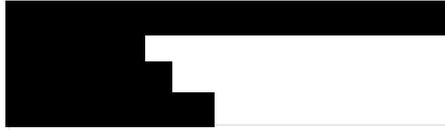


Your submission to Clean Water

Robert Bruce McCaw



Clause

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

Notes

1). I am utterly appalled at the shifting of the goal posts by simply redefining "wadeable" to "swimable" especially as the new limit is only 10 below the level that the health authorities will issue a public health warning! 2040 is far too long. Water quality has been allowed to deteriorate by stating that resource consents are not necessary for intensive farming despite knowing what has happened around the world. It is fiddling while Rome burns.

Clause

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

Notes

As above

Clause

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

Notes

This has been talked about for over a decade. It should have been done years ago for ALL stock not just dairy cattle. All stock should be excluded from waterways however small the waterway/body is. If farming is uneconomical doing so then it is not an appropriate use of the land. If you are only profitable by externalising your costs then you are being subsidised; something NZ farmers vehemently deny! (I have worked most my life in the rural community). A commons, water, has been taken at will and some external costs, pollution, have been passed on to the public to maximise private profit and the public is expected to pay towards the cost of cleaning up this pollution e.g. Millions of tax dollars already spent on Lakes Ellesmere, Wainono, Waitako River etc, etc. Plus ratepayers have subsidised fencing and riparian plantings.

Clause

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

Notes

I have seen the deterioration of waterways both in quality and quantity in my life time and shake my head in disbelief. Look at Scandinavia and learn how to farm without polluting. Nick Smith is correct in saying that some urban waterways are now much better than they were in the past when industrial pollution was intense but none of those industries cleaned up their act voluntarily. They were forced to by legislation and they paid for the clean up themselves. One would think that we would not have let it reoccur with agriculture.