



Form 13

**Submission on application concerning resource consent that is  
subject to public notification by Hurunui District Council**

*Sections 95A Resource Management Act 1991*

**To:** Hurunui District Council

This is a submission on an application from Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools and Spa (the applicant) for a resource consent (RC 210098) to install and operate a gravity-based recreation activity (flyride) on the western face of the Conical Hill Reserve at 54 Lucas Lane, Hanmer Springs.

Submitter details

1. Name of submitter: Hanmer Springs Horse Riders Inc. (HSHR).
2. For the purposes of Section 308B of the Resource Management Act 1991: we are not a trade competitor.
3. We are directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that:
  - a) adversely affects the environment; and
  - b) does not relate to trade competition or effects of trade competition.
4. The specific parts of the application that our submission relates to is the effect of the location of the proposed activity on an existing horse track.
5. Hanmer Springs Horse Riders' submission is in OPPOSITION to the proposed activity.

Hanmer Springs Horse Riders was incorporated in 2009 with the objective *to promote safe and responsible recreational horse riding in the Hanmer Springs area*. From the outset one of our main activities has been to advocate for continuing and enhanced access for horse riding in Hanmer Springs and the surrounding areas. This advocacy is not just for local members and riders; there is an increasing number of horse and rider visitors who base themselves in Hanmer Springs to access nearby high-country trekking opportunities but also enjoy the local tracks and amenities.

HSHR is represented on the Hanmer Recreational Track Network Group (HRTNG). Due to HSHR's advocacy, a 'crosstown' link track was approved by the HRTNG in 2010 so that riders could safely cross from one side of Hanmer Springs to the other without having to go through the centre of the village on the road network. This critical link track is signposted for horse riders and runs from the northern end of Lucas Lane, up the western side of Conical Hill (adjacent to the proposed flyride), across the northern face of the hill and down the eastern side to Woodland Reserve and on to the Heritage Forest.

Although the crosstown link track has been regularly used by horse riders for the last decade, the application does not recognise this use but shows it on the overall development plan as simply a 'walking/biking track'.

Horses are prey animals and 'spook' easily at sudden movements or loud noises as these are perceived as predator action. This can invoke a dangerous flight response in even the most well-trained horse. We consider that the unaccustomed overhead movements created by the proposed flyride in such close proximity to the track, and the anticipated shrieks and screams of the patrons, will create an unsafe riding environment rendering the current track unusable during operation of the flyride, and potentially creating a risk to other track users. The track will also be unusable due to disruption and machinery noise during the construction phase, and when under regular maintenance.

6. We seek the following decision from the consent authority:

That the application is DECLINED.

However, if consent is granted, we require as a condition of consent that the applicant construct and signpost an alternative 'cross-town' horse riding track that will safely link the western and eastern sides of the village. This alternative track should be installed at the applicant's expense and should be completed before any construction on the flyride begins.

7. We wish to be heard in support of our submission.

8. If others make a similar submission, we will consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing.

9. Pursuant to Section 100A of the Resource Management Act 1991 we request The Council delegate their functions, powers, and duties to hear and decide the application to one or more hearings commissioners who are not members of the local authority.



*Signature of the submitter (or person authorised to sign on their behalf)*

*Date 19 July 2021*

10. Contact details for the submitter:

Jan Weaver (Treasurer)

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PO Box 23

Email: jsweaver.nz@gmail.com

Hanmer Springs 7360

#### **Note to submitter**

- You must serve a copy of your submission on the applicant as soon as is reasonably practicable after you have served your submission on the consent authority.
- The closing date for serving submissions on the consent authority is the 20th working day after the date on which public notification is given (19 April 2021).
- If you are a trade competitor, your right to make a submission may be limited by the trade competition provisions in [Part 11A](#) of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- If you make a request under [section 100A](#) of the Resource Management Act 1991, you must do so in writing no later than 5 working days after the close of submissions and you may be liable to meet or contribute to the costs of the hearings commissioner or commissioners.
- Please note that your submission (or part of your submission) may be struck out if the authority is satisfied that at least 1 of the following applies to the submission (or part of the submission):
  - it is frivolous or vexatious:
  - it discloses no reasonable or relevant case:
  - it would be an abuse of the hearing process to allow the submission (or the part) to be taken further:
  - it contains offensive language:
  - it is supported only by material that purports to be independent expert evidence, but has been prepared by a person who is not independent or who does not have sufficient specialised knowledge or skill to give expert advice on the matter.