

From: [ECInfo](#)
To: [Mailroom Mailbox](#)
Subject: FW: Long-Term Plan submission form [#106] EMAIL:05270803
Date: Monday, 13 April 2015 9:14:54 a.m.
Importance: Low

----- Original Message -----

From: Smith Edith
Received: 12/04/2015 11:06 p.m.
To: ECInfo; Environment Canterbury; Services Customer; Services Customer;
Webmaster@ecan.govt.nz
Subject: Long-Term Plan submission form [#106]

| | |
|---|---|
| Your name * | Edith Smith |
| Your organisation and role in it (if applicable) | Ashburton Forest and Bird |
| Address * | |
| Postcode | |
| Contact phone number * | |
| Mobile number | |
| Email | |
| Date | Sunday 12 April 2015 |
| Tick the box if you wish to discuss your submission in person | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes |

Your submission

Vehicle Access to Braided Riverbeds

Ashburton Forest and Bird supports the BRaid submission to the LongTerm Plan with regard to vehicle access to riverbeds.

The birdlife in the Ashburton river has been surveyed for several decades and the river is recognised as an important habitat for indigenous birdlife. Despite the river's significance as a habitat to endemic birdlife, vehicle activity such as 4WDs, ATVs and motorbikes have been allowed to increase throughout the length of the river from the coast to the headwaters and are now impacting on the breeding success of these birds.

We must consider which is more important, protecting endangered indigenous bird species or having 4WD and other vehicle access all year round?

In view of the decline of these endangered species, all reasonable steps should be taken to avoid those activities which contribute to this decline over which we have some control.

F&B appreciates the support such as trapping, signage, gates and publicity that ECan contributes to the well being of the braided river birds.

What do you want Environment Canterbury to do?

Draft new regulations prohibiting vehicle access to braided riverbeds during the the nesting season from September to February.

Continue supporting signage to inform the public about the endangered birds nesting along the river and blocking access to the river.

Provide information about the cryptic nature of birds and their nests and their vulnerability to vehicle disturbance. These include wrybill, banded dotterel and BF tern. all of which are as important as the more noticeable and well publicised and more obvious Black Bill gull colonies below the Ashburton bridge.

Thank you for considering this submission