

**Subject:** Clean Water Submission

**Recipient:** watercomments@submissions.mfe.govt.nz

**Sender:** [REDACTED]

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I find the claim of "90% of rivers and lakes swimmable by 2040" to be extremely misleading.

As the targets are stated, it is entirely possible that even if the targets are met that most people would be unable to swim in any local lake or river during the periods they most want to (the hottest low flow periods over summer).

Having a time based target that is sufficiently broad that it is possible that people would be unable to swim in practice when they most want and need to is simply not good enough.

A minimum target needs to be 80% of lakes and rivers swimmable during hottest summer low flow conditions. Any target less than that is simply smoke and mirrors.

Quadrupling the E coli measures, giving a probability that one in 20 will fall ill from swimming is not a real outcome (more smoke). Every school group going swimming could expect at least one child ill at the limits of such a standard.

Is that really acceptable???

How many parent would think that acceptable?

I understand many of the complexities involved. I chair our Zone Water Management Committee, come from a farming background, have degree in zoology with a strong interest in ecology, and am active in many local and regional fora looking at the very complex problems involving the interactions between people, technology and ecosystems.

Some lakes and water bodies are naturally eutrophic, and never have been swimmable by modern safety standards (and I have swum in many of them and survived the experience).

We have real issues, deep issues, and we are developing technologies to allow us to solve them.

I am all for having most of our waterways swimmable, and having human induced degradation of water quality to an absolute minimum; and that will require that we stop nitrogen forcing pasture growth, and if we stay with large scale dairy farming, then we must find some effective mechanism to spread cow urine (which may involve having some device to make cows walk while they pee rather than standing still, and perhaps even directing them to areas of low soil nitrogen nearby to do that).

Solutions are possible, and they need to be real.

This document does not seem to me to be real.

To me it appears fundamentally deceptive.

We can do much better.

We must do much better.

Arohanui

Ted

Ted Howard  
BSc Marine Ecology

Managing Director - Solution-Multipliers NZ Ltd.  
<http://www.fishnet.co.nz/>

Chairman - Kaikoura Zone Water Management Committee of Environment Canterbury  
<http://ecan.govt.nz/GET-INVOLVED/CANTERBURYWATER/COMMITTEES/KAIKOURA/Pages/membership.aspx>  
[http://www.kaikoura.govt.nz/your-concil/agendas/water\\_zone\\_committee/index.htm](http://www.kaikoura.govt.nz/your-concil/agendas/water_zone_committee/index.htm)

President - Kaikoura Boating Club  
<http://kaikouraboatingclub.org.nz/>  
Club: PO. BOX 98, KAIKOURA

Treasurer: Te Korowai o te tai o Marokura  
<http://www.teamkorowai.org.nz/>

Chair  
Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust  
HSCT PO Box 58 KAIKOURA 7340

<http://www.huttonsshearwater.org.nz/>

Appointed member Kaikoura Marine Guardians

Board Member - Lifeboat foundation  
[www.lifeboat.com](http://www.lifeboat.com)

Member Our Fishing Future Committee

Acting President NZ Recreational Fishing Council  
<http://www.recfish.co.nz>

Independent Commissioner- Resource Management Act

Member - Ecan Regional Recreational Working Group

Member - Kaikoura branch Forest & Bird

Member - Kaikoura Lions Club (Past president)

Member - Kaikoura Golf Club

Member - Kaikoura Tramping Club

Member - Kaikoura Cycle Club

Board member - NZ Fishing Industry Association

Cancer survivor  
<http://www.tedhowardnz.wordpress.com/cancer-treatment>

Unsuccessful Mayoral candidate for Kaikoura - 2016 Local body elections

Active member - <http://www.kurzweilai.net>



Personal Blog: <http://www.tedhowardnz.com>