

RFCGA

Calder Catchment Group

Chair
B. Maden

Secretary
R.D. Halstead

Vice Chair/Treasurer
P. Lewin

Pollution Officer
G. Parkes

15th September 2009

Virginia Hawkins,
Clerk to the Sustainability Committee,
National Assembly of Wales
Cardiff
CF49 1NA

Dear Madam,

I am informed that the Assembly is shortly to consider an application by the Welsh Canoe Union for unlimited, free access for all paddlers on all Welsh rivers.

As secretary of the Calder Catchment Group of anglers, representing over 1,000 participants, I have been asked to contact you to put the Angler's point of view on this matter, as we are by far the most numerous users of the rivers, and also the only ones who contribute financially, through payment of a licence fee, in effect, to the government.

We do not seek to prevent access on suitable rivers, but this should be by mutual agreement between all users. Users should have to make statutory payment for the privilege as anglers have to do. Canoeists, kayakers and rafters, in general cause more disturbance to wild life and habitats than any other users. River heights and sizes should be considered.

Visiting anglers and their families contribute far more to the economy than canoeists ever could; please do not discourage our custom,



R.D. Halstead