

# Your submission to Clean Water

Retired farmer (Ian Glendinning Rodger)

## Clause

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

## Notes

Not at all clear and could be said to want to confuse. 'Swimmability' is an arbitrary statement. (Understand that the intention is laudable, however the methodology is not.)

## Clause

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

## Notes

Again confusing to say the least

## Clause

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

## Notes

I am a farmer and a fly-fisherman who wades the rivers and streams and sees the results of the miss-management of land. I am not concerned about sheep grazing the river banks and even drinking from the watercourses, I am more concerned for heavy stock attempting the same and fencing is to be encouraged. However the planting of riparian strips achieves very little except to block sunlight, exacerbate flooding (obstacles) and create weed (seed) banks. The concern is not at the river bank - it must be managed at an integral part of the catchment.

## Clause

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

## Notes

25(c) States FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT ENABLES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND DOES NOT UNNECESSARILY CONSTRAIN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY. This is quite unacceptable. Our rivers and streams are the the veins and arteries of our land. We are one of the richest countries in the world in terms of freshwater and we must manage it accordingly. Do we wish to so degrade the very land itself by managing the water supply in such a laissez-faire manner as to create the degradation seen in the once 'Fertile Triangle' of what was Mesopotamia and Iraq for example? We are heading that way. That Regional Councils with their varying skills and expertise will be the arbitrators of 'what is right and how things will be managed' in their areas is quite unacceptable and irresponsible of Central Government'. The matter is far far too important. In summary I suggest that the document has set out to confuse or even deceive people. The current government must wake up to the fact that the 'management of our freshwater' will be a key election issue and documents like this one will exacerbate the damage that will be done.