

## Comments

### LTP 2021-31

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First name	Jules
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Surname	Snoyink
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Email address

Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation?	No, I'm submitting as an individual
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Which age category are you in?	-
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Do you have any further comments on the activities proposed in specific portfolio/s (please select all those you wish to comment on):

Where do you live in Canterbury? Select your district below:	-
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Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Kaikoura

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Hurunui

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Waimakariri

Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Christchurch

**Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Selwyn**

**Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Ashburton**

**Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Mackenzie**

**Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Timaru**

**Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Waimate**

**Would you like to see us investing in the following initiatives in your area? Waitaki**

**Do you wish to speak to your submission?** No

**How did you find out about giving feedback?**

*Your information is held and administered by Environment Canterbury in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020 and Environment Canterbury's Privacy Policy.*

**There is personal information/contact details in my submission I do not want disclosed:** No

**From:**  
**To:**  
**Subject:** LTP submission - Jules Snoyink  
**Date:** Friday, 9 April 2021 3:12:06 pm  
**Attachments:** [LTP submission Jules Snoyink.docx](#)

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Dear ECan,

I have just sent the wrong draft submission to you.

Please replace with the attached version.

Thanks and regards

Jules Snoyink

## Submission - Canterbury Regional Council Long Term Plan 2021 – 31

Submitter: Jules Snoyink

Address:

Date: 11 April 2021

### Introduction

I am in my 80's and lived in Darfield for most of my working life. I retired to Glentunnel on the banks of the Selwyn/Waikirikiriri River in 2000. As a keen fisherman and outdoors person I frequently visit the Waimakariri, Rakaia, Selwyn Rivers, and all the high-country lakes around Canterbury.

Over the last 20 years, since the increase of intensive farming and pivot irrigation, it has saddened me to witness the degradation of our rivers and lakes, adversely affecting the freshwater species, the recreational fishery, the loss of native wildlife habitats and species, and the natural landscape values in Canterbury. The loss is hard to take.

I **support** Option 1 providing it is used for the following:

1. That ECan urgently adopts climate change initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, mitigates coastal erosion and anticipated flooding/fire events.
2. That ECan adopts the Government's proposed Freshwater Reforms 2024. I am now relying on Central Government guidance to provide the environmental protection that has been missing in ECan since 2010.
3. That the MVH Ltd proposal is **publicly** notified. Trying to process this application under the radar is not acceptable.
4. That ECan does not fund MAR projects. It may be intended for the dilution of nitrogen in the aquifers, but is it not also a disguise to provide water for downstream irrigators? The Hinds project should not be used as a precedent /model to use across Canterbury. If irrigators want these experimental projects, they should pay for them.
5. That ECan takes prosecutions seriously of offenders draining wetlands, cultivating riverbed land, and permitting cattle to access waterways which should be fenced off. More robust monitoring, enforcement and prosecutions is needed.
6. That ECan protects **source** water as I learn that even once pristine high-country lakes such as Lake Clearwater (was aptly named), are degrading from farm runoff.  
That ECan invites more public participation in important resource consent applications. The water resource belongs to **everyone**.
7. That drinking water quality is improved as nitrate levels are rising due to excess synthetic fertilisers (urea) and cow urine resulting in bowel cancer



cases in humans. To protect human and ecosystem health, the MAV standard for nitrates needs to be reduced to 1mg/L.

8. Encourage dairy farmers to move away from industrial farming systems, and toward alternative methods of farming which are more environment friendly.
9. That more funds are set aside for the control of winding pines, wallabys, and the Southern black backed gulls. Due to increased irrigation the SBBG population has skyrocketed. I see huge colonies of them in the Waimakariri and Rakaia Rivers and these predators not only pollute riverbeds, but prey on our special and threatened braided river bird species, black fronted terns, wrybills, and banded dotterels. If we are to avoid the extinction of these species, unique to Canterbury riverbeds, funds should be set aside for contractors to reduce SBBG numbers during the nesting season (Oct to Feb).
10. That no more pine plantations are planted in riverbeds. This must be one of the worst decisions made that works against braided river revival.
11. That more native trees are planted across Canterbury, and prohibition of any native vegetation removal on both private and public lands.
12. That funds are used for braided river revival, from the mountains to the river mouths. The abstraction of water, pollution, and the spraying of riverbed weeds has resulted in the disappearance of Stockell's smelt from some lagoon areas. The threatened and declining Stockell's smelt are only found at river mouths of Canterbury's rivers. Stockell's smelt are a necessary food source for fish and bird species. At the Rangitata mouth this year many fishermen witnessed the starvation of threatened native Black-bill gull chicks in their nests, and adult birds.

## **Conclusion**

The Selwyn River now has the reputation of being one of the ten worst degraded rivers in NZ. I remember what it was like 20 years ago when we could fish and swim in the river without a thought for our health. I have just watched another overseas (Australian) TV documentary spreading to the world, news of the degraded state of NZ's waterways due to intensive agriculture. The documentary was true but shameful to watch. This must eventually affect our credibility overseas, and our export markets as overseas customers demand environment friendly products.

What's the point of trying to restore Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere when intensive farming continues in the upper catchment and consents that permit nitrogen discharges continue to be granted. There should be a reduction in cow numbers, no new dairy conversions, no more consents to take water from Red Zones and no more consents granted that do not meet freshwater targets.

Thank you, I appreciate the opportunity to have my say.

J. Snoyink

