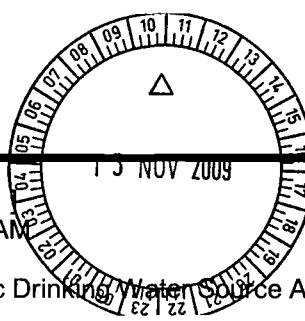


Stephenson, Cassandra



**From:** neil daw  
**Sent:** Friday, 13 November 2009 9:37 AM  
**To:** Stephenson, Cassandra  
**Subject:** Recreation Activities within Public Drinking Water Source Areas

**PUBLIC**

Dear committee

A trip to the United Kingdom to meet the future mother in-law was met with scepticism as to whether there would be much in the way fishing in a country where riparian zones come under private ownership and a prior century of developing industrial culture which held little regard for the environmental impact that occurred with it in the 19th century growing the population to somewhere in the vicinity of 57 million people possibly into the spatial area not much bigger than the size of Victoria. The access in the prior past 2 centuries brought laws to constrain access to the population entering across private property which left less space for recreational activity. In the late 19th Century two rambblers climbed a peak, were charged and a court case regarding access proceeded that changed the access for rambblers and fishermen to this day.

The first day of visitation was to change the preconceived idea that the country was fishless. A visit to the local Leeds to Liverpool canal had anglers dotted along it fishing government infrastructure for Redfin Perch, Pike and a number of other species. Immediately as a tourist I spent somewhere in the vicinity of \$2000 on fishing equipment to fish many of the local park lakes and reservoirs that dot the region. On the second visit a gentlemen in his late 60s exited a hotel that bordered the canal asking whether I would like to go fly fishing for trout. He didn't have to ask twice. What proceeded was a succession of expenditure with another late 60s fellow across the country twice a week to reservoirs and private fisheries in sectors of medium unemployment. The fisheries and social activities were in small towns and monies were spent in those towns while participating in social activities such as a meal at a hotel after.

Many things became evident. Many sectors of the public use water bodies as a means of social interaction. In the middle of a weight loss advertising campaign in WA two men that would normally not interact together had a physical activity that bonded them for another reason.

My direct only expenditure for this social activity was in the vicinity of \$5000 over a few months. I had conversation with at least 3 Australians at the fisheries visiting the region to fly fish. While a tourism researcher may not have seen my prime decision to have a honeymoon in Ireland my now wife would immediately answer that it was. Its a long way to Tipperary.

While Western Australia's activity areas are facing closure to access, much of the rest of the world is heading in the opposite direction. The economic and social impacts are being realised. There is literally hundreds of freshwater fisheries across the United Kingdom. Many UK course fishermen visit Spain and other destinations as a group on fishing holidays. European fisheries management bodies aggressively promote fishing as a tourist proposition to many of their regional holiday areas. Thematic towns literally unchanged exist around large water bodies with a large proportion of their revenue generated from people who's prime decision making is to fish these areas. The pre 1900's door way openings in the hotels stand at 5'6" welcoming vertically challenged people like me.

Out of York Western Australia there exists a federation farm house with a plaque stating Her Majesty the Queen visited here I think in the 18\*\*.  
The federation style house is called Tipperary.

While Western Australia's culture of this type of activity is recessed, the associated activities as a culture are rarely realised in cost benefit analysis. Business models

of eateries and hire business models can work and benefit areas where employment can be very average in the wake of timber production. Primary decision making is often missed as a town to fish.

Fishing can be a very physical demanding activity providing health benefits. Fishing can bond across many cultures for no other reason than like minded people. Fishing can bring respect for many aspects of life including the enviroment.

Please consider that these fisheries with their thematic business models by the water of accommodation, cafe dining and fishing can be successful and have potential for great social, health and economic benefits beyond what is immediately evident.

Kind regards,  
Neil Daws

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