

**Subject:** Freshwater Policy

**Recipient:** watersubmissions@submissions.mfe.govt.nz

**Sender:** watersubmissions@mfe.govt.nz

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Dear Sir/Madam Like many New Zealanders I am fairly cynical about Governments who ask for public submissions on policy. But in a few cases such as the panic mongering regarding ACC levies a few years ago and now this issue of fresh water I have to try to do something to stop the craziness. Regional Councils up and down the country have been making a dreadful job of managing our fresh water resources and there needs to be strong leadership from Central Government to set the standards. What is currently proposed is so woefully inadequate it should be rejected and whoever was responsible for it's drafting should be sacked and the job given to someone better qualified. They need to go back to square one and start again with a lot more context of how fresh water quality affects the lives of all New Zealanders. As to the concept of somehow transferring the ownership of all fresh water resources to Iwi (or any other small group such as farmers), the logic for this is so flawed it beggars belief. Everyone involved needs to stop and rethink all aspects of this policy. Do some proper consultation - not just with select focus groups but with real people instead. And lastly its a very foolhardy politician who will go ahead with a proposal that is clearly against the wishes of the majority of voters. Yours sincerely Nick Brandon [REDACTED]