

From: Silverstream Volunteers <silverstream.volunteers@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, 26 March 2018 11:36 a.m.
To: Mailroom Mailbox
Subject: LTP 2018-2028 submission - Silverstream Volunteer Group
Attachments: ECanLTP_submission_SilverstreamVolunteers.pdf

We have attached our submission for the ECan Long-Term Plan 2018-2028.
We would like to meet with Councillors in Christchurch to discuss our feedback.

Many thanks,

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The Silverstream Volunteer Group appreciates the opportunity to make a submission on Environment Canterbury's Long Term Plan 2018-2028.

This submission is made with respect to the Priorities listed on p.4 of the Consultation Document and outlined in greater detail in the Biodiversity and Biosecurity section on p.8-9.

The Silverstream Volunteer Group supports Environment Canterbury's intention to:

- (a) prioritise the aim to create a step-change in effort in the regeneration of terrestrial biodiversity (p.4)**
- (b) protect habitats and ecosystems that enable indigenous species to thrive (p.8)**
- (c) restore the natural character of degraded indigenous habitats and ecosystems (p.8)**
- (d) initiate new programmes for wetlands and expand these over the course of the next ten years (p.8)**

The Silverstream Volunteer Group is keen to assist ECan in achieving these aims and would appreciate financial support from ECan in this endeavor.

Silverstream Reserve covers 52 hectares of land near Clarkville, North Canterbury, and is owned by the Waimakariri District Council, which developed a management plan for the reserve in 2009:

http://www.waimakariri.govt.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/14752/SilverstreamReserveManagementPlan.pdf

The Silverstream area was once part of the braided Waimakariri River floodplain and still contains wetland areas as well as dry grasslands and shrublands.

Our small group of volunteers meets twice a week to help preserve and restore the natural character of the local ecosystem under the guidance of Noelene Francis, who is also a member of the Silverstream Advisory Group. We work closely with Dan Cameron, the Waimakariri District Council Green Space Community Engagement Officer responsible for Silverstream Reserve, and we regularly consult with Matthew Brosnahan, the ranger for Ōtukaikino Living Memorial Reserve (Belfast).

We are assisted in our work by various groups and organisations in the local community, including Clarkville School (which is an Enviroschool), Waimakariri Keas, Baha'i Faith (Rangiora), The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Rangiora), BNZ (Closed for Good programme), Friends of Ōtukaikino Living Memorial Reserve, and the Student Volunteer Army (University of Canterbury).

Many of our community events are documented on the Silverstream Reserve facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SilverstreamReserve/>

Jason Butt, the ECan Biodiversity Officer for Waimakariri, has recently identified the following indigenous plants in a fen area of Silverstream Reserve:

Gratiola sexdentata (the first sighting east of the Main Divide in the last 15 years)

Viola cunninghamii

Centella uniflora

Hypericum pusillum

Juncus planifolius

Isolepis reticularis

Machaerina rubiginosa

Schoenus pauciflorus

Photos of some of these can now be found on NatureWatch along with other observations from the wider Silverstream area:

http://naturewatch.org.nz/observations?place_id=116800&subview=table&view=observers

Careful management of the area will be required to ensure that indigenous species in the reserve are able to thrive. At the invitation of Dan Cameron and Jason Butt, Colin Meurk from Landcare Research and other members of the Travis Wetland Trust have offered to assist us in developing appropriate management strategies. Financial support from ECan would help us to implement these strategies.

We would like to meet with Councillors in Christchurch to discuss our feedback on the proposed Long-Term Plan.