



lead as they fear that allowing communities to exercise their right to share in these fisheries poses a threat to recreational fishing.

There are worrying signs that poor communities will react negatively to the approach taken by SACCRA. One has to be blind not to recognise the increased level of anger and frustration in poor communities. I was recently contacted by one such community who both warned me of this increasing frustration and asked if we could help in making their voices heard at least in the recreational angling community. I have assured them that I will try and do so.

I don't think it takes a rocket scientist to work out a policy of excluding poor local communities from what is a shared resource in favour of richer and less face it much whiter communities is going to be doomed to failure. But paradoxically that is what government may be doing. I say may be but not because government has said as much. Indeed the advice they have received says the opposite. However the inevitable result of command and control regimes that ignores human rights such as that which characterised environmental management today is that ordinary people, especially those in rural communities. I can't see how this will be any different.

Perhaps it is because they are both marginalised communities but we now have the extraordinary situation where the interests of the trout value chain and the rural poor are increasingly aligning behind a shared need to protect the Constitution and the rights it promises against a government that is becoming increasingly hostile to those rights.

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