

## Make Submission

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<b>Event Name</b>	Long-Term Plan 2018-28 Consultation
<b>Submission by</b>	Otamahua / Quail Island Ecological Restoration Trust (Mr Ian McLennan - 77635)
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### Biodiversity and Biosecurity Support/Oppose

See page 8 of the Consultation Document.

**Please select one of the following:** I generally agree with the activity proposed for Biodiversity and Biosecurity.

### Biodiversity and Biosecurity Comments

#### Please provide any comments.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the long term plan.

Since 1998 the Ōtamahua/Quail Island Ecological Restoration Trust (the Trust) has worked to restore the ecological integrity of Ōtamahua/Quail Island.

We are proud of the work we have done. Back in 1998 it was identified that a key indicator of a regenerating native forest on Ōtamahua/Quail Island would be when restored woodland areas have breeding populations of korimako (bellbird), kereru (wood pigeon) and pipiwharau (shining cuckoo). This was outlined in the original restoration plan.

In the ensuing 19 years, we have planted over 92,000 native trees and shrubs on the island. In addition, all the main pest animals have been removed from the island (possums, cats, rats, rabbits, mustelids and hedgehogs) except mice.

The Trust's work has significantly improved the biodiversity of the island. Korimako, kereru and pipiwharau are now breeding on the island.

However, the work is not yet done. The Trust would like to remove mice, and re-establish endangered species in coming years.

The Trust's work has primarily been undertaken by volunteers. The Trust is made up of a group of dedicated and experienced conservationists and well known academics in the biodiversity field. They are supported by three part time employees (1.5 full time equivalents) and a dedicated group of community volunteers who come from the wider Canterbury area.

The Trust works closely with the Department of conservation (DOC). Ōtamahua/Quail Island is an open recreation reserve and DOC's mandate in these areas is to maintain tracks, public toilets and huts. The Trust complements this with its conservation work, which DOC does not do on the island.

The biggest challenge to the Trust has been funding. While we have been generously supported by various organisations, we are under constant financial pressure.

The LTP actively works against us. While we understand that there are many gains to be made on private land, the Trust shows that there are also many benefits to be had from biodiversity work on public land. Indeed the public also have the opportunity to enjoy the benefits that they have paid for, unlike private land where the public is not generally guaranteed access.

We ask that the LTP provide funding opportunities for community groups doing work on public land, rather than exclusively funding work on private land. As we are largely volunteer driven, even relatively modest sums would make a significant difference to the work we can do.



*Our major funders for 2017*





*Korora chick November 2017*



*2017 milestone - horoeka fruiting*



*2017 milestone – all three key indicator birds, korimako, keruru, and pipiwharau (pictured) now breeding on Otamahua / Quail Island.*

*Image copyright Department of Conservation (image ref: 10029519) by John Kendrick, Department of Conservation.*



*2017 milestone - kaikamako fruiting*





*Boffa Miskell planting day – 13<sup>th</sup> June 2017*



*University of Florida students potting  
silver tussock – 16<sup>th</sup> July 2017*



*Silver tussock planting – 7<sup>th</sup> May 2017*





27<sup>th</sup> July 2017 - plant moving day on  
LPC Rescue



Daniel, Addison, Seth and Penny,  
planting 26<sup>th</sup> August 2017



27<sup>th</sup> August 2017 planting day

*13<sup>th</sup> August 2017 planting day*



*12<sup>th</sup> August 2017 Sunrise  
Rotary planting day*



*18<sup>th</sup> August 2017 Kiwibank planting day*





*5<sup>th</sup> November 2017 - Banks Peninsula Walking Festival participants*



*14<sup>th</sup> October 2017 - BECA Heritage Week tour participants*



*During 2017 over 400 visitors from Rolleston Scouts, Waltham School, Bamford School and Hornby High School enjoyed guided tours taken by our volunteers.*





*Views towards Te Ahu Patiki over the Stock Dam valley*

*Planted 2001*