

## Comments

### LTP 2021-31

Comment ID	1214
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First name	Susan
Surname	Hall
Email address	
Are you submitting on behalf of an organisation?	No, I'm submitting as an individual
Which age category are you in?	-
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:	-
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**

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

**From:**  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Submission on Long term Plan  
**Date:** Sunday, 11 April 2021 11:38:12 am  
**Attachments:** [Submission on Ecan Long Term Plan 2021 version 2.docx](#)

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Good morning  
Please find attached my submission.

Susan Hall

## Submission on Environment Canterbury Long Term Plan 2021-2031

Submitter: Susan Hall

Address:

Date: 11 April 2021

By Email:

I support increased expenditure on:

### Climate change mitigation:

Protecting the wetlands that remain, and restoring degraded or drained former wetlands that can be restored. Wetlands absorb carbon at a greater rate than forests (up to 57 times faster than tropical rainforests) and allow improvements in freshwater quality, act as a barrier to storm surges, they absorb excess rain after heavy rain events, and protect our coasts from rising sea levels. Internationally, wetlands hold twice as much carbon compared to a rainforest.

Removing old landfills with toxic leachate and mixed waste that were historically placed near rivers or the coast. With climate change and erosion, many of these are potentially at risk of widespread environmental damage (Fox Glacier landfill 2019 was a wake up call).

Stronger regulations to meet climate change targets in the agricultural sector by reducing allowable dairy cow numbers, banning synthetic fertilisers and not allowing any new dairy conversions or water extraction from areas that are over- allocated.

### Land

Stronger incentives and funding for land owners to establish permanent eco-sourced native tree plantings to improve biodiversity and sequester carbon. This is very expensive and time consuming to do. Volunteers who are already doing huge amounts of planting, maintenance and

predator control cannot be expected to up scale further. It requires more funding from regional council.

Pine plantations are a very temporary solution to sequester carbon as they are only grown for 30 year cycles before felling. We need more permanent solutions to sequester carbon. Wilding pines are a huge issue in the high country where they permanently alter soil biochemistry and even when removed it is very difficult for the indigenous vegetation to re-establish. Pines should not be planted on a wide scale basis on the Canterbury Plains either.

Funding for weed and pest control, including but not limited to wilding pines, lupins, hawthorn and broom. Pests that need to be targeted are hares, wallabies and feral cats. All are very destructive to our indigenous biodiversity. Limits on allowable domestic cat numbers per owner and cat registration is essential to help protect our birdlife and skinks.

Stronger regulations to protect indigenous biodiversity, more rigorous monitoring and penalties for non-compliance. More staff dedicated to this role so complaints can be followed up in a timely manner.

## **Water**

Align sub regional and regional plans with the Government's proposed Essential Freshwater Reforms 2024.

Protect source water for all our drinking water in the high country by disallowing land use intensification. Protect rivers, lakes and wetlands in the high country.

Fund braided river restoration projects, to improve water quality and ecosystem health, and protect and enhance habitat for braided river birds and lizards . Whole ecosystem restoration from mountains to the sea Ki uta ki tai.

Drinking water standards need to be the same as those for ecosystem health. Total limit should be 1mg/L nitrate/nitrogen in freshwater.

## **Public participation**

Any applications for resource consent that impact on public or environmental health must be publically notified to allow participation. Applications such as the MVH Ltd hearing should be open to public participation. Any consent hearings that do not have a chance of meeting freshwater targets should be publically notified, we cannot just allow the status quo to continue by granting consents for long time frames.

## **I strongly oppose**

Expenditure for all of the following:

1. Zone Committees. These have been completely ineffectual as they have allowed personal conflict of interests to cloud decision making. Our local community has no trust of faith in their integrity. They should be disbanded.
2. Managed Aquifer Recharge. MAR conceals the true state of our aquifers with their appallingly high levels of nitrate pollution. MAR projects do not improve water quality or quantity. A strong regulatory framework to contain and reduce pollution from synthetic fertilizer, stock effluent and land use changes is required. It simply defies logic that diluting polluted water by adding water from another ecosystem will have any beneficial effect to either to the source ecosystem or the recipient ecosystem.

3. Increasing debt to provide for shortfalls in revenue. Interest rates may be low at present, but I strongly oppose future generations having to pay interest on current potential borrowings. Everyone needs to live within their means and that includes Ecan.

I wish to be heard in support of my submission.