

Your submission to Clean Water

Felicity Rashbrooke, **East Harbour Environmental Association**



Clause

What are your thoughts on the proposed swimming targets, for example, on the timeframes and categories?

Notes

We think these are inadequate - a much stronger emphasis is needed on "swimability". The lowering of the bar is opposed by us, not so much because we think that people should have safer swimming opportunities (although that is important), but more because a higher standard has better environmental outcomes overall. The down-sizing, apparently driven by commercial pressure favouring intensive farming, will in the long term degrade our environment in a manner that will take many decades to recover, and possibly never recover.

Clause

What do you think about the proposed amendments to the Freshwater NPS?

Notes

We oppose the addition of "then providing for economic well-being, including productive economic opportunities, within environmental limits." in A2. We expect, as do many others, that this would lead to commercial pressures detracting from what may otherwise be sound environmental outcomes, and would not be consistent with the RMA sections 5-7. Yes, "economic well-being" is mentioned in s 5(2) of the RMA, but the thrust of s 6 and s7 is environmental protection, not a "balancing act", and we object to this back-door addition in the NPS.