

Officer responsible Water Services Manager	Author 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 regarding Bottle Lake, to explore options for its possible restoration.

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 lakebed 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 the Board resolved:

That the Community Board support the setting up of a working party comprising the key stakeholders (eg the Owners, Windsor Golf Club, Local residents association, Water Services and Parks unit, etc) to explore opportunities for the restoration and protection of Bottle Lake.

That the Community Board nominate at least one member to be part of this working party.

The Council has endorsed the Community Board resolution. 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 report to the Community Board is attached.

Recommendation: That the matter be referred to the Christchurch City Council Parks and Recreation Committee, with a recommendation that that Committee give favourable consideration to funding the production of the Christchurch City Council share of the concept plan.