

Make Submission

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Event Name	Long-Term Plan 2018-28 Consultation
Submission by	Mrs Valerie Campbell (77746)
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Whole Plan Support/Oppose	
Please select one of the following:	I generally agree with the activity proposed for the Long-Term Plan.

Whole Plan Comments

Please provide any comments.

I wish to speak to this submission.

PRIORITIES and BIO-DIVERSITY: pages 6,8 and 9.

I applaud your priorities and for freshwater management and bio-diversity but note that they are only given 25 percent of the overall budget, despite the enormity of the task to stop decline in both, let alone begin to claw back up that slippery slope.

Clearly one of our greatest bio-diversity responsibilities is to at least 26 species of our riverbed birds. Among these declining and endangered species are black-billed and red-billed gulls, black-fronted and white-fronted terns, South-Island oystercatchers, banded dotterels, wry-bills, pied stilts and black stilts that are numbered in dozens rather than hundreds.

Yet when I turn to the **bio-diversity budget I see that only 5% of that is going to riverbed biodiversity**. This major element of New Zealand's visible and loved creatures cannot demand your protection. Looking at the state of the braided rivers their future is not bright and so I plead their case.

I request an added proviso in this LTP that, in order to actually make a difference, you

- 1 Explore ways of joining with other agencies to coordinate efforts (DOC and LINZ in the high country and river-beds for example).

2a. Continue liaison with landowners; many value the unique character of their land and protect it.

- 1 Immediate Steps funding initiative recognises this. Is enough allocated for this initiative?
- 2 Increase monitoring and insist on compliance.

- 1 For years I have believed, and advocated, that **the best way to help to fund the pest control needed on the beds of "our beloved braided rivers" would be a minimal levy on irrigation takes from rivers and river-fed aquifers** that would make up a bio-diversity development fund. This would enable both plant pests to be addressed and trapping programmes to protect the nesting river-bed species to be under-taken. Its spending would need to be tight, and to be targetted and strategic.

I request that an undertaking to investigate the establishment of such a fund be added to the 2019 year of the LTP as an additional targeted rate and if legal to be pursued.

BIOSECURITY; page 8

Clearly biosecurity is a critical national and regional issue and I commend the attempts to stop problems at our ports and aerodromes. That principle of "a stitch in time saves nine" needs to be applied more often at a regional level so that new problems are eliminated or contained when they first emerge. We are yet to see the details of the about to be released Pest Plan and so I write generally about the need to adequately and strategically address these issues. Early intervention is now more pressing as one of the effects of a warmer climate will include not an increase in the number of over-wintering insects, plants and seeds.

Increasing weediness of the Canterbury High Country is saddening; bright briar overwhelms its sheltering matagouri and roadsides glow with St John' Wort and exotic compositae. These seeming minor players can destroy the herbfields and the regional landscapes as surely as the wilding pines that have taken a welcome hit in recent years. Similar effort needs to happen now with briar before the situation is beyond control.

I request specific funds to be identified for these two weed pests, with the focus to be those areas adjoining conservation land and scientific reserves.

I note with pleasure that it has been flagged that **Russel Lupin** has been included in the Regional Pest Plan. That is a good first step and I trust a programme of eradication along braided rivers is planned and that it will be adequately funded. However, this is an area where Ecan needs to step up as a national leader.

I request that this term Ecan works with othe LG authorities, Lincoln University and the Government to have the sale of Russel Lupin seeds banned.

At present it is available beside NZ native plant seeds on stands a major seed company and is being sold at Mitre 10 Ferrymead in 500gme packets. There is no warning on those packets that it a major threat to Christchurch's indigenenous values. CCC Port Hills rangers have enough weeds to fight without adding Lupins to their list.