

Your submission to Clean Water

Alan Ronald Petrie

Clause

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

Notes

As they stand, the swimming targets are confusing and unachievable. In reality, there are too many pathogens leaching into NZ waterways. Nitrate fertilizers are good for stimulating grass growth, but they also cause excessive growth of aquatic weeds, slime and toxic algae. Wider buffer zones are required.

Clause

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

Notes

More scientific input/guidance on the health of our waterways is critical. There has been a major collapse of fish numbers in numerous waterways over the last ten years - "the canary in the cage" alarm system that tells us that our waterways are under stress from pathogens, sediments and nutrients.

Clause

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

Notes

Land use intensification along waterways is the main reason for contemporary flash flooding. Furthermore, wider natural riparian strips are essential to catch nitrogen from animal urine. Many river backwaters have become murky, smelly and inhabitable for both fish and aquatic insect life. Such images are not good for the overseas angling tourist industry that this government is keen to promote.