

Draft Selwyn Biodiversity Strategy

# Summary of Public Submissions and Staff Recommendations

11 March 2024



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## Introduction

This report presents a summary of submissions received on the Draft Selwyn Biodiversity Strategy (Draft SBS). The report is intended to provide a concise summary of the views expressed, as well as to provide a brief analysis of those and, where applicable, give recommended responses to the submissions.

The report is structured as follows:

- Background and general overview of the submissions received.
- General summary of the key topics raised by submitters.
- Detailed summary of all submissions, organised by submitter and submission form questions, including staff recommendations (where applicable).

## Background

### Stakeholder engagement

As the first part of the SBS consultation process targeted stakeholder engagement was held in July and August 2023 and included representatives from environmental groups and industry organisations. As part of this process, targeted workshops were held to ensure that stakeholders were given the opportunity to participate at various levels. The comments and feedback received from various stakeholder engagements were considered and informed the final Draft strategy which was presented to and signed off by Council on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023. At that meeting Council also signed off on a prescribed SBS public consultation process.

In addition to the targeted stakeholder engagement, Council staff have liaised with Mana Whenua representatives throughout the process of Drafting the strategy. Staff from Mahaanui Kurataio led the writing of the Ngai Tahu chapter in the SBS and the culturally focussed Goal 1.

### Public Engagement

The Draft SBS was open for public submissions from 21 November 2023 until 5pm on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2023, and followed the public consultation process framework provided by s.82 of the Local Government Act (2002), ensuring that affected and interested parties have had the opportunity to be informed and contribute to the strategy.

Public notices advertising the Draft SBS, and the submission period were published in the Selwyn Times, Malvern News and Ellesmere Echo. (a copy of the notice is attached as Appendix 2). In addition to printed notices, regular social media updates were used to advertise that Council was seeking submissions on the Draft SBS and to direct people to Council's website (Your Say Selwyn), where further information was available, including how to view a copy of the Draft SBS and to make a submission. Advertising was run on Facebook through a mixture of posts and boosted ads, alongside boosted geotargeted posts around the drop-in sessions.

Submitters were given options to either make a submission online, or by downloading a copy of the submission form and returning it to Council via email, postage, or in person. Copies of the Draft SBS and submission forms were also available at Council Service Centres.

Three public drop-in sessions were conducted: Darfield 13<sup>th</sup> December, Rolleston 14<sup>th</sup> of December and Leeston on the 15<sup>th</sup> December. Feedback and a low turnout at these drop-in sessions indicated low public awareness of the engagement process. Therefore, it was determined to extend the opportunity for the public to submit until 5pm on Wednesday the 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2024.

A submission form was provided to help capture necessary contact information and structure responses. The submission form contained four open ended questions and a tick box exercise. Submitters could also make further comments and feedback on the form (a copy of the submission form is attached as Appendix 1).

A total of 31 submissions were received:

- 23 submissions were received via the Councils on-line portal – Have your Say.
- One submission was received on the hardcopy submission form.
- Seven submissions were received via email, these submissions did not follow the format of the questionnaire but were more specific to areas of the SBS itself.

- A total of 326 submission points were extrapolated from the submissions received.

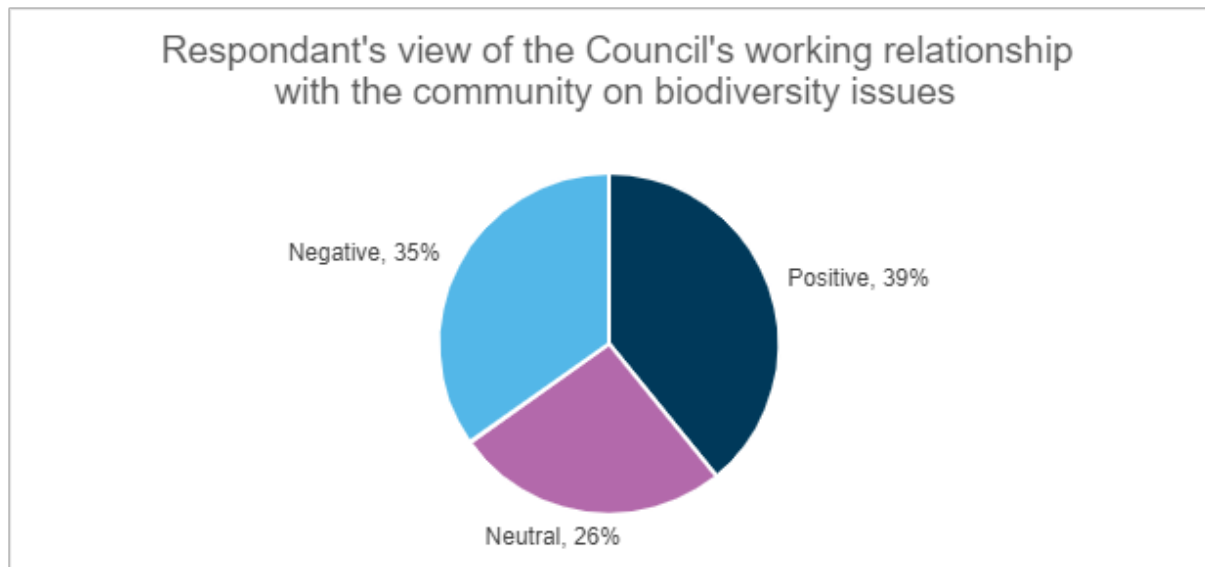
There were 15 submissions from the general public and six coming from environmental organisations.

#### Attendance at a hearing

Submitters were asked whether they wished to present their submissions at a public hearing. Seven submitters indicated that they wished to be heard, 26 declined or did not specify.

#### Questions in the public consultation document

*Q 1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues? (23 responses, 1 skipped)*



*Q2. Do you feel the Council adequately recognises and supports the current efforts of landowners and community members to protect, restore and enhance biodiversity? (please include some detail on why or if why not, what you feel we could do better). (17 responses, 7 skipped)*

*Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on? (22 responses, 2 skipped)*

*Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threat and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn? (22 responses, 2 skipped)*

*Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy (24 responses, 0 skipped)*

The submitters were asked to tick their four favorite priorities from a list of 12 objectives derived from the Draft SBS. The responses to Question 5 are shown in Figure 1. Note the submitters were not asked to rank their favorite objectives.

The three top objectives that gained the most support was *Prevent further loss of indigenous species via pest control* (16), *Identify and protect biodiversity and ecological values across the district* (11) and *Increase indigenous cover* (10).

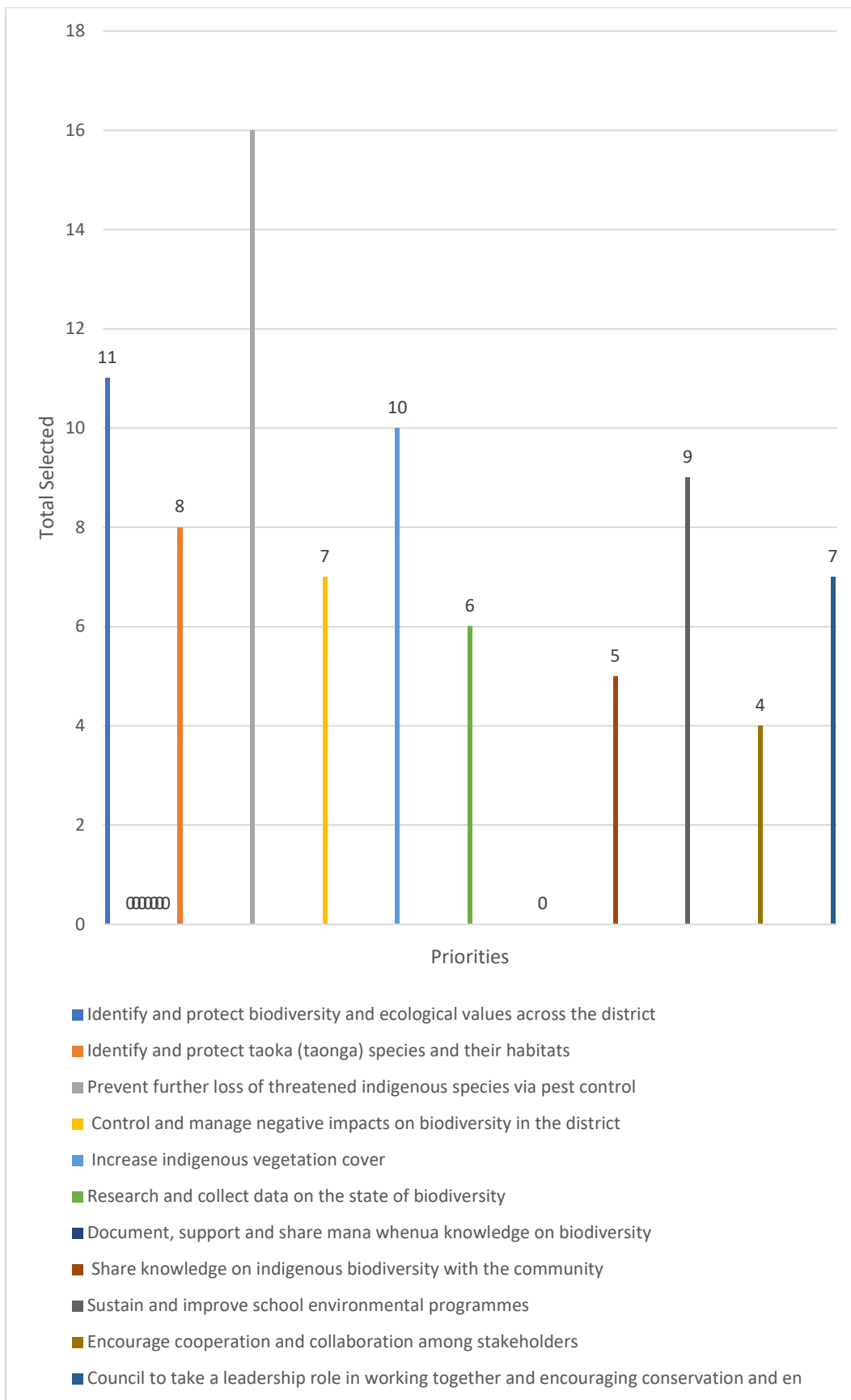


Figure 1: Responses to Question 5

### Key themes identified by Submitters (listed in no particular order)

- Control of wilding conifers and other weed species, especially in the high country.
- Recognition and protection of kea
- Support for the community and landowners including funding for restoration efforts and pest control initiatives.
- Capacity, or lack of, for Council to deliver meaningful indigenous biodiversity outcomes.
- The need to protect and restore existing indigenous vegetation and habitats as a priority over creating new sites via planting.
- Importance and need for education and increased community awareness of indigenous biodiversity.
- Monitoring and enforcement of District Plan rules
- The need for increased indigenous vegetation in urban areas.

### Summary of submissions with staff responses and/or recommendations

The below is a synopsis of the key points raised in the submissions, organized by submitter, with staff responses and or recommendations for consideration by either Council or the Hearings Panel.

The complete text of each submission point has not been given in this report. Complete submissions will be provided on the Council website (note the names of the submitters will not be supplied).

Each submission has been given a unique number and broken down further into submission points.

Where a submission requests amendments to the Draft SBS text a staff response/recommendation is given.

It should be noted that the majority of the submissions were general comments with many of them addressed by the Draft SBS. These were acknowledged by the response of *Noted – No change* with a note of the area of the Draft SBS that was relevant to the submission.

Of the 326 submission points 32 submissions were accepted with a recommendation to review the appropriate text in the Draft SBS

*Question 1 How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?*

Sub no	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
1	Engagement	Suggest Council is not reaching into the furthest corners of the Selwyn District	No specific decision sought		Noted - see recommendation for sub no 2. A Draft Reserves Management Plan has been developed for Castle Hill village.
2	Engagement with other organisations	Believes Council is supportive of the Arthurs Pass community's biodiversity initiatives but would like to see Council coordinate more with Doc and ECAN.	Seeks for Council to collaborate with other conservation agencies (DOC and ECAN) in the Arthurs Pass area.	In scope	Noted – no change. Draft SBS recognises the need to work with other agencies. Chapter 5 Opportunities for better biodiversity management, 5.1 Leadership and partnerships. <b>Recommendation</b> – note in Chapter 5 Arthurs Pass as an area of importance for ongoing collaboration
3		No response to this question			
4		No response to this question			
5	Communication, cost of implementation	Suggests that the Strategy lacks detail around costs that could occur as a result of increasing biodiversity, for example, the funds needed for trapping pests.	Seeks acknowledgment of costs that may be associated with increased indigenous biodiversity.	In scope	Noted – no change. Draft SBS acknowledges there are costs associated with increasing/protecting indigenous biodiversity. Actions associated with the Goals and Targets aim to identify potential funding sources.
6		No response to this question			
6	Funding, balance of property and business rights with biodiversity	Suggests that the key to developing excellent outcomes for biodiversity is adequate and strategically directed funding, alongside recognition of the needs of landowners to maintain their properties, businesses and biodiversity.	Seeks adequate and strategically directed funding to assist landowners to deliver excellent outcomes for biodiversity.	In scope	Noted – no change. Draft SBS recognises the need to support landowners. Goal 3 – Support actions by landowners and our community to protect and restore indigenous biodiversity and enhance public awareness of our natural environment. See action 20.
8	SNAs in District Plan	Suggests that SNAs have been applied far too broadly in the new District Plan.	No specific decision sought.	Not in scope	
9	Bias towards capitalism	Suggests that in practice, Council is biased towards short term capitalism rather than long term environmentalism.	No specific decision sought.	Not in scope	
10	Community engagement	States that there is a huge interest by a number of committed people to reverse the current state of biodiversity decline in Selwyn.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Noted – no change. Draft SBS recognises that there are very committed people in the district doing significant works. Goal 3 – Support actions by landowners and our community to protect and restore indigenous biodiversity and enhance public awareness of our natural environment.
11	Enforcement of biodiversity rules	Suggests that to improve the Council's working relationship with the community it is essential that firm action is taken against individuals or organisations that violate the biodiversity rules.	Requests that Council take firmer and faster action to enforce their biodiversity rules.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to enforce District Plan rules. Goal 2, Action 8 - District Plan policies and rules are fit for purpose to protect indigenous

		Community members interested in biodiversity need the support of council to stop the loss.			biodiversity across the full range of ecosystems in Selwyn. Compliance with rules is met, and they are enforced as required.
12	Weed control	Suggests that Council could improve its management of biodiversity issues, particularly the prevention of wilding pine spread.	Seeks for Council to actively engage in preventing the spread of wilding pines in the high country.	In scope	Accept – <b>Recommendation:</b> to modify Goal 2, action 8 to review wording to include wilding conifers and other weeds.
13	Engagement with high country communities	Council lacks exposure and continuity at Castle Hill Village	Seeks more consistent engagement with the Castle Hill community.	Out of scope	Comment is noted - see recommendation for sub no 2. A Draft Reserve Management Plan has been developed for Castle Hill village.
14		No response to this question			
15	Weed control	Is disappointed that the removal of wilding pines on Council land is no longer permitted by trained volunteers in Castle Hill Village, due to health and safety risks. This leads to delayed action and high contractor costs.	No specific decision sought but submission implies that volunteers would be keen to carry out weed control on Council land.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. Managed under Council maintenance contracts because of health and safety obligations under Worksafe. – HSWA 2015
16		No response to this question			
17	Communication	Feels that most landowners were not aware of this strategy document due to very limited advertising.	No specific decision sought	Out of scope	Noted - for future landowner/community engagement.
18	Pest control	Supports Council's work with the community on pest control efforts.	No specific decision sought	In scope	Support noted
19	Staff resourcing	Suggests that although the Council Biodiversity team and Reserves team are highly skilled and passionate about protecting biodiversity in Selwyn, their work is under resourced, affecting their reach and effectiveness.	No specific decision sought	In scope	Support noted. Purpose of the Draft SBS is to increase awareness and subsequent (work programme) funding for indigenous biodiversity. Resourcing can be addressed through the Long-Term Plan.
20		No response to this question			
21	Council engagement	Supports the Council staff's engagement with the community at biodiversity events, and for their support of schools and landowners with native planting.	No specific decision sought	In scope	Support noted
22	Communication and implementation	Believes that the Council is not consistent in delivering messages or methods to achieve indigenous biodiversity outcomes.	No specific decision sought	In scope	Noted – no change. Goal 3 targets and actions will work towards addressing this submission point.
23	Capacity and inconsistencies	Believes that Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues could be better, mostly due to capacity, resourcing and education. Inconsistencies across the district are an issue.	No specific decision sought	In scope	Noted – no change. Goal 3 targets and actions will work towards addressing this submission point.
24		No response to this question			



*Question 2 - Do you feel the Council is adequately recognises and supports the current efforts of landowners and community members to protect, restore and enhance biodiversity?*

Sub No	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
1	Funding	While SDC has some biodiversity funding available through SNEF, biodiversity funding through other agencies is becoming scarce.	Seeking further assistance for biodiversity funding.	In scope	Noted – no change. Actions within the Draft SBS identify potential funding sources and the need for future biodiversity focussed funding.
2	Weed control	The Arthur's Pass community have worked hard to enhance biodiversity habitat within the village, however many of the weed and predator threats come from outside the village. It would be good if Council could work with DOC to increase its biodiversity protection into a buffer around the village.	Requests Council's assistance to establish a biodiversity buffer around Arthur's Pass village, to protect against predators and invasive weeds.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need for partnerships to achieve good biodiversity outcomes. Chapter 5 - Opportunities for better biodiversity management, 5.1 Leadership and partnerships. The Draft SBS aims to bring cohesion to weed control by taking a focused and organized catchment-wide approach.
3	Development impacts	Argues that Council supports any commercial development regardless of the environmental or social impact.	No specific decision sought	Out of scope	Noted – no change. The purpose of the Strategy is to provide guidance and a common focus for policy and decision making, resource allocation, voluntary effort, and on-the-ground projects and initiatives related to indigenous biodiversity management in Selwyn
4		No response to this question			
5	Biodiversity costs and loss of productivity	Considers that Council does not acknowledge landowner's perspectives and knowledge regarding their land. Believes that increased indigenous biodiversity will result in lost productivity and increased costs.	No specific decision sought	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need for Council to support landowners and the community. Goal 3 - Support actions by landowners and our community to protect and restore indigenous biodiversity and enhance public awareness of our natural environment.
6	Council leadership in biodiversity actions	Suggests Council should be a role model by overlaying all decisions from a biodiversity perspective.	Seeks Council to make decisions from a biodiversity perspective to plant only natives and to increase funding from developers for habitat protection.	In scope	Noted – no change. The purpose of the Draft SBS is to increase awareness and subsequent (work programme) funding for indigenous biodiversity. Including within Council itself.
7	Funding to support biodiversity targets	Council does well recognising and supporting the efforts of landowners, but is often limited by funding availability. It is critical that further substantial funding can be leveraged for Council to sufficiently support the considerable biodiversity outcomes sought at the national level.	Seeks for Council to leverage funding to support biodiversity outcomes sought at the national level.	In scope	Support noted. The purpose of the Draft SBS is to increase awareness and therefore subsequent funding (work programme) for indigenous biodiversity. Actions within the Draft SBS identify potential funding sources.

Sub No	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
8	Balance of protection and development	Landowners should be encouraged to protect the most valuable areas while still being able to undertake reasonable development of their properties.	No specific decision sought.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. The District Plan and associated biodiversity management plans are avenues that can be explored.
9	Landowner and community support.	Believes that Council does adequately recognise and support the current efforts of landowners and community members to protect, restore and enhance biodiversity.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Support noted. The Draft SBS recognises the need for Council to support landowners and the community. Goal 3 - Support actions by landowners and our community to protect and restore indigenous biodiversity and enhance public awareness of our natural environment.
10	Funding for biodiversity actions	Would like Council to be more committed to providing funding for Te Ara Kākāriki, to provide rates relief for landowners who plant natives, and to assist with funding pest control on private land.	Seeks for Council to provide committed funding for Te Ara Kākāriki, to provide rates relief for landowners who plant natives and to assist with funding pest control.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to support landowners and the community. Chapter 5, 5.3 identifies rates relief as a mechanism to support landowners. Resourcing can be addressed through the Long-Term Plan.
11	Funding for biodiversity actions	The cost and time of biodiversity restoration is high. It would be helpful for Council to provide support through rates relief and pest control for landowners restoring indigenous vegetation on their properties. Would like to see Te Ara Kākāriki provided with more ongoing support.	Seeks for Council to provide support through rates relief and pest control for landowners restoring indigenous vegetation on their properties, and to provide ongoing support for Te Ara Kākāriki.	In scope	Noted – no change. Draft SBS recognises the need to support landowners and the community. Chapter 5, 5.3 identifies rates relief as a mechanism to support landowners. Resourcing can be addressed through the Long-Term Plan.
12	Weed control	Believes the Council has been slack on the removal of wilding seed-source trees on reserves at Castle Hill.	Seeks for Council to remove wilding seed-source trees on reserves at Castle Hill.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS supports the removal of pest species and is directed by the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan. Removal of wilding conifers is directed under the Draft Castle Hill Village Reserves Management Plan
13	Weed control	States that Council offered to assist with removal of wilding trees on private land, but then failed to carry it through.	Seeks more consistency with wilding pine removal.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognise wilding conifers as a threat to indigenous ecosystems. Removal of wilding conifers is directed under the Draft Castle Hill Village Reserves Management Plan.
14.1	Runoff from solar farms into waterways	Is concerned that a proposed solar farm at Brookside will result in heavy metal and PFAS contaminant runoff into local waterways.	No specific decision sought	Out of scope	Noted – no change. Managed under District Plan policies and rules, and consent conditions.
14.2	Planting waterways	Would like to see plantings on Council waterways around Brookside to reduce nitrates and increase biodiversity.	Seeks Council action for planting natives and increasing biodiversity along their waterways.	In scope	Accepted - <b>Recommendation:</b> Review wording of Goal 4 Action 28 to include planting natives along waterways as a sustainable management practice.
15	Predator control	The support of the Council in the predator control in Castle Hill area is appreciated.	No specific decision sought	In scope	Support noted
16		No response to this question			

Sub No	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
17	Rates relief	Enhancement comes at a cost to landowners and rates relief would be appreciated.	Seeks rates relief for biodiversity enhancement.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to support landowners and the community. Chapter 5, 5.3 identifies rates relief as a mechanism to support landowners who are protecting existing biodiversity or taking on biodiversity enhancement on their land.
18.1	Weed threats and predator control	Council is generally supportive of pest control but needs to be more responsive to the rabbit problem at Castle Hill Village.	Seeks further support for pest rabbit, wilding pine, broom, and lupin control. Expressed concern for the spread of broom and lupins in the high country.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS supports the removal of pest species and is directed by the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan. Removal of wilding confers is directed under the (Draft) Castle Hill Village Reserves Management Plan
18.2	Carbon farming	The SBS document needs to prioritise suitable funding for wilding pine control and to strengthen its response to disincentivise pine and incentivise alternatives for carbon farming.	Requests a strengthened response towards threats from carbon farming, and provision of alternatives.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. Could be managed under District Plan policy and rules.
19	Support for Te Ara Kākāriki Greenway Canterbury Trust	The Council supports Te Ara Kākāriki Greenway Canterbury Trust (TAK) to deliver school conservation programmes on public land and assist private landowners to restore indigenous habitat. School programmes are extremely well received but TAK only receives enough funding to help a few, with many more interested schools being declined. TAK requires long term and increased support to meet demand and provide ongoing and effective outcomes.	Requests long term and increased support for Te Ara Kākāriki to meet demand and provide ongoing and effective outcomes for schools and the wider community.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Purpose of the Draft SBS is to increase awareness and subsequent funding (work programme) for indigenous biodiversity. The Draft SBS acknowledges the importance of the work done by community groups. Resourcing can be addressed through the Long-Term Plan.
20	Recognition of biodiversity efforts.	Suggests that Biodiversity could be a separate category in the Selwyn Awards and staff could enter landowners in to raise the profile of biodiversity achievements across Selwyn.	Seeks recognition of biodiversity efforts through establishment of new Selwyn Awards category.	In scope (in part)	Noted - no changes and referred to section of Council that oversee Selwyn Awards., Goal 3, action 17 specifies the recognise of indigenous biodiversity protection achievements.
21.1	Protection.	With Canterbury having one of the lowest levels of natural native vegetation nationwide, we need to prioritise identifying and protecting what is left.	Supports prioritising the identification and protection of existing indigenous vegetation.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS supports the identification and protection of existing indigenous vegetation. Goal 2 Identify the state of indigenous biodiversity within Selwyn and develop appropriate responses in accordance with our statutory, non-statutory and manawhenua responsibilities to halt the decline of our flora and fauna.
21.2	Funding and landowner support	More funding is needed, with the cost of plants and expert advice increasing hugely over the past two years. Te Ara Kākāriki continue to receive steady numbers of applications for restoration assistance showing there is strong local support for restoring native biodiversity. People are often held back by cost or lack of advice	Seeks more landowner support for restoration planting.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to support landowners and community. Goal 3 Action 20 - Provide advice, targeted funding, and meaningful incentives, to encourage landowners to protect indigenous biodiversity on private property

Sub No	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
22	Landowner and community support.	Does not feel that Council adequately recognises and supports the current efforts of landowners and community members to protect, restore and enhance biodiversity.	No specific decision sought	In scope	Noted – no change. Draft SBS Goal 3 and targets are aligned to address support for community and landowners.
23	Consistency and long term biodiversity management	Believes that inconsistency across Council limits its progress in supporting biodiversity efforts. Needs to consider long term biodiversity management too, not just the planting and establishment phases.	No specific decision sought	In scope	Noted – no change. The Purpose of the Draft SBS is to increase awareness and subsequent (work programme) for funding indigenous biodiversity. This includes across Council itself.
24	Education	Would like to see more education on protecting, restoring, and enhancing the natural world on both public and private properties	Seeks more education on protecting, restoring, and enhancing the natural world on both public and private properties	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to for education. Goal 3 Action 13 - Work to educate our community on indigenous biodiversity issues and opportunities by promoting Selwyn's indigenous biodiversity - through walks, talks, planting projects, predator free workshops, BioBlitz and other initiatives

### Question 3 Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

Sub No	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
1.1	Invasive weeds	Invasive weeds are an issue in the high country, with seed sources causing current and future issues.	Requests that the Council focus on control of invasive weeds.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognised the risk of invasive weeds in the high country and it aims to bring cohesion to weed control by taking a focused and organized catchment-wide approach.
1.2	Feral cats	An increase in feral cat numbers is a threat to kea populations.	Requests control of feral cats in the high country.	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> Review text to note feral cats as a threat to kea populations.
1.3	Kea protection	Kea need to be listed in the SBS as a threatened species.	Seeks to have kea included as a threatened species in the SBS.	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> review text to include kea as a threatened species.
2	Invasive weeds	Is concerned that invasive weeds are being transported through the district (presumably along road corridors).	Seeks for Council to focus on weed issues along transport corridors.	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> Review text to acknowledge weed spread including along transport corridors. The Draft SBS aims to bring cohesion to weed control by taking a focused and organized catchment-wide approach.
3		No response to this question			
4		No response to this question			
5	Urban areas and wetlands	Would like to see more biodiversity focus in urban areas, and in wetlands or other marginal farm land.	Requests that Council focus on increasing biodiversity in urban areas, and on wetland areas where farming productivity is low.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognised the need to increase biodiversity in areas noted by the submitter. Goal 4 – Encourage and increase the integration of indigenous species in our modified environments including urban spaces, lifestyle blocks and waterways.

Sub No	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
6	Water quality and native plants	Would like to see Council focus on water quality of rivers and lakes and on restoration of native plants.	Seeks a focus on water quality of rivers and lakes, and on native plant restoration.	In scope	Noted – no change. Managed by Environment Canterbury under the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan.
7.1	Funding	Leveraging/sourcing significant funding to assist biodiversity retention and projects to meet the substantial biodiversity outcomes desired at the national level. Funding is critical as an individual or small number of landowners should not be expected to bear the burden of significant biodiversity rehabilitation when any biodiversity loss will not be limited to those immediately adjacent to the affected area/s.	Seeks funding to assist biodiversity retention.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to support landowners and community. Goal 3 Action 20 - Provide advice, targeted funding, and meaningful incentives, to encourage landowners to protect indigenous biodiversity on private property
7.2	Collaboration rather than regulation	Working positively with landowners and community groups when addressing biodiversity issues and initiatives. It is critical that regulatory authorities do not apply broad scale regulation as the tool to predominantly deal with biodiversity matters but look to use non-regulatory methods to achieve the desired outcomes.	Seeks for Council to collaborate with landowners and community groups for biodiversity outcomes, rather than regulate.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to support landowners and community. Goal 3 Action 20 - Provide advice, targeted funding, and meaningful incentives, to encourage landowners to protect indigenous biodiversity on private property
7.3	Community context of indigenous biodiversity	Understanding the community context in which the indigenous biodiversity sits. Some may desire major withdrawal of agricultural activities in certain areas. However, these have often been developed under permitted regulation and involved major capital input from landowners. Developing practical, affordable, and comprehensive strategies should be a key focus from the outset.	Wants consideration of the community context, not just the ecological context when making biodiversity plans.	Partially in scope	Noted – no change. Purpose of the Draft SBS is to increase awareness and subsequent (work programme) funding for indigenous biodiversity. District Plan rules and policies along with those of Environment Canterbury establish regulations for agricultural activities.
7.4	Consultation for key projects	Consultation and work group discussions on key projects or initiatives based around mapped areas of existing biodiversity knowledge.	Wants community consultation and discussions for key projects.		Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need for community engagement. Goal action point 10 proposes the formation of a Biodiversity Working Group.
8	Rare and threatened species	Wants Council to focus on protecting rare and threatened species.	Seeks for Council to focus on protecting rare and threatened species.	In scope	Noted – no change. The purpose of the Draft SBS is to increase awareness and subsequent (work programme) funding for indigenous biodiversity.
9	Biodiversity needs	Supports all our biodiversity focuses identified in the SBS	No specific decision sought	In scope	Support noted
10	Biodiversity loss in the high country	Considering that the high country is the only area of Selwyn district that has not suffered catastrophic indigenous vegetation loss, is concerned that indigenous vegetation is slowly being sprayed, oversown and topdressed to	Seeks for Council to focus on identifying and mapping SNAs in the high country to be able to monitor and enforce vegetation clearance rules.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS supports a SNA work programme. Goal 3 action 12 - In line with the NPS-IB expand the current Significant Natural Area (SNA) work

Sub No	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
		allow more intensive pastoral operations. Wants Council to focus on identifying and mapping SNAs to be able to monitor and enforce vegetation clearance rules.			programme to identify, assess and protect significant areas of biodiversity.
11.1	Water quality and flow rates.	The health of indigenous biodiversity which is dependent on the quality and flow of water. There are major issues around depleted flow and high contamination levels of rivers and aquifers throughout Canterbury, a direct result of industrial farming – over allocation, poor consenting, and poor control on the part of both the Council and Ecan. Action is required to address this.	Requests action to address depleted flows and high contamination of rivers and aquifers.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. Managed by Environment Canterbury under the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan.
11.2	Indigenous biodiversity loss and agricultural intensification in the high country	The Council needs to move quickly to stop further losses of indigenous biodiversity in the high country. Has noticed worrying trends along SH73 including; centre pivot irrigators on Grasmere, cattle in streams that feed directly into pristine high country lakes, and increasing “greening” due to over-sowing and top dressing on tussock lands. Council needs to make land use consent decisions based on overall effects.	Seeks for Council to address the loss of indigenous vegetation in the high country through swift action to monitor biodiversity and enforce rules.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to stop further biodiversity loss. Goal 2 Action 8 - District Plan policies and rules are fit for purpose to protect indigenous biodiversity across the full range of ecosystems in Selwyn. Compliance with rules is met, and they are enforced as required.
11.3	SNA's	Council needs to identify SNAs and monitor areas of significant biodiversity.	Identify SNAs.	In Scope	Noted no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to identify SNA. Goal 2 Action 12. In line with the NPS-IB expand the current Significant Natural Area (SNA) work programme to identify, assess and protect significant areas of biodiversity.
12	Weed control	Is concerned about wilding seed-source trees at Castle Hill.	Seeks for Council to focus on removing wilding seed-source trees at Castle Hill.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises wilding conifers as a threat to indigenous ecosystems. Removal of wilding conifers is directed under the Draft Castle Hill Village Reserves Management Plan
13	Castle Hill trees	Suggests a need for both indigenous and exotic trees at Castle Hill Village for shelter.	No specific decision sought	Out of scope	Noted – no change. Tree selection is directed in the Draft Castle Hill Village Reserves Management plan.
14	Native riparian planting	Would like to see more natives planted along waterways.	Seeks more native riparian planting.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need for indigenous plantings along waterways. Goal 4 - Encourage and increase the integration of indigenous species in our modified environments including urban spaces, lifestyle blocks and waterways.

Sub No	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
15.1	Wilding pine control	Wilding pines are a major concern. While seed source trees remain on SDC and private land in the region the costs will continue. SDC should be setting the example and getting rid of them urgently.	Seeks a focus on wilding pine and lupin control and education.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises wilding conifers as a threat to indigenous ecosystems.
15.2	Education on lupins	Russel lupines are also now invading Castle Hill village and SH 73. Education about this issue is a priority.	Seeks a lupin control and education.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to work collaboratively to tackle weed species and aims to bring cohesion to weed control by taking a focused and organized catchment-wide approach.
16	Predator control and native planting	Would like to see a focus on pest control (mustelids, possum, rats, feral cats & hedgehogs, and feral pigs, goats & deer), alongside native restoration planting.	Seeks a focus on pest control and native restoration planting.	In scope	Accept – <b>Recommendation:</b> review wording to include an action which specifically mentions a focus on pest control. The Draft SBS supports the predator free movement.
17	Native vegetation	Wants Council to focus on indigenous vegetation.	Requests that Council focus on indigenous vegetation.	In scope	Noted – no change. The purpose of the Draft SBS is to increase awareness and subsequent (work programme) funding for indigenous biodiversity.
18.1	Indigenous vegetation corridors from mountains to sea.	Would like to see planned indigenous corridors across Selwyn from mountains to the sea, to support native vegetation and enhance birdlife.	Seeks planned indigenous corridors across Selwyn from mountains to the sea.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need for connectivity to support indigenous species. Goal 1 action 2, Council, in partnership with manawhenua and key stakeholders, create the concept of an interconnected network of protected areas, riparian margins, and indigenous biodiversity corridors - ki uta ki tai.
18.2	Predator Free Selwyn	Wants Council to adopt and support " Predator Free Selwyn " as part of the Pest free Waitaha initiative	Requests that Council adopts and supports Predator Free Selwyn.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS supports the predator free movement
19.1	Protect remnant vegetation and habitat	Suggests that Council needs to protect remnant vegetation and restore indigenous habitat for wildlife, as there is still widespread clearing of native scrub and draining of wetlands occurring on farms that are important habitat. Plantings spread across the region will increase the area and variety of habitat available for indigenous wildlife.	Requests that Council protects and restores indigenous habitat.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS supports District Plan policies and rules that are fit for purpose to protect indigenous biodiversity across the full range of ecosystems in Selwyn. Compliance with rules is met, and they are enforced as required (Goal 2 – Action 8).
19.2	Conservation education in schools	States that there is strong evidence that children in Selwyn are experiencing 'nature-deficit', as many do not live close to a public reserve with sufficient indigenous habitat for wildlife. The Kids Discovery Plant-out programme has been successfully delivered to Selwyn schools for the	Seeks support for increased conservation education programmes in schools.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need for education. Goal 3 Target 3.2 Close links are formed between Council and education providers to create learning and research opportunities that inform restoration projects.

Sub No	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
		past ten years. Students have the opportunity to take action to link their learning about native biodiversity in the classroom to restoring a native ecosystem close to their school. Through planting and monitoring days the students become tiaki tamariki, empowered to make a positive difference towards creating habitat for wildlife and improving the health of their local waterways and Te Waihora.			Action 19 Work with education providers to deliver environmental learning initiatives and research opportunities.
20	Biodiversity education with schools	Would like to see support for connecting young people and their communities to indigenous native biodiversity in the place they love, cultivating instinctive action to protect it. This can be achieved through supporting school planting projects.	Seeks support for school planting projects, and other efforts to connect young people to indigenous native biodiversity.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS support effort to connect young people to indigenous native biodiversity. Goal 3 – target 19 - Work in conjunction with our biodiversity focused community groups to educate, protect and restore indigenous biodiversity – including Te Ara Kakariki and Enviroschools.
21.1	Biodiversity education for landowners and students	Engagement and education for landowners and students on the biodiversity values of native plant species and associated wildlife, to keep them engaged and active within their local environment.	Engagement and education for landowners and students on the biodiversity values of native plant species and associated wildlife.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need for engagement and education. Goal 3 target 13 - Work to educate our community on indigenous biodiversity issues and opportunities by promoting Selwyn's indigenous biodiversity - through walks, talks, planting projects, predator free workshops, BioBlitz and other initiatives.
21.2	Support for native planting on private land	Support for landowners to do more native planting on their land. There are many who are already engaged but need encouragement	Support for landowners to do more native planting on their land.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to support community and landowners. Goal 3 - Support actions by landowners and our community to protect and restore indigenous biodiversity and enhance public awareness of our natural environment.
21.3	Biodiversity of Te Waihora and its tributaries	Council adopt a key focus on the biodiversity of Te Waihora Lake Ellesmere and it's tributaries as it is full of valuable fragile ecosystems and threatened wildlife, not to mention it's cultural values and national significance. Much of Selwyn's land and waterways contributes to the lake's health.	For Council to adopt a key focus on the biodiversity of Te Waihora Lake Ellesmere and it's tributaries	Partially in scope	Noted. The Draft SBS acknowledges the importance of Te Waihora Lake Ellesmere and its tributaries. <i>Recommendation:</i> Include a specific action on supporting catchments.
22.1	Protection of high country and wetland biodiversity	An absolute priority is the protection of remaining indigenous biodiversity and wetlands in the high country.	The protection of remaining indigenous biodiversity and wetlands in the high country.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS supports District Plan policies and rules that are fit for purpose to protect indigenous biodiversity across the full range of ecosystems in Selwyn. Compliance with rules is met, and they are enforced as required (Goal 2 – Action 8).



Sub No	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
22.2	Indigenous biodiversity on the plains - both town and country	Connectivity of restoration areas across the plains needs to be encouraged, both on farms and in townships. Would like to see indigenous biodiversity featured in new subdivisions, and for all farms to have a small wetland or forest established on them. A corridor of indigenous habitat should be established along the Selwyn River.	Connectivity of restoration areas across the plains, both on farms and in townships. Indigenous biodiversity featured in new subdivisions, and all farms to have a small wetland or forest established on them. A corridor of indigenous habitat is established along the Selwyn River. A combination of protection, restoration and enhancement are all needed, with leadership from Council.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBB recognises the need for connectivity to support indigenous species. Goal 1 action 2 - Council, in partnership with manawhenua and key stakeholders, create the concept of an interconnected network of protected areas, riparian margins, and indigenous biodiversity corridors - ki uta ki tai.
23	Education, coordination, and monitoring	Would like to see Council support the education and co-ordination of biodiversity projects, plus ongoing monitoring after baseline measuring is established.	Seeks Council support for the education and co-ordination of biodiversity projects, plus ongoing monitoring after baseline measuring is established.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS supports education and monitoring of biodiversity projects. Goal 2: action 7 - In conjunction with relevant agencies enact a programme to facilitate the monitoring of Selwyn's indigenous biodiversity. This may include updating baseline biodiversity information, effectiveness of environmental protection, consent issuance and compliance, citizen science and State of the Environment reporting.
24	Biodiversity protection	Wants Council to focus on maintaining no more indigenous biodiversity loss in the high country, lakes and our internationally important braided rivers.	Seeks Council to focus on halting indigenous biodiversity loss in the high country, lakes, and our internationally important braided rivers.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS supports District Plan policies and rules that are fit for purpose to protect indigenous biodiversity across the full range of ecosystems in Selwyn. Compliance with rules is met, and they are enforced as required (Goal 2 – Action 8).

Question 4 How can the Council improve its responses to biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

Sub no	Topic	Summary of submission points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
1.1	Funding	Seeks more engagement and financial assistance for well-established community groups.	Seeks more engagement and financial assistance for well-established community groups.	In scope	Noted – no change. The purpose of the Draft SBS is to increase awareness and subsequent (work programme) funding for indigenous biodiversity. Resourcing can be addressed through Long Term Plan
1.2	Pest control	Would like to see Arthur's Pass Wildlife Trust recognised in the Pest Animals section of the SBS (p. 16) for their extensive voluntary trapping work.	Wants to see Arthur's Pass Wildlife Trust recognised for their trapping work in the Pest Animals section of the SBS (p. 16).	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> Arthur's Pass Wildlife trust will be added to the Pest Animals section (page 16).
1.3	Consenting	Is concerned about the extent of the lime quarry near Kura Tawhiti and wants to see more supervision of this consent.	Requests more supervision of the limestone quarry consent near Kura Tawhiti.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. A District Plan matter - to be managed by the consents/compliance teams at Council.
2	Collaboration for biodiversity protection	Would like to see Council coordinate and collaborate with other organisations doing biodiversity protection work in the district, for example pooling funding, and working together on cross-boundary projects.	Seeks for Council to coordinate and collaborate with other organisations doing biodiversity protection work in the district.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need for Council to work with other organisations. Chapter 5.
3	Prioritise indigenous biodiversity protection	Want to see Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn by placing it higher up the agenda.	Seeks for indigenous biodiversity protection to be placed higher up Council's agenda.	In scope	Noted – no change. The purpose of the Draft SBS is to increase awareness and subsequent (work programme) funding for indigenous biodiversity.
4		No response to this question			
5.1	Education	Wants to see education about the need to restore wetlands.	Seeks a focus on wetland restoration.	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> to expand Goal 4 to include reference to restoration/protection of natural waterways and wetlands.
5.2	Workshops	Would like workshops and planting days for community participation in residential areas.	Seeks biodiversity workshops and planting days in urban areas	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to enhance public awareness of our natural environment. Goal 3 identifies targets and actions to initiate this.
5.3	Planting days	Wants to see indigenous vegetation used to support beneficial insects - reducing pests and increasing pollinators.	Seeks research and application of indigenous vegetation use to support beneficial insects	Not in scope	Noted – no change. Council is represented in a Beneficial Insect working group through Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research.
6.1	Mana whenua involvement	Want to see mana whenua included in decisions.	Seeks mana whenua inclusion in decisions.	In scope	Noted – no change. Draft SBS recognises mana whenua – Chapter 4 and Goal 1.

Sub no	Topic	Summary of submission points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
6.2	Education	Supports native biodiversity awareness and education in schools.	Support native biodiversity education in schools	In scope	Accept <b>Recommendation</b> : review text to specifically mentions schools in Goal 3 action 13. Draft SBS recognises the need for awareness and education.
6.3	Indigenous plants in residential areas	Seeks support for landowners to transition to indigenous vegetation in residential gardens.	Seeks support for landowners to transition to indigenous vegetation in residential gardens.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS supports increased indigenous biodiversity in residential gardens. Goal 4 - Encourage and increase the integration of indigenous species in our modified environments including urban spaces, lifestyle blocks and waterways and associated actions.
7.1	Community engagement	Meet regularly with community groups, share information, and strategise collectively to determine practical, affordable, and realistic outcomes.	Seeks regular community group engagement.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need for community engagement. Goal 2 action point 10 proposes the formation of a Biodiversity Working Group.
7.2	Funding	Gain significant funding to assist with rehabilitation projects. Existing funding levels may not be adequate to achieve what is desired nationally	Requests funding to assist with national biodiversity goals	In scope	Noted – no change. Goal, targets and actions identify potential funding sources that may contribute to improved biodiversity outcomes.
7.3	Regulation for biodiversity improvement	Not rely on further regulation as a tool to create biodiversity improvement - if anything they hinder progress when compared to non-regulatory approaches	Seeks to move away from regulation as a tool for biodiversity improvement	Not in scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to provide advice, targeted funding, and meaningful incentives, to encourage landowners to protect indigenous biodiversity on private property (Goal 3 action 20).
7.4	Financial implications of land retirement	Be practical and recognise that some landowners may be significantly hindered financially should they be requested and expected to retire major areas of properties that they have previously been permitted to farm.	Seeks recognition of financial impacts associated with land retirement.	Not in scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to provide advice, targeted funding, and meaningful incentives, to encourage landowners to protect indigenous biodiversity on private property (Goal 3 action 20).
7.5	Historical context and landscape modification	Remaining aware that indigenous biodiversity goals are set in a contemporary context and reversion to former states may not be possible in many cases because of historical changes and manifestations that were permitted at the time.	No specific decision sought	In scope	Noted – no change.
8		No response this question			

Sub no	Topic	Summary of submission points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
9.1	Biodiversity in new subdivisions	Wants new housing developments to incorporate indigenous biodiversity areas for native wildlife.	Seeks for new housing developments to incorporate indigenous biodiversity areas.	not in scope	Noted – no change. The purpose of the Draft SBS is to increase awareness and subsequent (work programme) funding for indigenous biodiversity. Managed under the District Plan rules and policies.
9.2	Buffers around Significant Natural Areas	Would like to see 100m buffers around biodiversity hot spots, in which modern farming practices are not allowed. Regenerative farming or native tree planting would be acceptable, to preserve soil and insect values.	Requests the enforcement of 100m buffers around biodiversity hot spots, in which modern farming practices are not allowed. Regenerative farming or native tree planting would be acceptable.	out in scope	Noted – no change. The purpose of the Draft SBS is to increase awareness and subsequent (work programme) funding for indigenous biodiversity. Managed under the District Plan rules and policies.
9.3		Wants farming around the Kaituna Valley Doc reserve stopped.	Wants farming around the Kaituna Valley Doc reserve stopped.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. Managed by Environment Canterbury. Not in the Selwyn District.
10	District Plan rules and monitoring of indigenous biodiversity	Would like to see a strong District Plan with well documented rules that landowners follow, and strong messaging about the importance of indigenous biodiversity. Monitoring of resource consents and enforcement action should be taken in a timely way. Believes there should not be a reliance on complaints from members of the public driving the process of investigating infringements of the rules.	Seeks a strong District Plan with well documented rules that landowners follow, and strong messaging about the importance of indigenous biodiversity. Seeks regular monitoring and timely enforcement of resource consents by Council staff.	Partially in scope (for indigenous vegetation clearance)	Noted – no change. A District Plan and compliance matter. The Draft SBS seeks to ensure that: District Plan policies and rules remain fit for purpose to protect indigenous biodiversity across the full range of ecosystems in Selwyn; compliance with rules is met; and they are enforced as required (Goal 2 Action 8).
11.1	District Plan rules and monitoring of indigenous biodiversity.	Would like to see a District Plan that proudly highlights the importance of indigenous biodiversity with well documented rules that are communicated to all landowners and lessees.	Seeks a District Plan that highlights the importance of indigenous biodiversity and contains well documented rules that are communicated to all landowners and lessees.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. A District Plan matter. The Draft SBS seeks to ensure that: District Plan policies and rules remain fit for purpose to protect indigenous biodiversity across the full range of ecosystems in Selwyn; compliance with rules is met; and they are enforced as required (Goal 2 Action 8).
11.2	Biodiversity department resourcing	Believes that adequate resourcing of the biodiversity department is essential to ensure biodiversity losses are stopped and threats are managed.	Supports adequate resourcing of the biodiversity department for preventing biodiversity losses by managing threats.	Out of scope	Noted – no change.  Staff resourcing is managed through Council's financial planning processes.

Sub no	Topic	Summary of submission points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
12	Weed control	Wants to see the removal of wilding seed-source trees on Castle Hill reserves.	Seeks the removal of wilding seed-source trees on Castle Hill reserves.	Partially in scope (threat of wilding conifers)	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognise wilding conifers as a threat to indigenous ecosystems. Removal of wilding conifers is directed under the Draft Castle Hill Village Reserves Management plan.
13	Predator control	Believes that Council work with DOC & NGOs on animal (rabbits, rats, weasels, stoats, feral cats & pigs) pest removal programmes in and around the Castle Hill Village.	Seeks for Council work with DOC & NGOs on animal pest removal programmes in and around the Castle Hill Village.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS support working in partnerships. It aims to build on the good work already occurring, raise awareness of biodiversity values, facilitate the coordination of agency effort through alignment and partnerships, and support and encourage the efforts of communities, landowners, and individuals.
14.1	Native planting on Council land	Believes Council should work with Te Ara Kakariki to plant natives on council land.	Seeks for Council to work with Te Ara Kakariki to plant natives on council land.	In scope	Noted – no change. Council works closely with Te Ara Kakariki and their Kids Discovery Plant out program.
14.2	Solar farms	Wants Council to stop allowing solar farms near waterways.	Requests that Council stop allowing solar farms near waterways	Out of scope	Noted – no change. Managed under District Plan policies and rules and consent conditions.
15.1	Funding	Wants to see more funding allocated to biodiversity issues.	Seeks more funding for biodiversity issues.	In scope	Noted – no change. Goal, targets, and actions identify potential funding sources. Resourcing can be addressed through the Long-Term Plan.
15.2	Education	Would like increased public education, including in schools.	Seeks increased public education, including in schools.	In scope	Noted – no change. Goal 3 Action 13 - Work to educate our community on indigenous biodiversity issues and opportunities by promoting Selwyn's indigenous biodiversity - through walks, talks, planting projects, predator free workshops, BioBlitz and other initiatives.
16.1	Funding	Wants more funding made available to local community groups, with support from Council staff.	Requests more funding for local community groups, with support from Council staff.	In scope	Noted – no change. Council has the Selwyn Natural Environment Fund to support landowners and community groups.
16.2	Education and awareness	Would like increased awareness on how biodiversity benefits everyone	Seeks increased awareness of biodiversity benefits	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to raise awareness of indigenous biodiversity in the community.
17	Subdivision pressure	Wants new subdivisions stopped as they displace farmland, causing land use intensification elsewhere, resulting in	Seeks a halt on new subdivision approvals.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. Managed under District Plan policy and rules.

Sub no	Topic	Summary of submission points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
		development of marginal land, with indigenous vegetation clearance or wetland drainage.			
18.1	SBS goal 1 and 3	Supports Goals 1 and 3	Supports Goals 1 and 3	In scope	Support noted
18.2	Net Loss	Would like to see Goal 2 strengthened	Requests that Goal 2 is strengthened as follows - <i>"From 2024 onwards there will be no loss and a net gain of indigenous flora and fauna."</i>	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation</b> : change no net loss to no <u>further</u> loss as per other submitters request.
18.3	SBS goals	Believes the Goal 4 Action also is weak. The National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity 2023 states regional councils must a) set a target of at least 10 % indigenous vegetation cover for any urban or non urban environment that has less than 10 % cover, but also b) setting higher targets for urban and non urban environments that already have at least 10% coverage of indigenous vegetation.	Seeks for the Goal 4 Action to be strengthened.	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation</b> : review as suggested by submitter setting higher targets for urban and non-urban environments that already have at least 10% coverage of indigenous vegetation.
19.1	Biodiversity team resourcing	Wants to see stronger resourcing of the Council Biodiversity team.	Seeks stronger resourcing of the Council Biodiversity team.	Not in scope	Noted – no change. Resourcing can be addressed through the Long-Term Plan.
19.2	Support for Te Ara Kākāriki	Seeks stronger ongoing support of Te Ara Kākāriki Greenway Canterbury Trust.	Requests stronger ongoing support of Te Ara Kākāriki Greenway Canterbury Trust.	Not in scope	Noted – no change. Resourcing can be addressed through Long Term Plan
19.3	Pest control	Would like pest control education and support so remaining wildlife is protected.	Seeks pest control education and support.	In scope	Noted – no change. Draft SBS recognises the need for education and support. Goal 2 Action 13 - Work to educate our community on indigenous biodiversity issues and opportunities by promoting Selwyn's indigenous biodiversity - through walks, talks, planting projects, predator free workshops, BioBlitz and other initiatives.
20	Education and awareness	Wants Council to celebrate and raise the profile of indigenous species (along the lines of Mike Bowie's Critter of the Week column). Awareness of existing species is a better approach than telling people what we have lost.	Seeks Council to celebrate and raise the profile of indigenous species as believes that awareness of existing species is a better approach than telling people what we have lost.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to raise the profile of indigenous biodiversity. Goal 3 Action 13 - Work to educate our community on indigenous biodiversity issues and opportunities by promoting Selwyn's indigenous biodiversity - through walks, talks, planting projects, predator free workshops, BioBlitz and other initiatives

Sub no	Topic	Summary of submission points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
21.1	Enforcement of rules	Wants to see increased penalties or enforcement of existing rules when people damage existing native vegetation, biodiversity and waterways. .	Seeks increased penalties or enforcement of existing rules for damage to existing native vegetation, biodiversity, and waterways.	Not In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS supports District Plan policies and rules are fit for purpose to protect indigenous biodiversity across the full range of ecosystems in Selwyn. Compliance with rules is met, and they are enforced as required (Goal 2 Action 8).
21.2	Development impacts on waterways	Seeks more ecological consideration on the impacts of urban development on our waterways leading into Te Waihora	Seeks more ecological consideration for urban development impacts on waterways leading into Te Waihora	Not In scopes	Noted – no change. Managed by District Plan rules and policies.
22.1	Protect existing biodiversity on Plains	Council first needs to protect and help manage what is left of indigenous biodiversity, especially on the Canterbury Plains.	Requests that Council prioritises protection and management of remaining indigenous biodiversity, especially on the Canterbury Plains.	In scope	Noted – no change. The purpose of the Draft SBS is to increase awareness and subsequent (work programme) funding for indigenous biodiversity.
22.2	Indigenous biodiversity in new developments	Concern that new subdivisions are being developed without indigenous biodiversity being incorporated (apart from in stormwater management areas). Concern that further development without consideration of indigenous biodiversity will lead to a loss of habitat. The Council needs to enable and encourage subdivisions with an indigenous biodiversity focus.	Requests that Council enables and encourages subdivisions with an indigenous biodiversity focus.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS support the increase in indigenous biodiversity in urban area. Goal 4 - Encourage and increase the integration of indigenous species in our modified environments including urban spaces, lifestyle blocks and waterways.  Managed under District Plan policy and rules.
22.3	Water race biodiversity management	Water races are mini biodiversity hotspots and need a biodiversity plan associated with their management. Has witnessed water races drying up and photographed trout and eels dying in them.	Seeks a biodiversity plan for the management of water races.	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> Review text to include the requirement for a biodiversity plan for water races. The Draft SBS acknowledges the importance of water races and their associated biodiversity values.
22.4	Advisory Group	Council should consider establishing an indigenous biodiversity advisory group	Requests that Council consider establishing an indigenous biodiversity advisory group.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need for a Biodiversity Advisory Group. Goal 2 action point 10 proposes the formation of a Biodiversity Working Group.
23.1	Education and awareness	Wants more education to increase understanding of the values of biodiversity (both economic and environmental) and their associated ecosystem services within the district.	Seeks more education to increase awareness of the values of biodiversity and their associated ecosystem services within the district.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to raise public awareness. Goal 3 Action 13 - Work to educate our community on indigenous biodiversity issues and opportunities by promoting Selwyn's indigenous biodiversity -

Sub no	Topic	Summary of submission points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
					through walks, talks, planting projects, predator free workshops, BioBlitz and other initiatives
23.2	Monitoring	Wants monitoring of biodiversity and ecosystem services within the district.	Requests monitoring of biodiversity and ecosystem services within the district.	In scope	Noted – no change. Draft SBS recognises the need for monitoring. Goal 2 Action 7 - in conjunction with relevant agencies enact a programme to facilitate the monitoring of Selwyn's indigenous biodiversity. This may include updating baseline biodiversity information, effectiveness of environmental protection, consent issuance and compliance, citizen science and State of the Environment reporting
23.3	Alignment with and leadership towards national strategy	Would like Selwyn to be a leader in working towards national biodiversity strategies.	Seeks for Selwyn to be a leader in working towards national biodiversity strategies.	In scope	Noted – no change. The formation of a Draft SBS is a step towards Council becoming leader in working towards national biodiversity strategies aims and objectives.
24.1	Vegetation clearance/SNA mapping	Indigenous vegetation clearance is the main source of biodiversity loss in the Selwyn District. Need to assess and map SNAs (to monitor and prevent further loss?).	Seeks for Council to assess and map SNAs	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to identify SNAs. Goal 2 Action 12 - In line with the NPS-IB expand the current Significant Natural Area (SNA) work programme to identify, assess and protect significant areas of biodiversity.
24.2	Predator control	Predator control is crucial for braided river bird species.	Seeks a focus on predator control along braided rivers.	In scope	Noted – no change. Goal 3 target 3.3 - Council and our community take responsibility for indigenous biodiversity, and work together, including with other organisations, to identify, enhance, maintain, protect, and restore areas of indigenous biodiversity across the district.
24.3	Weed control	Weed and pest control is important, especially in the high country	Seeks a focus on weed and pest control, especially in the high country.	In scope	Noted – no change. Council and our community take responsibility for indigenous biodiversity, and work together, including with other organisations, to identify, enhance, maintain, protect, and restore areas of indigenous biodiversity across the district.



Question 7 Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy?

Sub no	Topic	Summary of submission points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
1.1	Kea	Would like kea recognised as a nationally endangered species.	Seeks recognition of kea as a nationally endangered species	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> review wording to include kea as a threatened species.
1.2	Limestone quarrying	Wants protection of limestone outcrops near Kura Tawhiti from further lime extraction.	Seeks protection of limestone outcrops near Kura Tawhiti from further lime extraction.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. This point would be managed by the District Plan policies and rules, and consent conditions.
1.3	Community assistance for predator and weed control	Would like assistance for existing Community Conservation groups to reduce predators and eliminate invasive weeds.	Seeks assistance for existing Community Conservation groups to reduce predators and eliminate invasive weeds	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to collaborate with community groups through Goal 3. Action 18 - Work in conjunction with our biodiversity focused community groups to educate, protect and restore indigenous biodiversity
2.1	Regulation and monitoring of weed threats	Would like Council to actively regulate and monitor biodiversity threats, particularly weeds.	Seeks Council to actively regulate and monitor biodiversity threats, particularly weeds.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS supports the monitoring and removal of pest species and is directed by the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Plan.
2.2	Regulation and monitoring of weed threats	Gravel and road grit sites should be 100% weed free before transport along road corridors.	Seeks that gravel pit sites are 100% weed free before transporting the aggregate along road corridors.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. A District Plan matter. Operational gravel pits are managed under resource consent and lease/licence agreements.
3		No response to this question			
4		No response to this question			
5.1	Land removal	Landowners are concerned that the strategy is about identifying and removing land from them.	No specific decision sought, but the submission expresses concern that the SBS will permit the removal of land from landowners.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS does not have the intention or mandate to remove land from landowners.
5.2	Land use restrictions and costs	Concern that restrictions will be placed on the land if identified as culturally significant, with associated costs, time commitment, and red tape to deal with.	No specific decision sought, but the submission expresses concern that private land identified as culturally significant will have restrictions placed on it, with associated costs, time commitment, and red tape to deal with.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. This is relevant to District Plan rules relating to Cultural Overlays.
6		No response to this question			
7.1	Collaboration	Supports working with Council, catchment groups, stakeholders, and Mana whenua, to protect indigenous biodiversity.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Support noted

Sub no	Topic	Summary of submission points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
7.2	Land retirement and restoration costs	Concern that some stakeholders' objectives may result in landowners having to retire major parts of land and/or be expected to pay for significant amounts of rehabilitation.	No specific decision sought but the submission expresses concern that some landowners may have to retire land or pay for significant restoration.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS does not have the intention or mandate to remove land from landowners.
7.3	Balanced outcomes	Wants the strategy to deliver practical, responsive and manageable outcomes for all stakeholders and indigenous species.	Seeks balanced outcomes for all stakeholders and indigenous species.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to work with all parties for a balanced outcome through Goal 1 – Work in partnership with manawhenua, landowners and other stakeholders to protect, enhance, maintain, and restore indigenous biodiversity whilst recognising the importance of mahinga kai, taonga species, and culturally and historically significant sites.
8		No response to this question			
9.1	Economic benefit of biodiversity action	Wants consideration of the future positive economic impact that current biodiversity actions have, while acknowledging the hidden costs of short term, profit driven decisions.	Requests consideration of the positive economic impact that acting for biodiversity now can have in future, and acknowledgement of the hidden costs of profit driven decisions.	Not in scope	Noted - no change. The positive benefits of indigenous biodiversity are documented in the Draft SBS.
9.2	Wetlands	Wants wetland restoration to counter climate change impacts.	Seeks wetland restoration to counter climate change impacts.	In scope	Accept <b>Recommendation</b> : review wording to include 'wetland restoration to counter climate change impacts.' Achieved in part through the Draft SBS - Goal 4, Action 25 Develop and action climate change responses to build resilience and adaption into our key areas of urban indigenous biodiversity. And Target 4.3 Our waterways and wetlands (including constructed) are sustainably managed for their cultural and ecological values.
9.3	Native planting	Supports the work along the rail trail and would like to see more of this action	Seeks more restoration planting (like along the rail trail).	In scope	Noted – no change. Supported by Goal 4, Action 24 - Encourage and support community led projects such as mammalian predator control, restoration planting, taonga species protection and habitat enhancement.
9.4	Support for community groups	Would like more support for community biodiversity and trapping groups.	Requests more support for community biodiversity and trapping groups.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to collaborate with community groups through Goal 3, Action 18 - Work in conjunction with our biodiversity focused community groups to educate, protect and restore indigenous biodiversity.

Sub no	Topic	Summary of submission points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
10.1	Climate change and biodiversity crisis	Expresses concern regarding climate breakdown and earth's existential crisis.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to address climate change pressures through Goal 2 Action 8, Goal 3 Action 14, and Goal 4 Action 25.
10.2	Biodiversity protection	Supports Council halting further ecological decline.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Support noted
10.3	Enforcement of rules	Wants Council to ensure rules are in place to protect the Selwyn high country, and to resist the economic arguments for intensifying production to feed the planet.	Requests that Council ensures rules are in place to protect the Selwyn high country.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS supports this. Goal 2 Action 8, District Plan policies and rules are fit for purpose to protect indigenous biodiversity across the full range of ecosystems in Selwyn. Compliance with rules is met, and they are enforced as required.
11.1	Biodiversity protection	Supports the need to protect our indigenous flora and fauna to counter the impacts of climate change.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Support noted
11.2	Enforcement of rules	Wants clear and enforced rules that protect against agricultural land use intensification.	Requests that Council has clear and enforced rules that protect against agricultural land use intensification.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS supports this. Goal 2 Action 8, District Plan policies and rules are fit for purpose to protect indigenous biodiversity across the full range of ecosystems in Selwyn. Compliance with rules is met, and they are enforced as required.
12	Weed control	Concerned that if wilding-pines are left unchecked they will destroy native vegetation, displace native fauna and affect the down-stream water flow.	Seeks for Council to remove wilding seed-spread trees are on SDC reserves at Castle Hill Village.		Noted – no change. Draft SBS recognise wilding conifers as a threat to indigenous ecosystems. Removal of wilding conifers is directed under the Draft Castle Hill Village Reserves Management plan.
13	CHV Reserve Management Plan	Wants Council to complete the Castle Hill Village Reserve Management Plan	Requests that Council complete the Castle Hill Village Reserve Management Plan	Out of scope	Noted – no change.
14	Native riparian planting	Would like Council to support established groups to organise and implement planting along waterways.	Seeks for Council to support established groups to organise and implement native riparian planting.	In scope	Noted – no change. Recognised as an issue of significance to Manawhenua in section 4.5.2 of the Draft SBS.
15		No response to this question			
16	Predator Free 2050	Supports Councils involvement in Predator Free 2050 and would like to see more of this work.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Support noted. Supported in the Draft SBS through Goal 3 Action 13 and Goal 4 Action 24.
17	Urban impacts on biodiversity	Believes that the urban population should consider their impact on declined biodiversity.	No specific decision sought.	??	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need for improved biodiversity in urban areas. Goal 4 - Encourage and increase the integration of indigenous species in our modified environments including urban spaces, lifestyle blocks and waterways.

Sub no	Topic	Summary of submission points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
18.1	SBS goals	Supports all the objectives identified in Q5 and believes they are important.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Support noted
18.2	Education and support for communities	Supports Council to take a lead on educating, encouraging, and supporting communities to improve biodiversity.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Noted – no change. Goal 3 - Support actions by landowners and our community to protect and restore indigenous biodiversity and enhance public awareness of our natural environment – contains a number of actions that support this submission point.
18.3	Central funding loss	Concern for reduced central funding (e.g. Jobs for Nature ending).	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Noted – no change. Goals, targets, and actions identify potential funding sources.
18.4	Climate change	Concern for climate change impacts (e.g. increased in rats present).	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to address climate change pressures through Goal 2 Action 8, Goal 3 Action 14, and Goal 4 Action 25.
19.1	Protections for indigenous biodiversity	Believes Selwyn District has an appalling lack of protections for indigenous biodiversity.	No specific decision sought.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. See Partially Operative District Plan ECO-rules. Draft SBS Goal 2 Action 8 - District Plan policies and rules are fit for purpose to protect indigenous biodiversity across the full range of ecosystems in Selwyn. Compliance with rules is met, and they are enforced as required.
19.2	Poor water quality	Believes Selwyn District has a grim record of ongoing poor water quality in our waterways and lake.	No specific decision sought.	Out of scope	Noted – no change. Managed by Environment Canterbury under the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan.
19.3	SBS	Supports roll-out of the biodiversity strategy as extremely urgent.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Support noted
20.1	SBS goals	Supports all of the objectives identified in Q5	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Support noted
20.2	Mana whenua knowledge	Supports sharing mana whenua knowledge in a culturally safe and mana upholding/ enhancing way	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Support noted
20.3	Identification and protection of biodiversity and ecological values	Supports identifying and protecting biodiversity and ecological values across the district	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Support noted
21		No response to this question			
22	Support for SBS	Supports the Council for taking this initiative. Acknowledges amount to be done and encourages implementation.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Support noted
23.1	Coordination with community groups	Would like better co-ordination and awareness of community actions and project groups within Selwyn and the greater Canterbury region.	Seeks better co-ordination and awareness of community actions and project groups within Selwyn and the greater Canterbury region.	In scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to collaborate with community groups through Goal 3 Action 18

Sub no	Topic	Summary of submission points	Decision requested	In scope	Staff responses/recommendations
23.2	Funding	Opportunities for community groups are limited by competing for the same pool of funding.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Noted – no change. Draft SBS goals, targets, and actions identify potential funding sources.
23.3	Conflicting roles of Council staff	Acknowledges the often competing and conflicting roles and function of Council and its staff.	No specific decision sought.	Not in scope	Noted – no change.
23.4	SBS	Recognises the SBS as a starting point for Selwyn.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Noted – no change.
24.1	SBS	Supports the purpose and goals of the Biodiversity Strategy and congratulates the Council for it.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Support noted
24.2	Protection for high country and braided river values	Most important work is to protect the landscape and ecological values of the high country and to prevent further ecological loss on the outwash gravels or on riverbed land. Identifies a need to reclaim converted riverbed land.	Seeks protection for landscape and ecological values of the high country, and prevention of further ecological loss on the outwash gravels or riverbeds in the District.	In scope	Noted – no change. Draft SBS Goal 2 Action 8 is that District Plan policies and rules are fit for purpose to protect indigenous biodiversity across the full range of ecosystems in Selwyn. Compliance with rules is met, and they are enforced as required.
24.3	Weed and predator control	Need weed and predator control in riverbeds to protect unique bird species.	Seeks weed and predator control in riverbeds to protect unique bird species.	In scope	Noted – no change. Draft SBS recognises the need to work collaboratively to tackle weed and pest species. The Draft SBS aims to bring cohesion to weed/pest control by taking a focused and organized catchment-wide approach.
24.4	Climate change	Research should be carried out to determine the current climate change effects on Selwyn's native species of flora and fauna.	Seeks research on climate change effects on Selwyn's native flora and fauna.	Out of scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> review text to include climate change in Goal 3 target 3.2 close links are formed between Council and education providers to create learning and research opportunities that inform restoration projects.

Submission received not on survey form

Sub No	Plan Section /page/ provision	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision Requested	In scope	Staff Responses/Recommendation
25.1	Goal 2 Target 2 1.4	No net loss	"no net loss" is a given and the target must be far higher than "no net loss" but continuous measurable gains	Aim to make biodiversity gains anywhere and everywhere – roadsides, rail corridors, parks, farms, all waterways, abandoned quarries, industrial zones etc	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> review working to change no net loss to no <u>further</u> loss.
25.2		Water race closures	SBS does not address water race closures. Many are realigned natural water courses that are habitat for a range of insect, fish and plant diversity.	Cease closure of water races	Not in scope	Noted – no change. The Draft SBS acknowledges the importance of water races and their associated biodiversity values. Concern will be passed onto the appropriate section of Council.
26.1		Kea	Organisations that help protect kea in Arthurs Pass include Arthur's Pass Wildlife Trust, South Island Wildlife Hospital (SIWH) The Kind Foundation, Forest & Bird	Acknowledgement of the organisations	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> review text to include the Arthur's Pass Wildlife Trust, South Island Wildlife Hospital (SIWH) The Kind Foundation, Forest & Bird, and the Kea Conservation Trust as organisations that help to protect kea.
26.2	3.2 Special Features of Selwyn's Biodiversity (flora and fauna)	Kea	Kea should be added to section 3.2 of the strategy as a special feature of Selwyn's biodiversity	Inclusion of kea in the list of Special Features of Selwyn's Biodiversity	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> Review text to include wording supplied by submitter - "Kea ( <i>Nestor notabilis</i> ) – Threatened – Nationally Endangered. Kea are the only mountain parrot species in the world and now number fewer than 5,000 individuals in the wild. They occur throughout the mountain lands of the district and are frequently visible in and around Arthur's Pass Village, Arthur's Pass National Park and the ski fields."
26.3	Table identifying Selwyn's broad landscape types	Kea	Ensure kea are acknowledged across their range. Kea utilize a number of different landscapes	Add kea to the High Country and foothills landscape types. Identify threats such as lead and human interactions.	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> review text to add kea to the High Country and foothills landscape type table.
25.4	Goal 4	Kea	Support communities to manage interactions with kea, including through a bylaw control feeding of kea.	Add an action to Goal 4 Support for communities to manage interactions with Kea, development of a bylaw to ban feeding, advocacy to agencies such as NZTA Waka Kotahi	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> follow up with associated wording on the intention to create a bylaw to ban feeding of kea.
27		Kea conservation	Submission received in support of submission 2		In scope	See response to sub no 2.1 – 2.4
28		Kea conservation	Submission received in support of submission 2		In scope	See response to sub no 2.1 – 2.4
29		Kea conservation	Submission received in support of submission 2		In scope	See response to sub no 2.1-2.4

Sub No	Plan Section /page/ provision	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision Requested	In scope	Staff Responses/Recommendation
30.1	SBS		General support for the direction, strategic goals, targets and actions	No specific decision sought	In scope	Support noted
30.2		Ecological restoration of the Port Hills	Much of Southern Port Hills are in the Selwyn district. Public reserves in the area contains some of the finest examples of native bush close to the population centres of Lincoln and Rolleston.	No specific decision sought	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> Review text to include submission point to add the example of native bush in the Volcanic Hills section on the table of Landscape types.
30.3		Pest and Predator control	Intensive trapping programs at Omahu Bush and are expanding the trapping network. Working closely with residents to grow Predator Free Port Hills in Tai Tapu Bring to Councils attention the issue of feral pigs and deer on the Southern Port Hills. Acknowledge and thank Council for their support of Pest Free Banks Peninsula. Excited about the potential for Predator Free Selwyn.	No specific decision sought	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> Review text to include Feral pigs and deer - added to the Volcanic Hills section of Landscape type.
30.4		Weeds	Weeds are some of the biggest threats to our native eco-systems.	Coordinated, collaborative funding programme to contain and where possible eliminate weed species that threaten our native biodiversity.	In scope	Noted - no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to work collaboratively to tackle weed species and it aims to bring cohesion to weed control by taking a focused and organized catchment-wide approach.
30.5		Funding	Dedicated resource and funding is required. We are facing a dual crisis of climate breakdown and biodiversity loss.	No specific decision sought	In scope	Noted - no change Actions associated with the Goals and targets aim to identify potential funding sources.
31.1	Goal 1	Protection of existing indigenous biodiversity	Support the goal of protecting/restoring indigenous biodiversity. However, the unique character and richness of existing sites of indigenous biodiversity is difficult or impossible to reproduce.	Protection of remaining indigenous biodiversity must be a priority	In scope	Noted - no change
31.2	Goal 1	Rule enforcement	Support working in partnership with stakeholders	Consistent and effective enforcement of those rules and regulations which exist to protect indigenous biodiversity. Particularly those that relate to the clearance of indigenous vegetation	In scope	Noted - no change. The Draft SBS recognises the need to enforce rules and regulations - Goal 2 Action 8. District Plan policies and rules are fit for purpose to protect indigenous biodiversity across the full range of ecosystems in Selwyn. Compliance with rules is met, and they are enforced as required
31.3	Goal 2	Monitoring	Support identifying the state of indigenous biodiversity. Much of the disappearance of Canterbury's indigenous biodiversity has occurred unnoticed and unrecorded.	Require a clear understanding of what remains. Monitoring must be on-going so that trends can be identified, and the relationship between indigenous biodiversity, land-	In scope	Noted - no change. The Draft SBS recognises the importance of monitoring. Goal 2 Action 7 - In conjunction with relevant agencies enact a programme to facilitate the monitoring of Selwyn's indigenous biodiversity. This may include updating

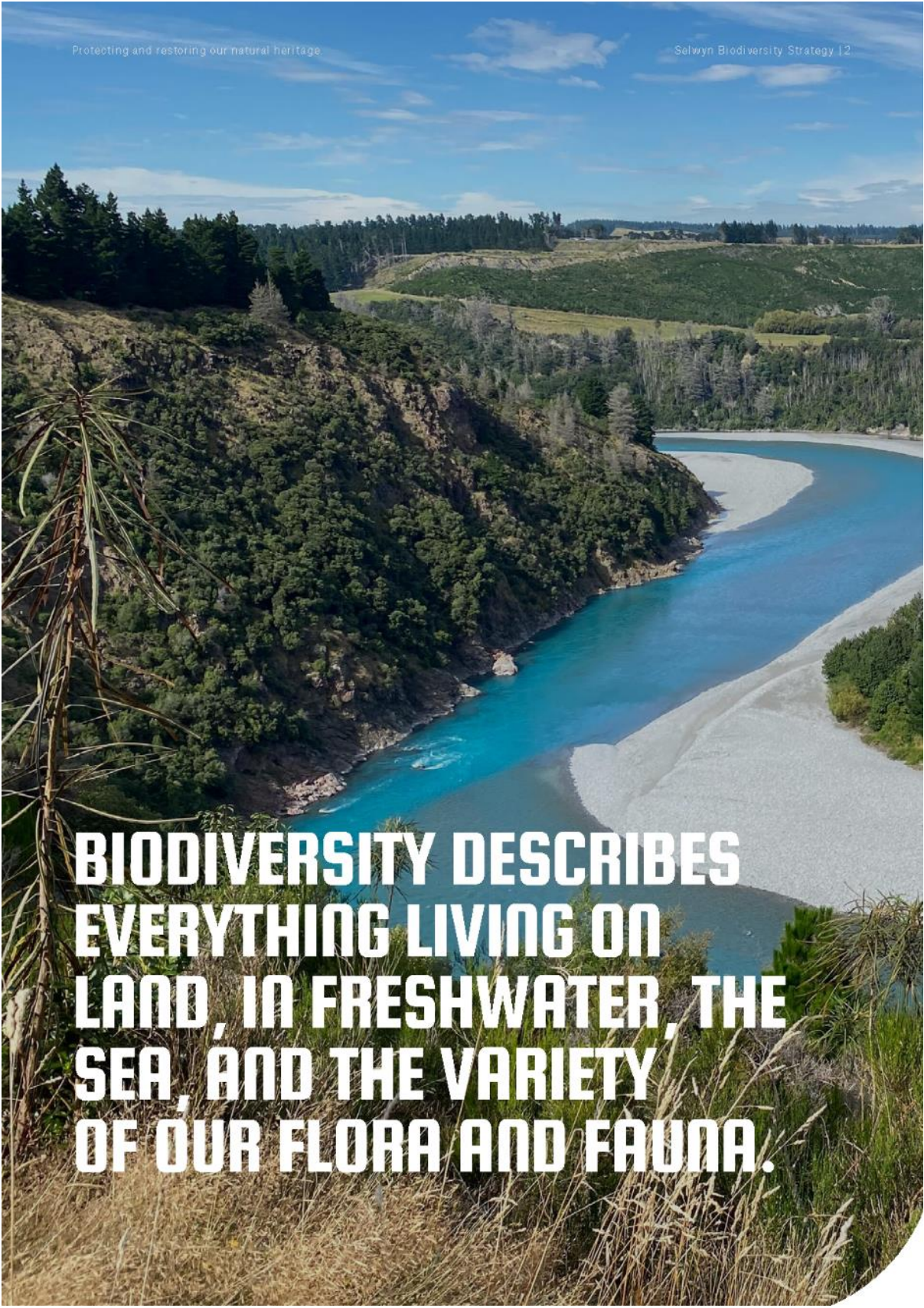
Sub No	Plan Section /page/ provision	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision Requested	In scope	Staff Responses/Recommendation
				use, regulations, and restoration works can be understood		baseline biodiversity information, effectiveness of environmental protection, consent issuance and compliance, citizen science and State of the Environment reporting
31.4	Goal 3	Public awareness	Support improved public awareness of indigenous biodiversity. An informed public that cares for its district's indigenous biodiversity is more likely to support investments in that indigenous biodiversity. However, community restoration efforts are not a substitute for core restoration work.	Large scale restoration work requires skills and knowledge of professionals and a significant commitment and Investment	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> review text to make this is more explicit in the Draft SBS.
31.5	Goal 4	Resources	Support the integration of indigenous species in modified environments. However, this should not be mistaken as a replacement or offset for loss or degradation of indigenous species in natural sites. There is a risk that planted areas could become seed sources for weeds that have the potential to spread into natural sites	Council resource the management of these modified environments	In scope	Noted - no change. Long term plan considerations.
31.6	Section 5.1, 5.2, 5.3	Education	Support education,	Support education	In scope	Note support
31.7	Section 5.4	Community Empowerment and relationship building	See response to Goal 3		In scope	
31.8	Section 5.5	Monitoring	See response to Goal 2	Support formation of a Biodiversity Monitoring Programme.	In scope	Note support
31.9		Obligations to iwi under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the Local Government Act	It is beyond our expertise to make comment on how these obligations are being met.	No specific decision sought.	In scope	Note support.
31.10	Goal 1 targets – 1.2, 1.3	Recognition	Recognition that there are sites that are worthy of protection even when they lack threatened or taonga species.	Recognition that biodiversity exists across all land tenures	In scope	Note support
31.11	Goal 2 targets 1.1	Net loss	Net loss leaves the possibility of off-setting. The unique character and diversity of an existing site of indigenous biodiversity cannot be built from scratch at another.	No net loss should mean no more loss at all of existing sites of indigenous biodiversity, in whole or part.	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> review text to change no net loss to no <u>further</u> loss.
31.12	Goal 2 targets1.2	Existing Biodiversity	Restoration efforts should focus first and foremost on the protection of existing sites of indigenous biodiversity The creation of new sites (planting) should be a second priority.	No specific decision sought		Accept – <b>Recommendation:</b> review text to make this more explicit in the Draft SBS.



Sub No	Plan Section /page/ provision	Topic	Summary of Submission Points	Decision Requested	In scope	Staff Responses/Recommendation
31.12	Goal 3 targets 1.1, 1.2, 1.3	Education/research	SDC is well served with education-providers and research bodies which can contribute to evidence-based decisions to protect and restore indigenous biodiversity.	No specific decision sought	In scope	Noted - no change. The Draft SBS recognises the importance of the education providers in the district (Goal 3 target 3.2).
31.13	Goal 4 targets 1.1, 1.2, 1.3	Collaboration	Help to bring all branches of Council together - reducing the risk of working at cross purpose.	No Specific decision sought	In scope	
32.1	Executive Summary	Grammar	The Executive Summary (p4) and at 2. The Strategy paragraph five 9 (p7), for clarification a comma is required	Comma for clarification		Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> accept insertion of comma: Council is required, under Section 6(c) of the Resource Management Act, 1991 (RMA), to recognise and provide for the protection of areas of “significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna” on land it administers, as a matter of national importance.
32.2	Table (pp 11-12) Alluvial Plains		Alluvial Plains relates to terrestrial environment.	Fresh water species maybe better included in the freshwater ecosystem of the table	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> review text to include freshwater species in the freshwater ecosystem section of table.
32.3	Goal 2 target 1.4	Net Loss	No date required for target, in response to the biodiversity to the biodiversity crisis would be better expressed as no further loss	Remove date from target and reword to state no further loss	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> review text of target 1.4 - There is no <u>further</u> loss of indigenous flora and fauna, <u>native</u> habitats, and ecosystems within Selwyn.
32.4	Goal 2 Action 6	Monitoring	This action is fundamental to protecting and maintaining indigenous biodiversity	Action 6 should be actioned as top priority	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> move Action 6 to Action 1.
32.5	Goal 2 Action 9		This point contains two items. One relates to statutory compliance, monitoring and enforcement, the other is a response to new biodiversity incursions.	Split into two actions	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> review splitting this action into 2 (Goal 2 Action 9).
32.6	Goal 4 Action 25	Climate change responses	Climate change response should be prompted district wide (not just urban areas) so that all the district’s areas of indigenous biodiversity its human communities can adapt and build resilience, through nature based solutions.	Action be district wide (not just urban areas)	In scope	Accept - <b>Recommendation:</b> review text to include climate change response as a district wide action.







**BIODIVERSITY DESCRIBES  
EVERYTHING LIVING ON  
LAND, IN FRESHWATER, THE  
SEA, AND THE VARIETY  
OF OUR FLORA AND FAUNA.**





## SAFEGUARDING NATURE'S DIVERSITY FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Biodiversity describes everything living on land, in freshwater, the sea, including the diversity of life of our flora and fauna. This includes the genes they contain, and the ecosystems in which they live.

The Selwyn Biodiversity Strategy (the Strategy) focuses on species that naturally occur within Aotearoa New Zealand and the Waikirikiri Selwyn district; known as indigenous biodiversity. The Strategy recognises that healthy ecosystems are critical, not only to the sustainability of indigenous biodiversity, but also to the social, cultural, spiritual, environmental, and economic fabric of our district.

Selwyn District Council is required, under Section 6(c) of the Resource Management Act 1991, to recognise and provide for the protection of areas of "significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna" on land it administers, as a matter of national importance.

The Selwyn District Plan is the key legal document for the protection and enhancement of the environment within Waikirikiri Selwyn. This strategy aims to complement and inform the District Plan and

is aligned with other crucial documents, including the Te Mana o te Taiao Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020, the Biodiversity Strategy for the Canterbury Region 2008, and the Mahaanui Iwi Management Plan 2013.

There are significant challenges and opportunities ahead for the management of indigenous biodiversity within Waikirikiri Selwyn. This includes the protection of significant habitats, halting further loss of endangered species, the enhancement of waterways and wetlands, and the protection and restoration of a range of healthy ecosystems stretching from the mountains to the sea.

The purpose of this Strategy is to provide an overarching view of how the Council intends to achieve the protection, maintenance, and restoration of indigenous biodiversity within Waikirikiri Selwyn. It establishes a strategic approach based on the concept of first protecting what remains and then restoring what has been lost, and it identifies priorities accordingly.





The Strategy aims to:

- Build on the good work already occurring in the district,
- Support and encourage the associated efforts of mana whenua, communities, landowners, and individuals,
- Raise awareness of biodiversity values,
- Facilitate the coordination of agency effort through alignment and partnerships.

The Strategy is aligned with the following regional targets:

- No further loss of significant habitats and ecosystems,
- An increase in biodiversity protection and restoration initiatives,
- A growing public awareness of incorporating indigenous biodiversity into working and urban landscapes,
- Biodiversity promotion,
- On-going monitoring and research,
- Partnerships that result in beneficial biodiversity outcomes.



## Highlights of the Strategy Goals, Targets, & Actions

### Goal 1.



*Work in partnership with mana whenua, landowners, and other stakeholders to protect, enhance, maintain, and restore indigenous biodiversity, mahinga kai, taonga species, culturally and historically significant sites.*

- Target** Align environmental reporting with cultural values-based environmental monitoring tools to assess and report on the cultural health of indigenous biodiversity and mahinga kai in Te Taumutu and Te Ngai Tuahuriri takiwa in Waikirikiri Selwyn.
- Action** Formalise an ecological and cultural monitoring regime for key waterways and water bodies in Waikirikiri Selwyn, in partnership with mana whenua and Ecan.

### Goal 2.



*Identify the state of indigenous biodiversity within Waikirikiri Selwyn and develop appropriate responses in accordance with our statutory responsibilities to halt the decline of our flora and fauna.*

- Target** Implement effective planning and prioritised actions that will effectively protect the flora and fauna of Waikirikiri Selwyn.
- Action** From 2024 onwards there will be no net loss of indigenous flora and fauna, habitats, and ecosystems within Waikirikiri Selwyn.

### Goal 3.



*Support actions by landowners and our community to protect and restore indigenous biodiversity and enhance public awareness of our natural environment.*

- Target** Work to educate our community on indigenous biodiversity issues and opportunities and promote Waikirikiri Selwyn's indigenous biodiversity through community outreach events.
- Action** Establish positive working relationships with landowners, community groups, and agencies through periodic forums and engagement.

### Goal 4.



*Encourage and increase the integration of indigenous species in modified environments, including urban spaces, lifestyle blocks, and managed waterways.*

- Target** Develop and action climate change responses to build resilience and adaption in our key areas of urban indigenous biodiversity
- Action** Ensure that Council reserves, district parks, and urban spaces have greater than 10% indigenous vegetation cover in line with national policy statements.



# Indigenous biodiversity

Aotearoa New Zealand is a global biodiversity hot spot, with many of our indigenous species found nowhere else (endemic). Because of its high level of endemism and distinctiveness, Aotearoa New Zealand's indigenous biodiversity contributes significantly to overall global biodiversity. Endemism among Aotearoa New Zealand plants and animals is one of the highest in the world, owing largely to the country's isolation from other land masses, as well as its diverse geography and climate, which has allowed for the development of our unique flora and fauna.

## Why is indigenous biodiversity important?

The indigenous biodiversity of Aotearoa New Zealand is important to the environment, culture, society, and economy in this country and district. Our biodiversity provides for the life supporting systems that enable all life on earth to survive. Wetlands purify water and aid in the prevention of flooding and drought. River flood plains contribute to managing floods, they naturally replenish aquifers and provide vital habitat for native species. Indigenous forests serve as carbon

sinks while also purifying the air we breathe. Healthy ecosystems provide food, medical properties, and a range of other resources. Indigenous biodiversity shapes our local and cultural identity while also sustaining our primary and tourism industries.

For Māori, the connection with nature is one of whakapapa (kinship). Māori culture and language evolved in the ecosystems and landscapes of Aotearoa New Zealand and its people are inextricably woven together with Te Taiao (the natural world). Te Tiriti o Waitangi provides the basis for the relationship between government and mana whenua in managing indigenous biodiversity, as per the duty of active protection of Māori interests and the principle of partnership.

The Strategy incorporates the indigenous biodiversity aspirations and the desired outcomes for Ngāi Te Ruahikihiki ki Taumutu and Ngāi Tūāhuriri. The partnership between mana whenua and the Council is key to improving biodiversity outcomes in Waikirikiri Selwyn.

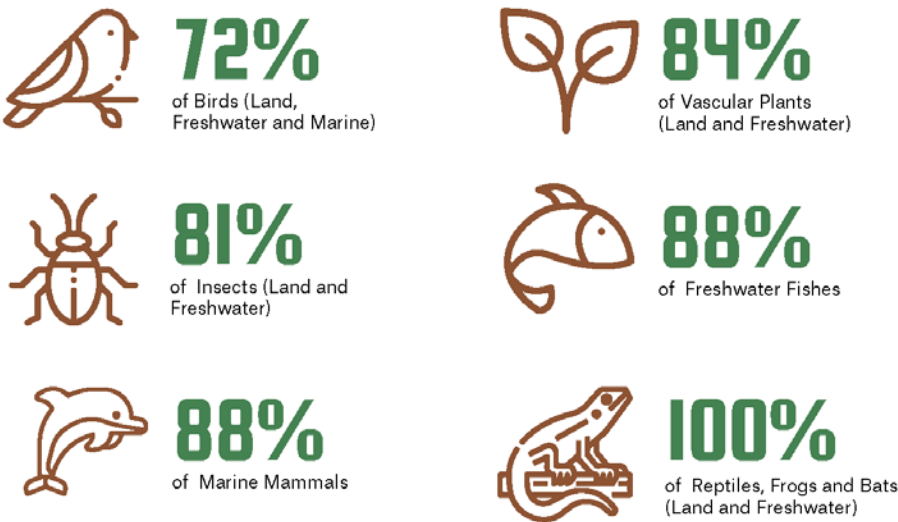


Figure 1: Proportion of Aotearoa New Zealand's indigenous species found nowhere else on Earth. Note: This data does not include extinct species. Source: Biodiversity in Aotearoa





*Photo courtesy: Steve Attwood*



## Biodiversity Survey



### Submissions are public information

We ask for your contact details as part of your feedback — it also means we can keep you updated throughout the project and we can get in touch if you want to speak to your submission at a hearing. Your feedback, name and address are given to councillors to help them make a decision.

Your responses, with names only, are included in the meeting agenda for the meeting when the Council makes its decisions, and the agenda will be available on our website.

If requested, contact details are made available, as required by the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

If there are good reasons why your details and/or feedback should be kept confidential, please contact us on 0800 SELWYN (735 996)

*For more detail about our management of personal information, please see our full Privacy Policy at [www.selwyn.govt.nz/privacy](http://www.selwyn.govt.nz/privacy).*

Full name

Street name and number

Suburb

Email

*Are you responding on behalf of an organisation? If so, please give full name of organisation*

Do you wish to speak about your submission at a hearing?

☐ Yes ☐ No

**1** How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?



Photo courtesy: Steve Aftwood

**2** Do you feel the Council adequately recognises and supports the current efforts of landowners and community members to protect, restore and enhance biodiversity?



**3** Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?



**4** How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?



5

What do you see as four priorities to focus on based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy?

**Tick your four favourites.**

- ☐ Identify and protect biodiversity and ecological values across the district
- ☐ Identify and protect taoka (taonga) species and their habitats
- ☐ Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species through pest control
- ☐ Control and manage negative impacts on biodiversity in the district
- ☐ Increase indigenous vegetation cover
- ☐ Research and collect data on the state of biodiversity within the district
- ☐ Document and share knowledge of mana whenua on biodiversity
- ☐ Share knowledge on indigenous biodiversity with the community
- ☐ Sustain and improve school environmental programmes
- ☐ Encourage cooperation and collaboration among stakeholders
- ☐ Council to take a leadership role in working together and encouraging conservation and enhancement
- ☐ Encourage and support community projects that participate in conservation and celebration of biodiversity



6

Do you have any other comments or feedback?  
Please write these here









## Appendix 2 – Advertising notices

**Selwyn District Council** 

Published by Brandwatch  · November 21, 2023 · 

Help us grow a strategy to protect our unique natural heritage 🌱🌱.  
The first draft Selwyn Biodiversity Strategy is out now for your feedback.  
It includes our proposed goals and actions to get there, for protecting, restoring and enhancing our special natural heritage.  
Head to <https://brnw.ch/21wEBZE> and help grow the plan.



**HELP GROW A  
STRATEGY TO PROTECT  
SELWYN'S BIODIVERSITY**

