Environment Canterbury
Mailroom Mailbox
Proposal for the Canterbury RPMP Plan [#51]
Monday, 3 July 2017 2:06:00 p.m.

Name *	Walter Cameron
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Please tick those that apply	 I do wish to be heard in support of my submission; and if so, I would be prepared to consider presenting my submission in a joint case with others making a similar submission at any hearing

Your submission on the Proposal for the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan

Wainui Station is a 3,900 ha sheep and beef property comprising approximately 2,450 ha hill country the balance being flats and terraces. The Waitaki River forms our Southern boundary. Viewfield is a 900 ha sheep beef, deer and cropping property in the Hakataramea Valley. The Kirkleston forms our western boundary.

Wallaby Infestation has become a huge problem in Sth Canterbury has a major impact on the production of our properties.

In the 1980s early 90s- 1080 rabbit control was administered by Environment Canterbury in conjunction with property owners. This was very effective in eradication of juvenile wallabies. My understanding is that funding was a combination of general and target rates.

The successful introduction of the rabbit virus meant that the use of 1080 has diminished. The wallaby population has exploded out to unprecedented levels causing them to infest country that never had a wallaby population.

Our wallaby control program has been a combination of professional shooters, commercial helicopters and recreational shooters. Over the last 3 years we have averaged a kill of 3000 wallabies per annum. Last year under notice from ECan we undertook 1080 poison of 600 hectares with a 100% wallaby kill on that area of land. This year we have undertaken an additional 600 hectares 1080 poison.

All of this comes at a huge financial cost.

This is a South Canterbury wide problem with infestation spreading to areas of Otago.

Relief Sought:

I submit as per my most repeated communication to Environment Canterbury is that, for an effective reduction in wallaby numbers to take place there has to be a co-ordinated kill/ poison. That it is a futile exercise for one property to undertake a poison unless neighbouring/adjacent properties undertake the same.

I submit that the Council encourages the formation of cluster groups amongst farmers to best achieve on-going control.

I submit that Environment Canterbury has stronger regulations with defaulters.