

Kelvin Brown

From: docwebsite@doc.govt.nz
Sent: Saturday, 18 July 2026 9:59 pm
To: DNSubmissions
Subject: RCT Group - Submission summary

The following has been received via the application form for a concession by RCT Group Ltd.

Submitter's name : Jeremy Sinclair

Contact person : [REDACTED]

Email : [REDACTED]

Alternative contact :

Phone/Mobile : [REDACTED]

New form element : [REDACTED]

Keep my contact details confidential : Yes

Name of submitter :

Organisation :

Support oppose or neutral : I Oppose this Application (I am making an objection)

Hearing request(2) : I Do Not wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.

Specific parts : The application for a commercial Zip line operation at 12 Mile Delta Queenstown.

Reasons : I object on grounds of the further commercialisation of wilderness and conservation land areas. Queenstown has enough tourist activities and their associated disruption to deteriorate locals quality of life. The Twelve Mile area represents a very special area. It encapsulates the Queenstown environment with quality experiences of the lake, river, wildlife, historical context all within easy distance of the town centre. There is already a canyoning operation, which while low impact, still detracts from the passive users experience, as does the sight seeing operation for LOTR if still using the region conservation area. The noise from tourist boats on the lake with their loudspeakers is also a nuisance at 12 Mile, as is the tourist boats entering Bobs Cove. The planned zip line business is not necessary, it offers no value other than commercial to the operators. In an already over touristed market, more activity in a conservation area is not required. We need to protect the natural environment for future generations and not run it into more commercial activities. I would expect this to be the Departments priority. I doubt that the proposed long term conservation programme would add more value than what is already in place or what DOC and local community groups will achieve in this 30 year time frame. Pest control etc can be carried out by local groups like what happens in other areas. The work DOC has done to limit vehicle access to the river, maintain the tracks through to Mt Creighton Loop and Bobs Cove and enhance the camp site have been greatly appreciated by locals. The added traffic movements of this proposal does not help an already congested corridor. In summary the 12 Mile Delta is to me a very significant and special part of the Queenstown. I have lived here for 27 years and appreciate that it has retained its natural aspects and beauty. This is rare in Queenstown, a region which is constantly under attack from developers, commercial operators and tourism in general. I think a balance can be found in allowing 12 Mile Delta to remain as it is in its current more natural state undisturbed from anymore commercial activity.

Outcomes : Please decline the application on grounds that further commercialisation of conservation land is not required to the 12 Mile Delta area.

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Kelvin Brown

From: docwebsite@doc.govt.nz
Sent: Friday, 7 August 2026 4:30 pm
To: DNSubmissions
Subject: RCT Group - Submission summary

The following has been received via the application form for a concession by RCT Group Ltd.

Submitter's name : Whakatipu Wildlife Trust

Contact person : Anna Harding-Shaw, Executive Officer, Whakatipu Wildlife Trust. Whakatipu Wildlife Trust (WWT) is a registered charitable trust and community conservation organisation based in Queenstown Lakes. We coordinate the largest community volunteer predator-control network in our district, with nearly 300 active volunteer trappers completing over 41,000 trap checks and removing more than 14,000 introduced predators in 2025-26. Our work takes place across public conservation land throughout the Whakatipu basin, including areas adjacent to and within the Twelve Mile Delta Recreation Reserve and Mt Crichton Scenic Reserve. WWT is a founding partner of Southern Lakes Sanctuary. We operate active traplines and biodiversity monitoring programmes within the wider 12 Mile-Bob's Cove forest landscape and have a longstanding interest in the ecological health of these reserves.

Email : hello@whakatipuwildlifetrust.org.nz

Alternative contact :

Phone/Mobile :

New form element :

Keep my contact details confidential : Yes

Name of submitter : Anna Harding-Shaw

Organisation : Whakatipu Wildlife Trust

Support oppose or neutral : I Support this Application (I am making a submission)

Hearing request(2) : I Do Not wish to be heard in support of this objection or submission at a hearing.

Specific parts : This submission relates to: the proposed Forest Management Plan (FMP) as described in Section 6 of Document E (Restore NZ Ecological Impact Assessment), including the proposed partnerships with local conservation organisations (Section 6.4); the 30-year concession term; and the operational commitments to conservation funding and delivery described in the supplementary information (Document D).

Reasons : Whakatipu Wildlife Trust (WWT) supports this application. WWT is a community conservation organisation that operates active predator control traplines and biodiversity monitoring within the wider 12 Mile-Bob's Cove landscape, including areas within and adjacent to the Twelve Mile Delta Recreation Reserve and Mt Crichton Scenic Reserve. We are a founding partner of Southern Lakes Sanctuary. We support the application for the following reasons. First, the ecological impact assessment demonstrates a low overall level of ecological effect. The operation's design largely follows existing tracks, has a small physical footprint, avoids mature and cavity-bearing trees, and removes only four small regenerating beech trees. Effects on beech forest vegetation, lizard habitat and birds are assessed as Very Low overall. The applicant has made efforts to site infrastructure away from sensitive vegetation and to minimise disturbance. The applicant involved ecologists early in the design process and we consider the low-impact design to be appropriate for these reserves. Second, the Rotorua Canopy Tours operational model has a demonstrated record of funding meaningful ecological restoration through visitor revenue - including predator control and weed management - within its operating area. We consider a commercially operated activity that actively funds restoration on the land being used to be consistent with good concession practice. Third, the ecological impact assessment proposes to develop the Forest Management Plan in

partnership with WWT, Southern Lakes Sanctuary and other community groups which we welcome. We consider formal partnership with existing community conservation networks essential for any concession of this nature within a landscape where active community restoration is already underway.

Outcomes : WWT asks that the following conditions be attached to any concession granted: 1. Forest Management Plan (FMP) approved before construction. The FMP must be submitted to DOC and approved before construction commences. It should include: -Specific measurable targets for pest control, weed management and ecological monitoring -A minimum annual funding commitment to conservation delivery (as a fixed sum or percentage of gross revenue) -Formal naming of WWT and Southern Lakes Sanctuary as required partners in FMP development, delivery and review - not merely consultees. -Other community groups active in the Bob's Cove landscape - including Bob's Cove Predator Control and Regenerate Bobs Cove - should also be engaged in FMP development. -The FMP should be subject to five-yearly independent review, with DOC retaining the right to require amendments. 2. Protection of existing conservation infrastructure. The concession should require the operator to notify WWT and SLS before any works that could affect trapline access or existing conservation infrastructure, and to maintain access for WWT volunteers to all existing trap and monitoring sites within or adjacent to the operating area for the duration of the concession.

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