Submission related to “Action for Healthy Waterways” consultation.

This organisation, currently represents 38 fishers. These fishers are: Crayfishers, Danish seine, Bottom longliners, Trawlermen, Scallop fishers, Sea urchin divers.

The large majority of these businesses operate in inshore waters on the east and west coast of the Coromandel Peninsular.

Our general responses to the proposals contained in the consultation “Action for Healthy Waterways” is very positive given our proximity to the Waihou and Piako River deltas with the resulting eutrophication issues out in the Firth of Thames, however the sediment run off into the coastal waters from both sides of the steep Coromandel Ranges is something that needs more thought from incentives such as the consultation on “action for healthy waterways”

The right trees for the right places.

We feel not enough attention is being given to harvesting and high rain fall events associated with short rotation plantation forestry in the radiata pine forests growing on steeper parts of the Coromandel and Tairua ranges.

Our operators see first hand the sediment plumes exiting from the rivers and streams such as the Wharekawa Estuary at Opoutere, Tairua, Whitianga and Whangapoa rivers and streams from Coromandel, Colville, Port Charles and Kennedy Bay during high rainfallevents. The effects of 3-500 mls on steep cut over plantation forests from tropical cyclone weather events is devasting to the environment and estuarine/inshore waters and associated sea grass, shell fish and resident juvenile finfish.
Extreme weather events and sedimentation effects is also apparent in the short rotation plantation forests of the Marlborough Sounds.

Quick growing radiata pine are not the right trees for these steeper coastal areas.

Yours faithfully,

President.