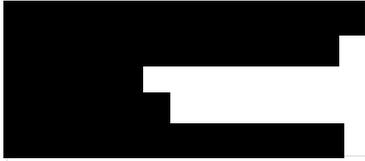


Your submission to Clean Water

**Clause**

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

Notes

We believe that the health of our rivers goes far beyond the swimming requirements of the people. As such we believe the focus needs to be on the overall health of the rivers and waterbodies for the protection of the aquatic life. The target of rivers that are deep enough to swim in is rather ambiguous, and again puts the focus on people swimming, rather than the holistic health of the water. We also believe there is much more to the health of the river than just Ecoli! While we understand the water quality may fluctuate due to natural occurrences, we believe it is necessary to strive for best quality all of the time, as fish life will be affected if we allow for any periods of poor quality. We believe that the timelines could be shortened to reflect the desperate measures required immediately. To leave 10% of significant waterways to be polluted and toxic is not desirable and as such all water bodies are to come under the legislation. We do not believe it is acceptable to ignore 10% of waterways that due to misuse are now so badly affected that it is problematic to fix.

Clause

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

Notes

We feel there are many contributors to poor water quality that have not been fully identified or enough regulation around. Forestry and cropping are major contributors to poor river quality through debris, silt run off and toxic chemicals, all contributing to the ill health of the waterways.

Clause

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

Notes

We believe the staggering will help to implement it, however we do not believe it is fast enough. Also, sheep need to be considered in the exclusions too. While they are not such heavy contributors and dairy/forestry and cropping they cover a large percentage of river ways, often dying in the rivers. There does not appear to be established set backs of riparian plantings to allow enough space between ag farming and waterways.

Clause

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

Notes

Adequate water flow is a major contributor to the health of rivers, the continuation of encouraging large water takes for intensive irrigation is not sustainable. Allowing major quarrying also affects the speed of the river flows. This in itself affects the plant and fish life. We applaud you for considering the Te Mana o te Wai, and look forward to supporting amendments to the policy to support this. Every aspect of our future relies on the health of our rivers, from well being of the people to economic development. We can no longer accept the ongoing degradation of our waterways in any form.

You have elected to withhold your personal details from publication.