

## Lochiel McKellar

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**From:** Warren Hanley <warren.hanley@orc.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, 20 November 2017 4:01 PM  
**To:** Lochiel McKellar  
**Subject:** Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan - revised Interim Draft Plan ORC comment  
**Attachments:** ORC comment on revised interim draft Ecan RPMP 2017-2037.pdf

Hi Lochiel,

Please find attached ORC's additional comments as per the panel's sixth minute.

Regards

Warren.



**Warren Hanley**  
Senior Resource Planner  
Liaison

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Our Reference: A1066636

20 November 2017

Environment Canterbury  
PO Box 345  
**Christchurch 8140**

Attention Lochiel McKellar

Dear Lochiel

**Otago Regional Council comments on Revised Interim Draft Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan**

Otago Regional Council appreciates the opportunity to provide Environment Canterbury with comment on the Interim Draft Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan, specifically technical and workability matters.

**1. Plan Objective 6**

Over the duration of the Plan:

- (i) sustainably control Bennett's wallaby to ensure population densities remain at or below Level 3 on the Guilford Scale<sup>11</sup> within the Wallaby Containment Area (refer Map 2 in Appendix 3) and
- (ii) preclude the establishment of Bennett's wallaby populations in the Canterbury region outside of the Wallaby Containment Area to minimise or prevent adverse effects to environmental and production values.

**ORC Comment:**

The Draft plan does not include wallabies already established outside of the containment area, this could have a significant influence on public support for ECan's ability to increase its budgets through their annual and long-term planning process. A substantial amount of funding will be required to combat the wallaby population that is established on the south bank of the Waitaki River, the population is spreading into Otago. The Canterbury public may be reluctant to support funding for something that is not included in the RPMP

**2. Controls**

Requirement to act, council inspection, service delivery, advocacy and education described in section 5.3 of the Plan, will be used to achieve Plan Objective 6 Generally occupiers will carry out the necessary control work to maintain population levels but Environment Canterbury may facilitate interproperty co-ordinated control approaches

under site-led initiatives. Environment Canterbury will carry out all necessary actions to ensure wallaby populations do not establish outside of the Containment Area. This may involve activities to secure a buffer both inside and adjacent to the Containment Area boundaries. Establishment means the confirmed presence in the wild, with a breeding population.

**ORC Comment:**

Under this draft plan there is no requirement for occupiers or ECan to carry out any control outside the containment area where a population is established on the south bank of the Waitaki River.

### 3. Rules relating to Wallaby Establishment

#### Plan Rule 6.4.1

An occupier within the Wallaby Containment Area shown on Map 2 in Appendix 3 shall control Bennett's wallaby densities on land they occupy to at or below Level 3 on the Guilford Scale. A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Act.

#### Plan Rule 6.4.2

Note: This is designated a Good Neighbour Rule

An occupier within the Wallaby Containment Area shown on Map 2 in Appendix 3 shall, on receipt of a written direction from an Authorised Person, control Bennett's wallaby densities on land they occupy to at or below Level 3 on the Guilford Scale, within 1 kilometre of the boundary where the occupier of adjacent land is taking reasonable steps to manage wallabies on their land. A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Act.

#### Plan Rule 6.4.3

No person shall keep, hold, enclose or otherwise harbour any Bennett's wallaby in or on any place in the Canterbury region outside of the Wallaby Containment Area shown on Map 2 in Appendix 3. A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Act.

#### Plan Rule 6.4.4

Other than under the instruction or supervision of an Authorised Person, no person shall discharge a firearm within or across a property where a control operation involving bait is being planned or undertaken on the property to manage Bennett's wallaby. A breach of this rule creates an offence under section 154N(19) of the Act.

**ORC Comment:**

None of the rules above relate to the population of wallabies already established on the south bank of the Waitaki River. The draft plan does not consider the issue of wallabies that have already established outside of the containment area or its effects/impacts on Otago.

If Environment Canterbury would like any further clarification or information from ORC, we would be happy to provide this.

Yours sincerely



Scott MacLean  
**Director Environmental Monitoring and Operations**