



# SEMINAR

## Department of Public Health



University of Otago, Wellington | 23A Mein Street | Newtown | Wellington

## Our deadly nitrogen addiction

**Dr. Mike Joy, Massey University, Palmerston North**

The human population has reached a level far in excess of the ability of the planet to sustain it long-term through using synthetic nitrogen. The 'green revolution' was driven by a massive increase in fossil energy in food production; this one-off subsidy from the past is close to its end as the easy energy pickings diminish. To be able to feed the burgeoning population without fossil fuels and keep greenhouse gas emissions at a safe level will require removing livestock from human food and reducing transporting and processing food. This change will have many human and ecological health benefits.



Mike Joy BSc, MSc (1<sup>st</sup> class hons), PhD in Ecology is a Senior Lecturer in Ecology and Environmental Science at the Ecology group-Institute of Agriculture and Environment Massey University Palmerston North. He researches and teaches freshwater ecology, especially freshwater fish ecology and distribution, ecological modelling bio-assessment and environmental science. He has and continues to supervise many Masters and PhD students doing research into freshwater ecology, with topics from native fish ecology to farmers' attitudes to sustainability. Mike is an outspoken advocate for environmental protection in New Zealand and has received a number of awards for his work.

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017 12.30 to 1.15**

**Small Lecture Theatre, Level D, University of Otago Wellington**

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