

**IN THE MATTER**                      **of the Resource Management Act 1991**  
**(“the Act”)**

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER**                      **of applications by the Central Plains**  
**Water Trust (CPWT) and the Ashburton**  
**Community Water Trust (ACWT)**

## **Statement of Evidence of Graeme Ewen Williams**

### **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 My full name is Graeme Ewen Williams. I reside in the Waianiwaniwa Valley.
- 1.2 I am the current President of the New Zealand Deerstalkers Association, Malvern Branch. This branch is one of 58 branches nationwide, 7200 membership. The Malvern Branch has 58 members including family members and was founded in 1972. I have been a member of NZDA for over 30 years.
- 1.3 We, as a branch, are privileged to have an outdoor centre-fire rifle range facility which is under threat of flooding by the proposed Central Plains Water scheme.
- 1.4 My evidence as a witness provides an introduction to the Association and the importance of this facility to our members and the greater community. I made an earlier submission on the CPW applications,

on my own behalf, and will address my personal concerns at the conclusion of this statement.

## **2 Description of the New Zealand Deerstalkers Association, Malvern Branch centre-fire rifle range facility**

- 2.1 This facility is located on 'Abners Head' farm in the Waianiwaniwa Valley, the property of two of our members, Craig and Sally Robertson.
- 2.2 The facility is ideally situated because of its geographical location, making use of natural surroundings and in the form of hills which act for containment of a safe firing zone, as well as baffles.
- 2.3 This facility is used by our members as a safe sighting-in range.
- 2.4 It is also used for teaching younger members in firearm safety.
- 2.5 It is the site of our annual branch competitions, which are strongly contested by most of our membership.
- 2.6 The area is also used occasionally for clay-bird sporting shoots.
- 2.7 This area would be a great loss to this branch and near impossible to replace. We cannot put a monetary value on this facility except that it would probably be beyond our branch's capability to generate such an amount.

## **3. Consultation**

- 3.1 Our branch has not heard from CPW or had any discussions with them in relation to the effects of the scheme on this facility and on the recreational amenity enjoyed by our members.

On behalf of the NZDA Malvern Branch, I request the Commissioners withdraw the Notices of Requirement and decline all associated resource consent applications.

**Graeme Williams**  
**18 July 2008**



maintenance work and by altered river flows caused by the abstraction of water.

8. I am also concerned at the loss of the recreational fishing opportunities caused by the degradation of both the Rakaia and especially Waimakariri rivers because of the reduced river flows. The optimum flows for salmon spawning in the Waimakariri River will be seldom achieved because of the CPW water takes.
9. I have read and support the submission made by Fish and Game and the Salmon Anglers Association of which I am a member.
10. I request the Commissioners withdraw the Notices of Requirement and decline all associated resource consent applications.

**Graeme Williams**  
**18<sup>th</sup> July 2008**