

## Developing human health freshwater objectives – engagement material

The Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee is about to start developing their human health freshwater objectives. To assist this process a number of comments from engagement with the community in 2015 and 2016 have been identified by searching for terms such as swimming, drinking, water quality, mahinga kai and other language around how people wish to interact with water. We've then grouped these into relevant themes below. This information provides a flavour of community feedback and is not exhaustive. All feedback can be found on the website at <http://www.gw.govt.nz/community-input/>.

### Overall water quality aspirations

| Comment   | Source(s)                    |
|---|------------------------------|
| Steady improvement for future generations                     | Whangaehu Meeting - 2015     |
| Continual improvement in water quality over time              | Featherston Meeting - 2015   |
| Keep water quality same from mountains to sea                 | Carterton Meeting - 2015     |
| Seen serious degradation in water quality in last 15-20 years | Martinborough Meeting - 2016 |
| Needs to be safe, clean and clear                             | Masterton Meeting - 2016     |

### Swimmability

| Comment  | Source(s)   |
|--|---|
| The rivers are swimmable   | Brochure responses – 2016<br>Masterton Meeting – 2015<br>Pirinoa Meeting - 2016 |
| Swimmable everywhere is ridiculous   | Whangaehu Meeting – 2016  |
| River is better to swim in than before (no dairy factories, dairy shed discharges and wastewater not treated)                                      | Greytown Meeting – 2016   |
| Do not want waste water treatment near our awa   | Masterton Meeting – 2016  |
| Ruamāhanga River – how far below town sewerage do you check?<br>Lots of people swim at the Waihenga Bridge and there doesn't seem to be a problem. | Brochure responses - 2016   |
| Bathing quality water for community swimming holes   | Whangaehu Meeting – 2015  |
| Swimming is a secondary consideration. River should be free of pollution at all times.   | Brochure responses  |
| Swimmable water quality at Wairarapa Moana   | Masterton Meeting - 2015  |
| Waipoua – Ruamāhanga confluence not swimmable  | Kopuaranga Meeting - 2016   |
| 4 years to reach swimmable – let's make this a priority  | Pirinoa Meeting - 2016  |
| Need a target. Is it realistic to always have swimmable?   | Pirinoa Meeting - 2016  |

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| Want water to be swimmable today   | Pirinoa Meeting - 2016                             |
| Issue - Water not clean enough to swim in Ruamahanga and Martinborough Huangarua River         | Pirinoa Meeting - 2015                             |
| Recreation quality able to be used for recreation  | Pirinoa Meeting – 2015<br>Whangaehu Meeting - 2015 |
| Swimmability relationship with urban wastewater  | Whangaehu, 2016                                    |
| Cost/benefit of swimmability - % of time people want to swim and where in the catchment.       | Whangaehu Meeting - 2016                           |
| Cliffs in high flows aren't swimmable because MDC releases from the wastewater treatment plant | Whangaehu Meeting - 2016                           |

### Drinking water

| Comment                                     | Source(s)  |
|---|--|
| Drinkable 100%                              | Masterton Meeting – 2015<br>Brochure responses - 2016                            |
| Clean drinking water                        | Carterton Meeting - 2015<br>Featherston Meeting – 2015<br>Kopuaranga - 2015      |
| Clean and safe to swim and drink            | Pirinoa Meeting - 2015,<br>Whangaehu Meeting – 2015<br>Kopuaranga Meeting - 2015 |
| Be certain that bore water is safe to drink | Carterton Meeting - 2015   |

### Customary use, including mahinga kai as it relates to human health

| Comment   | Source(s)   |
|---|---|
| Re-establish tuna population in Wairarapa Moana   | Masterton Meeting - 2015<br>Carterton Meeting - 2015                                |
| Places for baptism  | Gladstone Meeting – 2015,<br>Featherston Meeting - 2015<br>Masterton Meeting – 2015 |
| Mahinga kai gathering   | Masterton Meeting - 2015<br>Carterton Meeting - 2015                                |
| Cultural identity to urupa, mahinga kai, waahi tapu at Wairarapa Moana                      | Masterton Meeting – 2015  |
| Collecting watercress from creeks, eeling and collecting kakahi – other native fish species | Carterton Meeting - 2015  |