

Comments

LTP 2021-31

Comment ID	1234
Response Date	14/04/21 12:57 PM
Status	Submitted
Submission Type	Email
Version	0.4
Files	
First name	Kit
Surname	Doudney
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?	Avon Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust
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:
Cc:
Subject: Environment Canterbury LTP 2021 submission from the AHEIT
Date: Thursday, 15 April 2021 2:59:40 pm
Attachments: [Approved AHEIT submission on Environment Canterbury's LTP 2021.pdf](#)

Dear Environment Canterbury,

Please find attached our Board's approved submission. Please replace our preliminary submission that we made on Sunday the 11th April, with this submission.

I will cc our Board's Environment Canterbury representatives Shelley Washington and Cr Southworth for their information.

We wish to be heard.

Best wishes,
Kit

Kit Doudney

Chairperson
Avon Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust



From: Kit Doudney
Sent: Sunday, 11 April 2021 2:46 pm
To:
Cc: Avon Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust < > : Ann Kennedy
Marion ; Cynthia Roberts
Simpson, Bill
Subject: LTP submission, from the AHEIT

Dear Environment Canterbury,

Please find attached our preliminary submission.

We will sign it off as a Board at our monthly Board meeting on Wednesday 14th April, and re-send with any amendments that may arise, if they arise, on Thursday April 15th, before the proposed Friday 16th final deadline.

We wish to be heard.

Best wishes,

Kit

Kit Doudney

Chairperson

Avon Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust
(AHEIT)

Christchurch | Otautahi

New Zealand | Aotearoa

Avon-Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust



Environment Canterbury Regional Council

Kaunihera Taiao ki Waitaha

Estuary Trust Submission

It's In Our Hands – kai roto i ō Tātou rīkarika, Environment Canterbury's 10-year Plan, Te Pae Tawhiti 2021-31

The Avon Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust

1. The Avon Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust (AHEIT, The Estuary Trust) is a charitable society registered in 2003. It was formed as a result of community requests over many years for the formation of an organisation that included committed representation from statutory bodies, tāngata whenua and other agencies.

2. The vision of the Trust is

Communities working together for
Clean Water
Open Space
Safe Recreation, and
Healthy Ecosystems that we can all enjoy and respect

*Toi tū te taonga ā iwi
Toi tū te taonga ā Tāne
Toi tū te taonga ā Tangaroa
Toi tū te iwi*

3. Further details about the Trust, it's Constitution, the Memorandum of Understanding between the Christchurch City Council, Environment Canterbury and the Trust, and the Trust's Estuary Management Plan, please visit our website at www.estuary.org.nz

Kit Doudney

Chairperson, AHEIT

The Trust's submission



We thank Environment Canterbury for their ongoing support of the Estuary Trust's work.

We support Option 1

"There is a pressing need to see further improvements in water quality, manage significant pests, restore degraded habitats, respond to climate change, and deliver a sustainable public transport network".

1. Estuary Trust Annual Funding

The Estuary Trust gratefully acknowledges the annual grant from Environment Canterbury of \$20,000 to assist the Trust to meet the vision of a health estuary. However, this grant has been at the same level for the past ten years. In that time we have a major increase in community expectations, attendances at community events, organisational advice and support for our river and catchment networks, and the need to provide more organisational effort for our growing wetland restoration programmes.

The annual grant is used by the Trust to manage activities such as the annual Farewell to the Godwits event, the annual Mother of All Clean Ups, the annual Estuary Fest, scientific research, public presentations, and to initiate and plan ecological restoration programmes.

Because of the growing demands and costs associated with those activities, the Estuary Trust requests that **the annual grant be increased to \$26,000.**

The Trust Board looks forward to continuing our work as well as working with the Regional Council in the delivery of Te Mana o te Wai and all estuarine and coastal planning initiatives.

2. Improve stormwater quality including sediment controls

3. Assist with public education programmes

We ask that Environment Canterbury promote awareness of actions that people can take to stop contaminants from entering stormwater.

The Trust recognises that the recovery of our local streams, rivers and estuaries depends on an environmentally literate and engaged community. Education is a strategy used by the Trust in accomplishing our mission and has been a core component of our management planning.

4. Nutrient and contaminant reduction

We request that levels of nitrates and other contaminants in waterways are reduced to protect human and ecological health.

This would first include funding for the investigation of where excessive nutrients are coming from (including outside of city catchments). We suggest analysis of selected contaminants to determine spatial distribution of contamination.

We request further funding to stop contaminants of emerging concern, such as groundwater nitrate levels and microplastics, which ultimately contaminate the Estuary. This would be informed by the first point – the source of the contaminants.

5. Collect and analyse water quality data from drains near the wastewater treatment ponds

We are concerned about the discharges from drains that flow directly into the Estuary.

Although the drains may be a City Council responsibility we urge Environment Canterbury to monitor these discharges and to react accordingly so as to reduce contamination of the Estuary.

6. Acquire flow information for Linwood Canal

Linwood Canal is an open drain carrying stormwater to the Estuary. Again, the drain may be a City Council responsibility, but we ask that the regional council monitors this water body and if necessary takes action to ensure it is not polluting the Estuary.

7. Enhanced water quality data collection in the marine environment

The Trust is committed to science-based decision making. We would like to see water quality data and other scientific monitoring and reporting continue within the Estuary, but also would encourage **enhanced data collection in the marine environment** to inform the Regional Coastal Environment Plan. The state of our marine habitats, in part, will reflect the effects of land use practices, which also impact on the Estuary.

Gaining a good understanding of those impacts will help inform policies to improve the quality of all water environments, from mountains to sea.

We highly value the species that are present in the coastal environment and migrate into the estuary, including fish, birds and mammals, and therefore support the funding of the Coastal Environment Plan which will update policies to protect such species.

8. Pest control

We request that funding be allocated for pest control around the Estuary. In our view there is an increasing number of mustelids around the edge of the Estuary, these are a significant threat to indigenous birdlife.

There are also large numbers of Canada geese in the Christchurch environment, these numbers restrict habitat for indigenous wildlife.

Finally, there is a risk of further habitat destruction for plant pests. We urge Environment Canterbury to initiate and prepare a pest control strategy for the Estuary.

We wish to be heard.

Yours sincerely,

Kit Doudney
Chair, Avon Heathcote Estuary Ihutai Trust Board