

**From:** Laddie <k.linscott@xtra.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, 26 March 2018 9:37 a.m.  
**To:** Mailroom Mailbox  
**Subject:** LTP SUBMISSION

From: Ken Linscott, 31D Wai-iti Road, Timaru (03 6884317) (027 4472854)  
(Former Chair, Otipua Wetlands Charitable Trust)

I wish to comment on two related items:

- off HW1
1. Completion of the Otipua Wetlands project by provision of car packing access
  2. Improvement of water quality in Salt Water Creek by collaborative action.

## 1

The development plan of Otipua Wetlands prepared by Lucas and Associates of Christchurch included emphasis on the educational and recreational potential of such a facility and recommended provision of accessible parking off HW1 and interpretive signage.

In July 2016 the existing Otipua Wetlands Trust gifted the wetlands property to the people of Timaru / South Canterbury into the care of TDC.

In late 2017 the trust decided to dis-establish the trust. This is currently being actioned within the requirements of the trust deed, the charitable registration closure will be completed when our final report and financial statement is presented.

As former chairman, but now as private citizen, I wish to comment that I was impressed by the wide support of both Councils, Community organisations and private citizens who worked voluntarily together to successfully establish this significant natural resource which extends Centennial Park and tracks reserves assets.

Having earlier, with the then trust's approval, worked to explore and develop an appropriate parking area plan, I consulted with the National Roads Board South Island management, other interested parties, and the TDC Parks and Reserves Manager.

The focus of my efforts was and is to provide a plan that would not only enhance the wetlands, provide a safe and adequate public parking space but potentially an achievable development project for Council and Community with the best interests and outcome for all affected parties.

This submission seeks to encourage Environment Canterbury Regional Council to financially support the intent of this concept as and when appropriately presented.

## 2

**I commend the central statement on page six of the "Consultation Document"** I also acknowledge the difficulty you face in freshwater management work within the community.

In "one" above, I stated: ". . . that I was impressed by the wide support of both Councils, Community organisations and private citizens who worked voluntarily together to successfully establish this significant natural resource . . ." (The Otupua Wetlands)

Sometimes, I believe, when significant public interest / concern issues are **faced boldly on small projects** and are successfully completed that larger regional projects are able to be achieved more easily.

I would suggest to you, that as the wetlands project arose out of concern for Saltwater Creek's contaminated condition, that a challenge to this wider community to bring it to swimmable condition would achieve the same result.

How do I envisage this being achieved? Some comments:

- A. CWMS should involve the local community in each water system quality recovery program.
- B. Allocation of water use volumes should have requirements for the applicant business to supply specific data evidence of that water's use, and disposal. Methods of surface draining and ground depths of groundwater contamination, type and evidence in specified data to your current format specifications. Groundwater contamination / depth should be the prime measure of water allocation anywhere!
- C. Where large users are able, water storage / harvesting means should be a requirement to take advantage of natural sources in heavy rain or flooding events. Joint storage systems should be encouraged where appropriate where unproductive land is available.
- D. That innovative storage systems for storage in household situations and water filtering systems for unpotable use such as gardens be encouraged.
- E. Saltwater Creek water level should be maintained at the weir top level and a modern fish ladder installed or formed from weir top flow. The weir centre structure should be modernised with mechanism so that it can be fully opened to enable controlled flushing. Flushing should be controlled by you at optimum times of flood events, wind direction or in co-ordination with TDC releasing portion of their stored water. (TDC may consider restoring their historical reservoir for historical / use?)
- F. Inventive methods of surface water filtering should be explored and encouraged.(it would be great to see punting established on Salt Water Creek!)
- G. While the Rowing Club is a beneficiary of the weir top level being maintained it is unreasonable for them to be required to pay for silt buildup removal unless there is a simple pump / dredge system supplied to transfer pumped water/silt

over onto the wetlands land site for drainage filtering. The DOC covenant conditions would have to be honoured.