

# What is water? It's not always CLEAR



**When water and CONTAMINANTS MEET**

**N P**

Too much sediment, too many nutrients, too high a temperature, too little oxygen or flow and too high or too low a pH can all harm our native animals and ecosystems. To be sustainable we need to protect our natural environment for the future.

**When water and LAW MEET**

In NZ Regional Councils manage water by catchment. We use the Resource Management Act and the Ministry for the Environment sets standard for freshwater quality, management, and conservation.

**When water and POLITICS MEET**

The political debate on our water and how we use it could double as a snapshot of our history - aquifer draw down; new hydroelectric dams; lost mahinga kai; irrigation rights; water rates; stock in waterways; pollution of waterways; drinkable v swimmable v wadeable; the epi-centre of our tourist industry; access for water sports; water ownership; the forshore debate and sustainability standards. As a nation water (protest, legislation, negotiation and conversation) is central to both our identity and our politics.

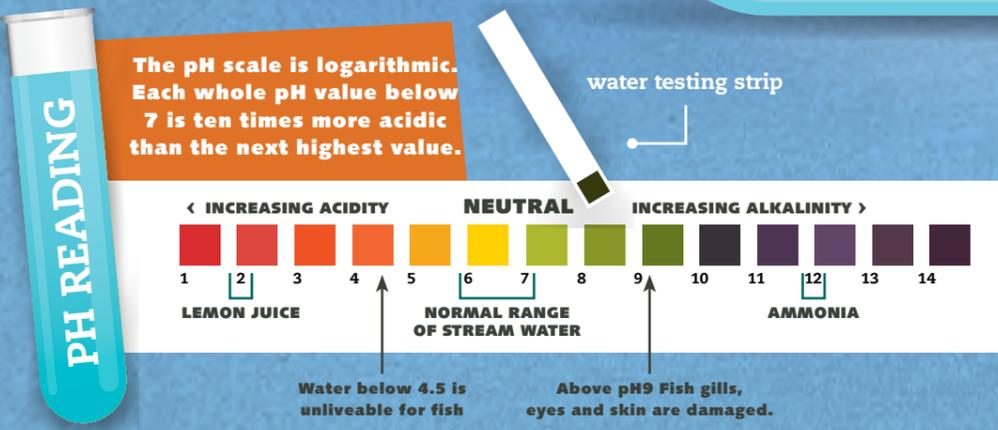
**When water and JOBS MEET**

Fresh water is also a vital part of the New Zealand economy. Many jobs rely on water 45,000 people are employed in the dairy industry; 50,000 employed in Horticulture and 110,000 are employed in Tourism.

**When water and IWI MEET**

For iwi and hapu rivers, lakes and streams are tipuna. Their waters carry mauri. In a traditional pepeha an awa (river) is included as part of an individual's very identity. An awa represents the mana of a hapu or iwi. As a result of Treaty settlement many iwi are now actively involved in the governance and restoration of their traditional waterways.

**WATER** is the base for *everything* **BUT** what happens when different factors are added to it?



**Dissolved Oxygen Levels: Must be greater than 80% > 5ppm**

