

# Your submission to Clean Water

**Grant Stanley Vincent**

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

We need to do better.

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

see below under notes/other

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

ditto

**Clause**

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

**Notes**

These are very brief comments because I have left all this a bit too late and I have to go to work soon - my fault. I may try and email something else later on because I'm not back home until after 8pm. As I've written above; we really do need to do better/try harder. What I can't understand is this; we all want to have better/improved ecological conditions in our waterways/lakes/wetlands etc but the Government seems hell-bent on growing the economy by increasing agricultural/pastoral/cropping/horticultural production. Are these two things not mutually exclusive?! For example (and about as far away as we can get from the Gisborne District) I think about the Waituna Lagoon in Southland and the disaster that is happening (has happened?) there. Also water theft and over irrigation and loss of riparian margins in Canterbury. Closer to home and over a few hills to the south, the degradation of the Hawke's Bay rivers such as Ngaruroro, Tukituki and Waihua. Don't know if anything can be done with Lake Tutira - might be a lost cause? Closer to home, Te Arai, Lake Repongaere, Waimata and Waiomoko Rivers to name just a few. Recently a high powered Government Delegation came to Te Tairāwhiti/Gisborne District promising funds and promoting increased agricultural production. How are we (and you, MfE) going to achieve better water quality and freshwater ecosystems while everything that is causing the current degradation of said waterways is being heavily promoted. We know the science behind nitrogen and phosphorous problems, so while fencing some waterways is all well and good, having heavier stocking rates and other increased production from the land will surely negate that. I really don't know what to do but perhaps looking at reduced stocking rates, less irrigation on soils that can't cope with it (Mckenzie Basin, Canterbury Plains etc) as well as fenced waterways all needs to be looked at. This is a bit of an angry commentary, short on detail and probably not worthy of even being called a submission perhaps but they are some of my thoughts nonetheless. I will say though as a serious point: I support what EDS and Forest & Bird say in their detailed submissions. That's all for now, thank you for your efforts, Grant Vincent.