dobbie and Carole Evans be nominated as the Board's representatives to the Working Party.
4. That the Board express its concern to the Canterbury Regional Council that the Windsor Golf Club has not complied to the Water Right for Bottle Lake.

The Council has adopted the Community Board's report subject to:

*Clause 1. being referred to the Resource Management Committee.*

*Clause 4. being amended to read: "If it is confirmed that the Windsor Golf Club has breached the conditions of the water right for Bottle Lake, the Council express its concerns regarding such breach to the Canterbury Regional Council".*

The setting up of the working party is underway and will meet at the Shirley Service Centre on 18 August 1999.

A copy of the Board report is tabled.

**Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** That the information be received.