

**From:** [ withheld ] .  
**To:** [WaterReformPublicConsultation](#)  
**Subject:** Submission 05141 - Sam - National policy statement for Freshwater submission  
**Date:** Tuesday, 4 February 2014 2:32:41 p.m.

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I think that the proposed minimum water standards need to be higher than they currently are set at. All New Zealand freshwaters should be swimmable, fishable and safe for food gathering and that the National Objectives framework should include measurable parameters that directly relate to these values.

There should be a higher water quality requirement and a higher grade for rivers throughout the country. If rivers do not meet this grade, then the rivers overall ecological and water quality need to be improved. There should not be any rivers in New Zealand where year in year out there needs to be signs erected to say people can not swim in them.

I want local rivers and lakes that I visit to be habitable to native fish, invertebrates, trout and salmon and safe for fishing, swimming and eating any food/fish from them.

Economic improvement can be done with a clean environment there just needs to be measures ensuring the protection of the rivers at the same time as higher agriculture production.

Any new measures brought in need to ensure all our waterways and lakes remain at a high standard both in terms of water quality and ecological quality. Currently the proposed plan does not address this issue.

Our clean green image is the bench mark from which we sell our products, what tourists come to visit. Let us not ruin this image through increased agriculture at the expense of the environment. Agriculture can be more sustainable this needs to be the core focus.

Regards,

Sam