

"Reaching Out – Over Two Generations" (P.Clunie, F. Hames, A.Kimber 2012)

Intro – (spoken)

I was trudging beside my special river when I heard this plaintive voice
“Hey you’re a lover of my spirit – so you really have a stark choice
My native fish have been depleted - we’re down to only 10 percent
My river’s song should be a celebration not a teary sad lament”

1. but there’s been (minor chords – Am Bm Em – low key)

- River flow regulation
- Habitat degradation
- Fish barrier installation
- Alien species infestation
- Fish stock exploitation
- Water quality reduction
- Disease spread invasion
- But now there’s Fish River Reach Demonstrations!!!!

Chorus (sing with gusto)

G A7 C G
Reaching out over 2 generations to restore our native fish
G A7 C D
Our great grand kids catching big Murray Cod could be one of our greatest wishes
G B7 C
We could be singing a lousy dirge about how river things went so wrong
A7 / D G
But we’re Opti - **fish** - tic people so no more sad chords in this song

2. Now - there’s always

- 7 notes in our music scale D G
- The bard’s 7 ages of man D G
- 7 wandering stars on high D G
- And 7 pillars of wisdom A7 D
- 7 colours in the rainbow D G
- 7 solar days in a week D G
- 7 continents on our sacred earth D G
- and now (slow) 7 river demo reaches A7 D

Chorus

G A7 C G
Reaching out over 2 generations to restore our native fish
G A7 C D
Our great grand kids catching Catfish Dewies could be one of our greatest wishes
G B7 C
We could be singing a lousy dirge about how river things went so wrong
A7 / D G
But we’re Opti - **fish** - tic people so no more sad chords in this song

3. So there's

- A Murrumbidgee demo near Canberra D G
- And on the Condamine in Southern Queensland D G
- Another's on the Darling near Brewarrina D G
- And then down in South Aussie's Riverland A7 D
- A reach on the Namoi close to Narrabri D G
- And on the Ovens River near to Wang D G
- But the tiniest reach is on the Creek of Holland D G
- Downstream from unbroken Tatong A7 D

Chorus – Final

G A7 C G
Reaching out over 2 generations to restore our native fish
G A7 C D
Our great grand kids catching big Golden Perch could be one of our greatest wishes
G B7 C
We could be singing a lousy dirge about how river things went so wrong
A7 / D G
But we're Opti - **fish** - tic people so no more sad chords in this song

(As song finishes A7 + G are strummed - the main strategies are mentioned)

And we're into

- river re – snagging
- habitat restoring
- bank protection fencing
- riparian re –vegetating
- big lunker installing
- pest weed controlling
- survey electro fishing
- fish passage improving
- carp and gambusia mustering
- native fish recruiting
- reach demonstrating