

Comments

LTP 2021-31

Comment ID	1023
Response Date	12/04/21 4:59 AM
Status	Submitted
Submission Type	Web
Version	0.1
First name	Ian
Surname	McLennan
Email address	
Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation?	Yes, I'm submitting on behalf of an organisation
Which organisation are you submitting on behalf of?	Ōtamahua/Quail Island Ecological Restoration Trust
Do you think we've prioritised the right issues and opportunities?	Yes
Which of the proposed options would you like to see us progress with?	Option 1: statutory work, prior commitments and accelerating key initiatives
Do you generally support the activities proposed in the following portfolios:	
Water and Land	Yes
Biodiversity and Biosecurity	Yes
Climate Change and Community Resilience	Yes
Air Quality, Transport and Urban Development	Yes
Regional and Strategic Leadership	Yes
Do you have any further comments on the activities proposed in specific portfolio/s (please select all those you wish to comment on):	. Biodiversity and Biosecurity

Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio comments:

We wish to make a submission on deer control. This is attached at question 24.

Is the proposed increase in rates affordable for your household? Option 1 is affordable

Is the proposed increase in rates affordable as a whole for the Canterbury community? Don't know

Do you support the changes we're proposing to how we apply Uniform Annual General Charges? Yes

Would you support the use of borrowing for operating expenditure to offset some of the first year rates? No

Do you support the rationale and proposed changes in the draft Fees and Charges Policy? Yes

Where do you live in Canterbury? Select your district below: Christchurch city including Banks Peninsula

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? Yes

We may use your phone number to contact you to arrange attendance at a hearing. This information will be kept private.

Phone number

Would you like to be kept up-to-date with the outcome of this consultation? Yes

How did you find out about giving feedback? . Postcard

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

11 April 2021

Ōtamahua/Quail Island Ecological Restoration Trust

Fallow deer control

We wish to make a submission relating to the Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio.

Ōtamahua/Quail Island is an 85 hectare island in Lyttelton Harbour. The Ōtamahua/Quail Island Ecological Restoration Trust have been working on the island since 1998, and to date volunteers have planted over 100,000 trees covering an area of 23 hectares. In conjunction with the Department of Conservation we have also eradicated most animal pests, including rats, mustelids, rabbits, cats, and hedgehogs. The Trust maintains an extensive trap network and successfully maintains the island free of these pests. Mice are the only pest we have been unable to eradicate.

Unfortunately over recent years we have seen a gradual increase in the numbers of fallow deer. Hunting deer safely so close to residential areas is difficult and we have been unable to reduce the deer population using this method. Deer are now a major impediment to the restoration of the island as they are destroying newly planted trees and ring barking older trees. Many years of financial investment by the Trust and many hours of work by our volunteers is being destroyed.



Chewing damage to Cordyline australis



Freshly ring barked tree

We have recently agreed with the Department of Conservation to cost share periodic hunting by helicopter which will be a safe and humane way to rid the island of deer, however this will not be successful long term as more animals will quickly move in from the wider area, primarily via Moepuku Point.

It is certain that widespread native planting will occur around the harbour basin in the next few years to help Aotearoa meet our greenhouse gas emission targets - for example work planned by the Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust (Te Kākahu Kahukura), Living Springs, the Rod Donald Trust, Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke and others. A widespread deer eradication programme will be required for these projects to be successful.

Feral deer are listed as an organisms of interest (OOi) in the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP). There appears to be a mechanism to include an OOi in the RPMP as a site-led programme, in the way feral goats are currently controlled on Banks Peninsula.

As protection of our biodiversity will become more and more critical in our warming world, we would request that ECAN consider initiating a review of the RPMP to include feral deer in a site-led (Banks Peninsula wide) programme.

Ian McLennan
Chairman