

PUT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS HERE

Warren snow [withheld]

My home is in the Far North and the local children used to spend all summer hanging out at a large water hole in the local river at Ahipara that feeds into 90 Mile Beach. The river is now one of the most polluted on the Far North and now abandoned by the children except for a small number who may not be aware of the risks.

We rent out home to tourists for short term stays and we have to warn them not to swim in the river which flows on to and along the beach in front of our house. They are usually shocked that the NZ government would allow such a beautiful natural asset to be so damaged by selfish farmers who could easily afford to fence and plant the riparian strip along the river and take other positive actions but have never done as it would seem particularly dairying has become more and more intensive.

Please ensure that this and other rivers are not treated as free waste disposal which will protect our children's health and enable them to enjoy their birthright to simply lounge on the banks and swim in their favourite water hole. As well as their and tourists needs we must also protect the natural features and organisms that rely on clean water. From this unhealthy intrusion on the river ecosystem.

Warren Snow