

## Comments

### LTP 2021-31

Comment ID	1249
Response Date	14/04/21 2:20 PM
Status	Submitted
Submission Type	Email
Version	0.2
Files	
First name	Sandy
Surname	Cameron
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:** LTP Submission  
**Date:** Sunday, 11 April 2021 5:53:09 pm  
**Attachments:** [Submission Environment Canterbury 10 year plan 2021-31.docx](#)

---

Date : 10th April 2021  
Name of Submitter : Wainui Station Ltd  
Submitter Type : Pastoral Farming Business/Individual  
Surname : Cameron  
Given names : Georgina, Sandy and Walter  
Contact person : Sandy Cameron  
Address :

Region :  
Phone :  
Email :

# Submission to Environment Canterbury 10 Year Plan 2021- 2031

**Date** : 10<sup>th</sup> April 2021  
**Name of Submitter** : Wainui Station Ltd  
**Submitter Type** : Pastoral Farming Business/Individual  
**Surname** : Cameron  
**Given names** : Georgina, Sandy and Walter  
**Contact person** : Sandy Cameron  
**Address** :  
  
**Region** :  
**Phone** :  
**Email** :

**As an adjacent land owner to the lower Waitaki River and members of Waitaki Independent Irrigators Collective and Waitaki Irrigators Collective we give support to that submission.**

## **About Us: WAINUI STATION**

Wainui Station, farmed by the Cameron family for 107 years, is a sheep, beef and cropping property on the North Bank of the Waitaki River.

Two of our four adult children farm with us both on Wainui and Viewfield in the Hakataramea Valley.

We have been heavily involved with planning framework and water management over the past two decades. The Cameron's have provided submissions and evidence to the development of the CNRP, the abandoned Project Aqua, the Waitaki Amendment Bill and the Waitaki Catchment Water Allocation Regional Plan. As applicants seeking to renew existing consents we were caught up in the ministerial "call in" of Waitaki applications in 2004 and the Lower Waitaki Hearings in 2008. We were an effected party (providing evidence) to the North Bank Tunnel Project an application by Meridian Energy Ltd to take up to 260 cumecs of water from the Waitaki River and land use to secure a 3.5-kilometre corridor through our productive flats to convey the water by open canal for the purpose of hydro generation.

**I am providing you this information as a means to illustrate how many variables there are across the region, and how issues in the Waitaki Catchment can be different from those in other parts of the Canterbury Region.**

In addition, we have submitted to and provided evidence to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan, the various Plan changes that have followed, more recently Plan Change 5 and associated nutrient management and submitted to the Action for Healthy Waterways.

I am Project Leader for the Kurow Island Restoration: A volunteer community restoration project of a 10-hectare braided river Island - from a wasteland and once Waitaki District landfill dating back to the early 1900s- into a recreational and ecological reserve.



As recipients of various awards, we are currently working on an informational and photo panel trail around the Island and adjacent wetland: To educate and enlighten the reader of the local history, renewable energy, ecology, plants, birds and aquatic life associated with the river.

**Our submission before you will focus on living next to the Waitaki River its management, flood protection and its rating system.**

Our property Wainui has 3 kilometers of braided Waitaki River frontage. We know the river well.

We pay Lower Waitaki Class A and Lower Waitaki Class B targeted rates.

Parts of the Waitaki River are zoned primary, secondary or tertiary meaning there are different river areas where the rating district either pays for all the work, its shared with the landowner, or the landowners pays for it all.

Over the years Waitaki River has encroached on our property resulting in productive land being lost.

**An example:** In 1972 we purchased a 260-hectare lease hold block adjacent to the Waitaki River with Waitaki Catchment Resource Consents for irrigation.

In 1988 we freeholded the same block. Between surveys the land had reduced to 210 hectares.

In December 1995 Wainui lost another 2 hectares, fencing and pine tree plantation bank protection. Too often land owners are finding their investment in mitigation works last as long as the next series of high flows.

The Lower Waitaki River like the other braided rivers in Canterbury, receives its waters from a combination of rainfall and snow melt, tributary and groundwater inflow.

**However, the Lower Waitaki River is different from other braided rivers in Canterbury**  
**Its flows are controlled from the Waitaki Dam down - by the generation of hydro-electricity in its upper catchment reach.**

The issues we are raising have been before the Council for some time and more particularly from May/ June 2020 when the landowners experienced several months of high flows causing considerable damage and loss of land and infrastructure. We believe insufficient fairway management over the years has exasperated the situation.

Whereas we accept and acknowledge adverse rain events resulting in the release of high and flood flows- we have no control no control how these flows are managed and passed through the system. This has recently been under the scrutiny of Electricity Authority and Select Committee.

The Waitaki Dam Consents along with the bundle held by Meridian Energy and Genesis expire in 2025. New conditions need to recognise - ramping rates relating to decreasing flows to avoid the banks being sucked off into the river.

In acknowledging the value of renewable energy—we view the adverse effects to our land and banks as no different to the damage which was occurring to coast lines as a result of Fast Ferry traffic and the necessity for intervention by Councils to impose speed limits.

**Our submission:** Adjacent land owners and targeted rate payers are surprised and concerned by the lack of recognition and mention of the Lower Waitaki River in its proposed LTP key policies. Special Reference pages 24 and 25 key policies and how the LTP is proposed to be funded.

We do not believe the Long-Term Plan is providing adequate funding or work planning to maintain and protect both the healthy functioning of the Lower Waitaki River and its fairway management, or to protect the land and infrastructure adjacent to the River.

Our submission asks for an urgent review of an obsolete rating system that is fair and reasonable.

To better recognise

- Changing weather patterns and climate change
- A hydro controlled river
- Those who gain a commercial benefit from its waters
- Local, regional, national and commercial benefits to the wider community.
- Environmental social and recreational values.
- DOC owned land.

A review that relieves the disproportionate financial burden incurred by targeted and adjacent land owners. **More importantly a review of the Zoning - the contributions paid by adjacent landowners in secondary and tertiary zones, for river works and bank control.**

- An immediate review of the MEL contribution to rates negotiated with ECNZ in 1992 and to include to include a Project River Recovery Agreement similar to the one in the Mackenzie and negotiated in the same document.

We submit that scheme and fairway management works need to be reviewed regularly and be undertaken in a timely manner so that \$20,000 worth of damage repair does not turn into \$200,000.00 resulting in further financial burden to the rate payer.

I support the borrowing for the support of reserves as outlined in Option 1

**We wish to be heard in support to this submission.**