

Make Submission

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Event Name	Long-Term Plan 2018-28 Consultation
Submission by	Te Korowai o te tai o Marokura (Mr Peter Lawless - 77055)
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Biodiversity and Biosecurity Support/Oppose

See page 8 of the Consultation Document.

Please select one of the following:

I generally disagree with the activity proposed for Biodiversity and Biosecurity.

Biodiversity and Biosecurity Comments

Please provide any comments.

Submission of Te Korowai o te tai o Marokura, Kaikoura Coastal Marine Guardians on the 2018 Long Term Plan of Environment Canterbury

Summary

Te Korowai requests that the final Long Term Plan makes better provision for protection and management of the coastal and marine environment of Kaikoura and for recovery of its marine economy and culture.

We note that the Long Term Plan includes no provision until 2022 for Regional Coastal Planning for Kaikoura, and no provision at all for:

- 1 Marine biosecurity;
- 2 Earthquake recovery for the coastal and marine environment of Kaikoura;
- 3 Maintenance and protection of coastal and marine biodiversity for Kaikoura;
- 4 Recovery of economic infrastructure of Kaikoura as it relates to the blue economy.

We request that ECan makes provision in the Long Term Plan to support the work of Te Korowai in delivering on its commitment to create a step change in effort in caring for indigenous biodiversity, and to extend its aspiration to achieve ecosystem health and sustainable economic development for freshwaters to its marine environment (page 8 of the LTP).

We request an annual grant from ECan of \$20,000 for each year of the Plan.

Te Korowai

For the last 13 years Te Korowai o Te Tai o Marokura has led the Kaikoura community in caring for its marine environment:

- 1 2005 Te Korowai formed
- 2 2008 Characterisation Report published
- 3 2009 Te Korowai Incorporated
- 4 2010 Charitable status granted
- 5 2011 Proposed Strategy for coastal and marine environment published
- 6 2012 submissions responded to and final Strategy published
- 7 2014 Kaikoura (Te Tai o Marokura) Marine Management Act passed
- 8 2015 Green Ribbon and Green Apple awards
- 9 2016 Statutory Kaikoura Marine Guardians established
- 10 2017 Earthquake recovery activities

With the establishment of the statutory Guardians, who have the role of advising Ministers and agencies, Te Korowai has focused on active work programmes. For 2018 to 2028 we have four programme of work that integrate earthquake recovery, economic development, and environmental protection:

- 1 Fishing for abundance – reseeded, habitat recovery, managing fish effort and methods and reducing poaching;
- 2 International recognition – with a primary focus on World Heritage status;
- 3 Research, science, education – establishing a world class research and education facility to replace the University of Canterbury Edward Percival Centre red stickered in our earthquake and integrating that with education and outreach and with fish and shellfish rearing for release;
- 4 Statutory planning and management – supporting ECan and KDC with RMA and Biosecurity Act planning and management with information, action, and community engagement.

To support these programmes, we will raise funds from a range of sources. However, to do this we need to sustain an organisational base. Over recent years ECan has supported Te Korowai with a grant of \$20,000 per year. This is vital to our continued operation and we request that ongoing provision for this amount is made in the Long Term Plan.

Marine biosecurity

Canterbury has no programme for marine biosecurity. In response to our submissions on the proposed Regional Pest Management Plan, ECan staff recommended the Council working with Te Korowai and the Kaikoura Guardians to remedy this. This can only happen if Te Korowai is resourced to play its part. We hold the expertise to support ECan with guidance on:

- 1 Vector and node management;
- 2 Surveillance;
- 3 Engagement and education;
- 4 Infrastructure;
- 5 Incident response planning;
- 6

We can also support such a programme with:

- 1 Direct community engagement;
- 2 Intelligence;
- 3 Surveillance integrated into fishing, marine tourism and research activities.

Earthquake recovery

The November 2016 earthquake shattered and uplifted our marine and coastal environments. The initial focus of our members has been on:

- 1 Advising on reduction of adverse environmental effects from the transport rebuild; and
- 2 Surveying damaged environments and establishing how to support their recovery.

This work will be ongoing, and we are now seeking resources for a paua hatchery and to extend that into finfish rearing for release. We are also engaging with the design of public infrastructure and public information about the coast. This work need financial support from ECan to carry on.

Biodiversity

The Kaikoura coast and its marine environment are one of the most important places in New Zealand for marine biodiversity. The values are documented in our Characterisation report. Much has changed since the earthquake. The coast has been uplifted destroying intertidal habitat, bird roosting and breeding areas have vanished, seal colonies have moved, and the floor of the Kaikoura Canyon has been buried under mud slip undersea landslides. All of this needs to be understood and human interactions with the environment managed taking into account its new state and vulnerabilities. Our programmes for fishing and marine research and education address these needs. Having the capacity to access the required funding requires the administrative base the ECan funding provides for.

Blue economy

Our blue economy is hanging in there, as a whole. Although paua stocks have been devastated, crayfish remain in good numbers. The whales have stayed despite damage to their habitat. Our port has been reinstated and the highways allow tourist access most of the time now. However, much remains to be done for Kaikoura to regain its role as the leading area for tourism in the Canterbury region.

Our work has two programmes that support this recovery:

- 1 Gaining international recognition through World Heritage status; and
- 2 Establishment of the Kaikoura International Marine Research and Education Centre.

The first puts Kaikoura back on the map as a world destination for nature tourism. The latter provides a step-change, deepening the relationship of the community with the marine environment and enabling visitors to appreciate it and understand it. While we aim to fund these programmes from national sources, the administrative basis for them depends on ongoing stable funding from ECan.

Conclusion

We encourage ECan to extend its reach into the marine environment and to financially support Te Korowai to enable that in Kaikoura.

We wish to be heard in support of this submission.

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Chair

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