
From: Janna Downie <jannadownie@yahoo.co.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 7 March 2017 9:08 p.m.
To: Healthy Rivers
Subject: (Janna Downie 1/2) Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora

Categories: Multiple Emails to be merged in Discover

Submission to Chief Executive, Waikato Regional Council -

I am concerned about freshwater quality in the Waikato, and ask that immediate action be developed to ensure that all freshwater is safe for swimming. In regards to the Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 - Waikato and Waipā River Catchments, I ask that you include the following:

- 1) Precise freshwater objectives.
- 2) The following freshwater attributes: Te Hauora o te Taiao; natural character; dissolved oxygen (DO); deposited and suspended sediment; Freshwater Macroinvertebrate Health (Macroinvertebrate Community Index); periphyton; cyanobacteria; benthic cyanobacteria; Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen (DIN) & total nitrogen in the tributaries / sub catchments; total phosphorous in the tributaries / sub catchments; temperature; pH; toxic heavy metals; barriers to fish migrations, and; water flows and levels.
- 3) Instream limits (and associated targets) for loads (N and P), sediment loads, e-coli, toxic contaminant loads (e.g. metals, organic compounds), micro-organisms and temperature.
- 4) Load thresholds in sub catchments and catchments coming under resource use pressure.
- 5) A freshwater implementation and program of change plan which includes a) a transparent approach to developing monitoring, compliance, and implementation systems b) steps to ensure that effective and cost-efficient monitoring, compliance, and implementation capacity is in place at the time the regime is introduced c) monitoring and reporting on and reviewing the implementation of the policy d) transparent public information for freshwater discharges and takes e) a council report every two years on progress towards meeting objectives, limits and targets f) steps the council will take if the combined interventions are not sufficient.
- 6) Farm environment plans as a controlled activity.
- 7) Load allocation approaches that are equitable, promote efficient resource use, future proofed and promote sustainable management. Allocation approaches should not reward current or historic poor practice (grandparenting).
- 8) The Land Use Capability (LUC) classification system. Load allocations (e.g. nitrogen) should be based on the LUC and land suitability.
- 9) Rules to prevent over fertilising, over stocking, over grazing, over watering and over draining.
- 10) A polluter pays mechanism such as a pollution tax, similar to the carbon tax in that revenue from this tax should be used to both clean up the water bodies, e.g. restoration costs, and incentivise good land management practises.

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