
From:
Sent: Sunday, 25 March 2018 10:17 p.m.
To: Mailroom Mailbox
Subject: "LTP SUBMISSION"

Dear ECAN

I am making a submission on the long term plan.

My first wish would be that you return to referring to this organization as "Environment Canterbury" as I believe this would refocus your work to more sustainable actions. Ecan suggests an economic model which is not actually the case, since your funds are 65% from public rates. I would like to see a widening of your funding to more user pays including a regional tourist levy to contribute to the direct costs of high, increasing tourist numbers in this area.

BIODIVERSITY

I have concerns about the Freshwater management in the Canterbury region. Permits for extraction of water for exportation as bottled water are shortsighted profiteering with little benefit for the people and none for the environment. I am appalled at the state of our braided rivers. In the case of endangered black billed gulls I believe you have a duty of care to protect this species because it only lives here. In the Ashburton river the gulls had both their first and second clutches destroyed. It was distressing to see parent gulls trying to lift their chicks from flood waters and knowing a little planned bulldozing prior to breeding could have saved this seasons chicks. Protection of endemic endangered species is vital for biodiversity and Ecan needs to show action here.

I am shocked to see the loss of braided river areas with the gifting of public land to neighbouring farmers. Ecan needs to take this land back for the benefit of all ratepayers. Public space is not to be gifted to private business.

I was a volunteer on the wilding pines program but am horrified by Flock Hill Stations clearing of native vegetation. Matagouri is a unique special ecosystem and is under pressure. I have observed Mt White station winter feeding cattle in small restricted areas along the St Andrews stream/Mt White road. This heavy pounding of stock has resulted in large areas of matagouri being lost as well as streams running green with stock effluent.

Biosecurity breeches should be enforced. E.g importing diseased semen should mean MPI costs need to be reimbursed by the farming community and not rate payers. Poor business decisions caused this security threat which will endanger our reputation overseas as a supplier of healthy food.

HAZARDS

The red zone in Christchurch city needs to be a retreat area. I am concerned that storm surge and floods are swamping the estuary. Infilling the estuary for cycle ways is another example of shortsighted planning. In February the high tides and floods spilled over into McCormacks bay and meant traffic was unable to leave Solares Ave. South shore residents may be impacted by the infilling taking place along Humphries Drive as it alters the estuary's ability to take extra water.. The estuary and red zone need to be retreat areas to mitigate the impact of climate change.

AIR QUALITY

Congratulations on improving Christchurch city air! I would like to see a ban on rural burn offs with enforcement as rigorously applied as is done in the city. Diesel is known to be a dangerous pollutant and I suggest you lead the way introducing a tax in order to change behavior to cleaner fuels.

TRANSPORT A rail link to Rangiora, Amberley, Waiapara, Rolleston etc needs to be established as many other people have stated. The opportunity to purchase Auckland rail carriages needs to be done.

REVENUE

As I stated already there is a need to diversify the rating take so that the cost does not continue to come to the ratepayers while the polluters avoid the true cost of clean up and doing business. I would like more explanation as to what the fresh water management work's "targeted rate" will be used for.

Swim-able rivers, native species off the endangered list, Birds to watch, places to take the dogs and children on hot days, rivers to fish, clean air and healthy water are all things we have had in Canterbury and appreciated.

Ecan please take responsibility for making this normal again.