

Submission on National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management

28 April 2017

Submitter: Paul McArthur

████████████████████
████████████████
██

General feedback about the process

I strongly oppose the short (just five weeks!) submissions timeframe as completely inadequate for public consultation and comment on such major changes.

Drivers for Change

I oppose the Government's claim that changes are necessary when no analysis has been provided to indicate the current RMA is not working.

Changes Proposed

- I oppose the Government fundamentally changing the context of the RMA from 'environmental protection' to a prerequisite or condition of 'economic development'.
- I oppose all amendments that weaken or remove the protection currently afforded to freshwater habitats and fisheries and for recreational use and amenity value.
- I oppose the removal of specific reference to "protect", "preserve", "maintain", and "enhance" from Section 6 & 7 and demand such protections are retained.
- I request that environmental protect be retained as the #1 priority without a condition of economic growth but that economic growth is possible provided the environment continues to be protected.