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MEDIA RELEASE

HON PETER DUNNE

OPPOSITION SPOKESPERSON FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

LABOUR TO FIGHT FOR ANGLERS IN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT BILL

Labour's Environment Spokesperson, Hon Peter Dunne, has announced that the Labour Opposition supports the concerns of anglers regarding amendments to the Resource Management Bill.

In the recommendations of the Select Committee on the Bill which reported to Parliament earlier in the week, it was recommended that the purposes and principles clauses of the Bill be amended to lessen the level of protection given to trout and salmon habitats, and to remove access to the public estate as a matter of national importance.

"Labour opposes both of these moves," he says.

"We will be moving amendments to the Bill when it comes before Parliament again next week to ensure that both the protection of the habitats of trout and salmon and access to the public estate are restored as matters of national importance within the Bill," he says.

Mr Dunne says that anglers and other New Zealanders who feel concerned about the maintenance of traditional public access should lobby their local National Party MPs over the weekend to ensure that they support Labour's amendments.