

Your submission to Clean Water

Clause

What are your thoughts on the proposed swimming targets, for example, on the timeframes and categories?

Notes

The time frame is ridiculous. The people who are the current polluters are highly unlikely to be the ones who must bare the financial consequences of any remedial programmes for improving and cleaning our waterways. New data is showing that nearly 3/4 of our native fish are threatened with extinction NOW. How is another 20+ years of this going to help. We need to bring the programme to fruition and completion sooner. There is no doubt we are at a turning point in the ability to keep our rivers healthy and flowing. This is a disgrace. And a weak approach is utterly disgusting. We need higher water quality (without weaker limits) and we need it sooner. The levels of nutrient and pollution acceptable in waterways needs to be returned to original 'goal post' levels prior to the recent changes. Weakening limits is an absolutely immoral way of dealing with the most precious substance on earth. We can have farming and water quality together, but the right decisions need to be made through this legislation.

Clause

What do you think about the proposed amendments to the Freshwater NPS?

Notes

There needs to be a stop to water consent trading. All water in excess of a consentees needs must be returned to river systems not traded on a market. If a user has no use for the water it must be left in the natural system. There need to be a concerted effort of legislation to bring back consents on over consented waterways. There also needs to be areas/catchments that are permanently excluded from intensive irrigation - both taking water for and applying water via. Obvious areas like Mackenzie country and already heavily irrigated regions in arid areas like Canterbury, Marlborough etc.

Clause

What are your thoughts on the proposed stock exclusion regulation, for example, the timeframes and stock types to be excluded?

Notes

All stock needs to be excluded and timeframes need to be sooner. Punishments for breaches of the laws should be increased and proceeds from fines etc should go directly back to funding programs involved in cleaning up/planting and fencing waterways or study's to improve current practice.

Clause

Do you have any other comments on the contents of the Clean Water discussion document?

Notes

The environment needs to be the more important factor in all legislation as opposed to economic interests. The environment is for the better of all over an economic benefit for a few. Any detrimental impacts on the environment must be the overriding factor to deny any more water uses. An economic incentive is not a reason to increase any of these negative impacts on this country's waterways. They are a finite resource. The health of our waterways is the basis of the health of our country. The new parts of this legislation that gives economic interests a greater priority than environmental must be removed from this NPS of Freshwater Management.

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.