

From: [withheld]
To: [WaterReformPublicConsultation](#)
Subject: Submission 05151 - Henry Dumbleton - Please read my message regarding fresh water quality.
Date: Tuesday, 4 February 2014 2:49:11 p.m.

Henry Dumbleton
[withheld]

Growing up as in New Zealand we always would stop on a hot day and swim in the many beautiful rivers in this country. This and many other simple aspects of life is what defines us as a country and makes us the overall happy people we are.

I have read that river quality has deteriorated and that many rivers are now unsafe for swimming. However this only hit home recently when I become very sick after kitesurfing at the mouth of the Manawatu river, an otherwise beautiful location.

I also recently have listened to many damming reviews given by tourists visiting this country, describing a dirty and polluted waterways which are very different to the 100% pure countryside they were told about. These people will return home and share their stories, and our fragile brand, arguably one of our most significant economic assets, will be lost forever.

From what I understand there is no clear policy or direction to protect or restore the quality of rivers to a level which would permit safe swimming in a adequate number of locations.

There are many factors that contribute to the happiness of New Zealanders. Let us consider all of these, not just short term economic turnover, when deciding what is the best path forward.

I believe the future happiness of New Zealanders would be best served by a healthy environment we can be proud of and market internationally under our 'pure' branding..

regards,

Henry Dumbleton