

Survey Responses

03 November 2017 - 11 March 2024

Feedback on Selwyn's Draft Biodiversity Strategy

Your Say Selwyn

Project: Selwyn Biodiversity Strategy



VISITORS					
99					
CONTRIBUTORS			RESPONSES		
23			23		
23	0	0	23	0	0
Registered	Unverified	Anonymous	Registered	Unverified	Anonymous



Respondent No: 1
Login: Registered

Responded At: Nov 25, 2023 16:30:47 pm
Last Seen: Nov 25, 2023 02:49:02 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

Not too bad, but not reaching into the furthest corners of the Selwyn District

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)

There is some assistance and funding available, thru SNEF etc, but with DOC funding opportunities diminishing some further assistance would be great

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

Invasive weeds especially in the High Country where the seed sources currently are. These seed sources are the cause of current and future issues downstream. Kea, nestor notabilis are not specifically mentioned as a threatened species. With the increase in feral cats in the Selwyn District, there is now an even bigger threat to kea

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

Proactively engaging with and financially assisting (thru SNEF or similar) well established Community groups. It's noted that the Arthur's Pass Wildlife Trust is not mentioned (Pest animals, p16) despite managing and maintaining one of the largest Volunteer group trapping projects in the Selwyn District. I would also like to see more supervision of the consent for lime removal from near Kura Tawhiti. The limestone landscape is being decimated and dug into more and more over recent years, something that once gone, can not be re-instated.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

Identify and protect taoka (taonga) species and their habitats
Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species via pest control
Encourage and support community projects that participate in conservation and celebration of biodiversity
Control and manage negative impacts on biodiversity in the district

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

3 key focus points; 1/ recognising kea as a nationally endangered species. 2/ protecting limestone outcrops near Kura Tawhiti from further lime extraction. 3/ assisting existing Community Conservation groups in their endeavours to reduce predators and eliminate invasive weeds.

Q7. Full name Pete Neale

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 2
Login: Registered

Responded At: Nov 25, 2023 19:08:16 pm
Last Seen: Nov 25, 2023 05:46:29 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

I feel the council works fairly well with our small alpine community in terms of supporting biodiversity projects and initiatives taking place. I do feel however that council needs to coordinate its efforts more closely with other organisations performing conservation activities in our area (ECAN, DOC), and not be so transfixed on "boundaries" of responsibility.

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)

Arthur's Pass village is surrounded by National Park. The community has worked hard to enhance biodiversity habitat within the village, however many of the threats (weeds, invasive predators) comes from outside the village precinct, and it would be good if council could increase its biodiversity protection into a buffer around the village (working with DOC), even though the land is conservation estate or unallocated crown land.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

I would like council to focus on threats being unwittingly transported throughout the district, meaning that wins are impossible as threats can be replenished as fast as they are dealt to (thinking invasive weeds).

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

Just coordinate and work closer with other organisations doing biodiversity protection work in the district (pool funding, and work together on cross-boundary projects).

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

- Identify and protect biodiversity and ecological values across the district
- Encourage cooperation and collaboration among stakeholders
- Encourage and support community projects that participate in conservation and celebration of biodiversity
- Control and manage negative impacts on biodiversity in the district

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

I would just like council to take a more hands-on approach through regulation and inspection/monitoring, in preventing biodiversity threats being introduced and continuously reintroduced in the district. Weeds 8s the obvious candidate here, and gravel/road grit extraction sites should be 100% weed and seed free, otherwise don't transport it!

Q7. Full name Graeme Lawrence Kates

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 3
Login: Registered

Responded At: Nov 28, 2023 16:29:45 pm
Last Seen: Nov 28, 2023 02:45:05 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

Poor

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)

No. SDC supports any commercial development regardless of the environmental or social impac

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

To focus is to misunderstand ecology. Alter anything in the environment and there will be a cascade of other unintended consequences.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

Put it higher up your agenda

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

Identify and protect biodiversity and ecological values across the district

Council to take a leadership role in working together and encouraging conservation and enhancement

Encourage cooperation and collaboration among stakeholders

Control and manage negative impacts on biodiversity in the district

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

not answered

Q7. Full name

Robert Brian Wynn-Williams

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 4

Login: Registered

Responded At: Nov 29, 2023 17:32:30 pm

Last Seen: Nov 29, 2023 04:29:50 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

not answered

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)

not answered

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

not answered

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

not answered

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species via pest control

Increase indigenous vegetation cover

Encourage and support community projects that participate in conservation and celebration of biodiversity

Share knowledge on indigenous biodiversity with the community

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

not answered

Q7. Full name

Vicki Krom-Innes

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 5

Login: Registered

Responded At: Nov 29, 2023 17:52:41 pm

Last Seen: Nov 29, 2023 04:36:33 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

Somewhat lacking in enabling the elderly to access and have a say about their view on biodiversity on their land. Lack of brochures in the mailbox, a small advertisement in the local paper and very limited views of the ongoing costs that land owners may incur from the policy. For instance, trapping pests on an ongoing basis on land that has been returned to indigenous species - compared to farmed land.

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)

No - I believe its view is one-sided and only considers local iwi views, and everyone has to work from this perspective. More landowners and farmers are Pakeha, the fourth generation with extensive knowledge about their land, soil and productive use. Returning significant land to indigenous species will mean less land to farm productively. Likewise, the landowner will incur more significant costs over future time periods.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

The residential areas and swamp land where farming is impossible.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

To educate the public about the need to restore swamp land that is not being used by indigenous species. Workshops and planting days that educate and invite the community to participate in biodiversity planting in built-up residential areas. Likewise, using the knowledge of what plant life can reduce pests and increase pollinators required to keep species alive for future generations.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

- ☐ Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species via pest control
- ☐ Research and collect data on the state of biodiversity
- ☐ Sustain and improve school environmental programmes
- ☐ Share knowledge on indigenous biodiversity with the community

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

Landowners are concerned that the current future strategy is about identifying and removing land from them. If private land is identified as culturally significant, then restrictions will be placed on land, and local iwi will have the right to say how a landowner should manage their land. Such restrictions mean financial cost, time commitment, and red tape to deal with if the land is to have a change of use by the landowner. Thus, Nga Tahu must be advised on each project a landowner wants to achieve. Management plans must be submitted, reviewed and accepted by Tangata Whenua, which is time-consuming and costly to implement if you are a private land owner.

Q7. Full name

Louise Stephen

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

Yes

**Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we
can contact you about speaking to your
submission**



Respondent No: 6

Login: Registered

Responded At: Nov 30, 2023 06:18:41 am

Last Seen: Nov 29, 2023 17:08:23 pm

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

The relationship looks to be considerate to all parties. It's an emotive issue as it has potential to be used politically

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)

Council decisions should always be overlayed from a biodiversity perspective. Council should therefore be able to role model in their decisions - only plant native, more funding from developers to protect habitats.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

Water quality of rivers and lakes. Restoration of native plants

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

Always include mana whenua in decisions. Work with schools. Have a local education program that builds awareness and builds native indigenous landscapes on schools. Provide residential home owners with resource to add indigenous plants to replace exotics.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

Identify and protect taoka (taonga) species and their habitats
Increase indigenous vegetation cover
Sustain and improve school environmental programmes
Council to take a leadership role in working together and encouraging conservation and enhancement

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

not answered

Q7. Full name

Rob Hunt

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 7
Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 04, 2023 17:57:41 pm
Last Seen: Dec 04, 2023 03:42:27 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

From ESAI's perspective, SDC is building a sound and respectful relationship with community groups and taking the time to consult with the community appropriately. Key to developing excellent outcomes for biodiversity in the future is adequate and strategically directed funding, alongside recognition of the important needs of land owners to maintain their properties, businesses and biodiversity.

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)

SDC has been supporting individuals and groups in the Ellesmere area for some time but the limitation on the scope and extent of works undertaken is often directed by what funding is available. The Council does well to recognise the efforts of landowners and community. It is critical though that further substantial funding can be leveraged for the Council to sufficiently support the considerable biodiversity outcomes sought at the national level.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

1. 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; 2. 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. 3. 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. 4. Consultation and work group discussions on key projects or initiatives based around mapped areas of existing biodiversity knowledge.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

1. Meet regularly with community groups, share information and strategise collectively to determine practical, affordable and realistic outcomes. 2. Gain significant funding to assist with rehabilitation projects. Existing funding levels may not be adequate to achieve what is desired nationally. 3. Not rely on further regulation as a tool to create biodiversity improvement - if anything they hinder progress when compared to non-regulatory approaches. 4. 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. 5. 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.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species via pest control
Encourage cooperation and collaboration among stakeholders
Encourage and support community projects that participate in conservation and celebration of biodiversity
Share knowledge on indigenous biodiversity with the community

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

ESAI supports working with SDC, other catchment groups and stakeholders along with Manawhenua with respect to indigenous biodiversity protection and building positively on these relationships to reach excellent biodiversity outcomes. There is a concern that some of the desired outcomes from various stakeholders may result in landowners having to retire major parts of their properties and/or being expected to pay for significant amounts of rehabilitation (noting that impacts on biodiversity are not limited to causes just in the immediate vicinity). It is hoped that the strategy will deliver practical, responsive and manageable outcomes for all stakeholders and indigenous species.

Q7. Full name

Ellesmere Sustainable Agriculture Incorporated

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission

not answered



Respondent No: 8
Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 09, 2023 16:38:37 pm
Last Seen: Dec 09, 2023 03:34:18 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

Difficult. SNAs have been applied far too broadly in the new District Plan.

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)

No. Landowners should be encouraged to protect the most valuable areas while still being able to undertake reasonable development of their properties.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

Protecting the rare and threatened species.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

not answered

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

Identify and protect taoka (taonga) species and their habitats
Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species via pest control
Research and collect data on the state of biodiversity
Encourage and support community projects that participate in conservation and celebration of biodiversity

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

not answered

Q7. Full name Henry McKay

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission not answered



Respondent No: 9

Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 12, 2023 12:51:20 pm

Last Seen: Dec 11, 2023 23:30:04 pm

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

Great on paper but maybe a smidge biased towards short term capitalism rather than long term environmentalism in practice.

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)

Yes

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

All of them.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

By stating categorically that any new applications for housing developments need to create large, new biodiverse living areas for all animals to thrive, not just humans. To not allow modern farming practices within 100m of any recognised biodiverse hot spots - regenerative farming or native tree planting will be allowed (and council funded?) within that 100m area only, if needed. A great example is the tiny native tree reserve on Kaituna vally road - please stop any farming practices around it that erodes soil quality in the long term and kills much needed insects etc.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

- Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species via pest control
- Increase indigenous vegetation cover
- Research and collect data on the state of biodiversity
- Sustain and improve school environmental programmes

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

You're all doing great! Please please consider the positive economical impact that concentrating on biodiversity NOW can do for our futures, while accounting for the hidden costs that short term, profit driven decisions can bestow. Let's get our wetlands and swamps back in action to help us counter sea level rises in Selwyn. The work along the rail trail is brilliant - can we double that? Let's really support our not-for-profit charities and organisations to do even more with biodiversity. Lincoln Envirotown and community trapping is a great example - give them more recourses to do more of what they're already doing. Thanks

Q7. Full name

Thea Hewitt

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 10

Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 12, 2023 16:39:27 pm

Last Seen: Dec 12, 2023 03:28:35 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

Improving the rules in the District Plan review was a good attempt to improve the working relationship with community groups. There is a huge interest by a number of committed people to improve the current state of biodiversity decline in Selwyn. We do sometimes feel as if organisational inertia in the Council is hard to overcome, and we do not like to spend all our time and energy complaining. We do feel as if we have been heard in the consultation process for the DPR, and are positive that environmental benefits will result.

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)

As landowners involved in an ecological restoration on our 3 ha with Te Ara Kakariki, we feel that the Council could be more committed to providing funding for TAK. The provision of a rates relief programme for landowners who are planting indigenous vegetation could be investigated, or alternatively funding for pest control on private land could be helpful. As a land owner all these activities are very expensive.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikir Selwyn should the Council focus on?

The high country is the only area of Selwyn district that has not suffered catastrophic indigenous vegetation loss. Worryingly, there is a huge amount of remaining indigenous biodiversity that is held on leasehold and freehold land in the high country that is slowly being sprayed, oversown and topdressed to allow more intensive pastoral operations. This must be the area of focus, to identify vegetation in SNAs and map them in a way that can determine what vegetation is present followed by rules and monitoring.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikir Selwyn?

A strong District Plan with well documented rules that landowners follow. Strong messaging about the importance of indigenous biodiversity. Monitoring of resource consents and enforcement action taken in a timely way. There should not be a reliance on complaints from members of the public driving the process of investigating infringements of the rules.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district 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 via pest control
- Research and collect data on the state of biodiversity

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

We are experiencing climate breakdown and an existential crisis that involves many of the earth's systems (George Monbiot). It is essential that we all play our part in stopping further ecological decline. The Selwyn High Country is a beautiful place that is still relatively untouched by human hands. Please ensure the rules are in place to protect this area, and stand strong against the economic arguments for intensifying production to feed the planet.

Q7. Full name Susan Hall

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 11

Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 12, 2023 16:48:44 pm

Last Seen: Dec 12, 2023 03:42:14 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

My experience in recent times is that the department handling biodiversity matters is under-resourced, which leads to matters not being dealt with as quickly as is often necessary. This can lead to avoidable biodiversity loss or damage. The use of complaints to council biodiversity management should be a back-up, not the main driver for identifying issues. Many issues cannot be seen from public places. It is good to see more focus on biodiversity management and improvement in the District Plan in order to stop any further loss. 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. Community members interested in biodiversity need the support of council to stop the loss.

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)

My experience in restoring biodiversity has shown the cost and input time to be far greater than land owners embarking on such a project would ever imagine. It would be helpful the Council could provide support through rates relief and/or pest control for land owners planting/restoring indigenous vegetation on their properties. It would also be useful if TAK was provided with more ongoing support to continue with the tremendous job they do.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

The role of water in protecting biodiversity We all depend on a healthy ecosystem and this includes 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. Council focus The Canterbury High Country is the last area that has not suffered terrible indigenous biodiversity loss. However, this is changing and the Council needs to move quickly to stop further losses of natural habit, both at the consent stage and in compliance. I regularly drive through SH73 to the West Coast and are noticing some worrying trends – centre pivot irrigators on Grasmere, cattle in streams that feed directly into pristine high country lakes, increasing “greening” due to over-sowing and top dressing on tussock lands. The Council is responsible for land use consents and needs to make decisions based on the overall effects, not just within the narrow framework of the RC application. This can only be achieved by identifying SNAs and mapping areas of significant biodiversity against which any changes or proposed changes can be assessed.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

By having a District Plan that proudly highlights the importance of indigenous biodiversity with well documented rules that are communicated to all land owners and lessees. Adequate resourcing of the biodiversity department is essential to ensure biodiversity losses are stopped and threats are managed.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

- Identify and protect biodiversity and ecological values across the district
- Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species via pest control
- Research and collect data on the state of biodiversity
- Council to take a leadership role in working together and encouraging conservation and enhancement

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

The impacts of climate change are becoming more and more apparent and the need to change and protect our indigenous flora and fauna could never be more important. We live in a wonderful part of NZ and wish it to remain that way. It is important the rules are clear and enforced. Do not give in to the arguments by the agricultural sector seeking never-ending growth and intensification.

Q7. Full name

Kevin Dunn

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 12

Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 12, 2023 23:08:35 pm

Last Seen: Dec 12, 2023 09:57:06 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

There is a need for improvement on some issues - particularly, preventing wilding-pine spread in the high-country.

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)

No - the Council has been slack on the removal of wilding seed-source trees on reserves at Castle Hill.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

Wilding seed-source trees at Castle Hill.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

By removing the wilding seed-source trees on Castle Hill reserves.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district 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 via pest control

Control and manage negative impacts on biodiversity in the district

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

Millions of taxpayers' dollars have already been spent on removing wilding-pine spread in the Canterbury high country. If left unchecked they will destroy native vegetation, displace native fauna and affect the down-stream water flow. Currently, a major source of continuing wilding seed-spread trees are on SDC reserves at Castle Hill and MUST be removed to prevent the continuation of this spreading scourge!

Q7. Full name

Ray Goldring

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

Yes

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 13

Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 13, 2023 11:05:28 am

Last Seen: Dec 12, 2023 21:51:40 pm

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

Sporadic and lacking exposure and continuity at Castle Hill Village

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)

A bit erratic - eg it offered to assist with removal of wilding trees on private land, but then failed to carry it through

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

In the case of Castle Hill Village (CHV) we need both indigenous and exotic, as Mountain beech is the only tree that grows sufficiently fast to provide shelter. Mountain Beech however is more prone to wind and snow damage than many non-wilding exotics

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

In the case of CHV it should work with DOC & NGOs on animal (rabbits, rats, weasels, stoats, feral cats & pigs) pest removal programmes in and around the Village. For example CHV has had a major infestation of rabbits over the past 3 years and the SDC (to the best of my knowledge) has not assisted.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species via pest control
Increase indigenous vegetation cover
Encourage cooperation and collaboration among stakeholders
Encourage and support community projects that participate in conservation and celebration of biodiversity

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

Complete the long awaited CHV Reserve Management Plan

Q7. Full name

Alan Ogle

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 14

Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 13, 2023 11:09:14 am

Last Seen: Dec 12, 2023 21:41:08 pm

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

Poor

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)

No. I'm currently objecting to a solar farm at Brookside with waterways all around it that flow into Te Waihora. These waterways will contain heavy metal and PFAS contaminants that will impact aquatic organisms and kai from the Lake. Waterways throughout Brookside have no plantings on council land to contain nitrates and increase biodiversity.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

Planting native trees along waterways.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

Work with Te Ara Kakariki to plant council land. Stop putting solar farms near waterways.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

Increase indigenous vegetation cover

Sustain and improve school environmental programmes

Control and manage negative impacts on biodiversity in the district

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

The Council is better letting established groups (Te Ara Kakariki) organize and implement planting; but supply materials to spray the edge of waterways before planting

Q7. Full name

Ray Henderson

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 15

Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 13, 2023 19:27:36 pm

Last Seen: Dec 13, 2023 06:03:29 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

The removal of wilding pine species on SDC reserve land has no longer been permitted by trained village volunteers. This means that there is an astronomical cost involved thus causing delays in removal. I understand health and safety is the stumbling block.

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)

As above. The support of the Council in the predator control in the area of Castle Hill is appreciated. The slow ratifying of the Reserves Plan has meant delays in planting of donated beech seedlings but we appreciate the flexibility in suggestions of appropriate places. Note most of these seedlings are doing well

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

Wilding pines are a major concern still despite \$10,000,000 plus of donated and government's money being spent so far in the Selwyn district. Regrowth from latent seeds in the ground will continue for several years yet. 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. The Regional Pest Management Strategy has the power to enforce this. Russel lupines are also now invading Castle Hill village and SH 73. No doubt human help has been involved. Education about this issue is a priority. While pretty they are an invasive pest out of gardens.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

Allocating more \$ to the issues. Upping public education. Visiting schools.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

- Identify and protect biodiversity and ecological values across the district
- Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species via pest control
- Sustain and improve school environmental programmes
- Control and manage negative impacts on biodiversity in the district

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

not answered

Q7. Full name

Maree Goldring

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

Yes

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 16

Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 14, 2023 10:02:41 am

Last Seen: Dec 13, 2023 20:52:23 pm

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

Seems to be pretty good, but always valuable to keep working on the public engagement!

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)

Not sure, but from my limited experience with SDC they seem to be getting some things right.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

Pest control; mustelids, possum, rats, feral cats & hedgehogs, and feral pigs, goats & deer. Alongside re-planting natives please!

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

Make more funding available to local community groups, have employees specifically responsible for this, raise awareness of how biodiversity can benefit everyone, on all levels.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species via pest control

Sustain and improve school environmental programmes

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

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

Great to see SDC taking part in the Predatorfree2050 movement, more of it please!

Q7. Full name

donald john matheson

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 17

Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 14, 2023 13:22:18 pm

Last Seen: Dec 14, 2023 00:03:37 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

Poor. Generally, farmers are not aware of this strategy document as a result of very limited advertising.

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)

No, absolutely not. Farmers look after their land, enhance it at their expense. Give farmers some credit, maybe by way of rates relief.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

Native vegetation foremost.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

Stop further subdivisions. Subdivisions displace farmland, the flow on effect of that is pressure on other farmland, maybe marginal land or to the point of clearing native vegetation and draining of wetlands.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species via pest control

Increase indigenous vegetation cover

Encourage and support community projects that participate in conservation and celebration of biodiversity

Share knowledge on indigenous biodiversity with the community

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

It is time that the urban population have a hard look at themselves what their impact is/has been on the declined biodiversity.

Q7. Full name

BASIL MEYER

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

Yes

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 18

Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 14, 2023 19:09:00 pm

Last Seen: Dec 14, 2023 04:44:47 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

Generally is inclusive and works with community - in relation to pest control

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)

Generally recognises and supportive in regards to pest control - SDC grants, and workshops and organising community events to build networks and expertise trapping rats, possums, feral cats, mustelids. SDC less responsive to rabbit problem - eg Castle Hill Village Issue of wilding pines recognised by SDC but document indicates "need for suitable funding", Should be a priority . Carbon farming is also recognised to be a threat in the document but needs strengthened response to disincentivise/ incentivise alternatives is needed .eg pines recently in foothills eg below Porters Pass on private land have potential / will cause wilding growth into the Korowai/Torlesse Tussocklands Park and further into the Craigburn / Castle Hill area. Also growth and spread of broom -cystisus scoparius and lupins in Castle Hill/ Craigieburn needs addressing now. Undeveloped private land is feeding growth of lupins through reserves and into DoC beech forest.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

Need for planned indigenous corridors throughout Selwyn from mountains through the plains to the sea to support native and enhance birdlife . Adopt and support " Predator Free Selwyn " as part of the Pest free Waitaha initiative.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

Be more ambitious in Goals I support Goal 1 and 3 Goal 2 should be strengthened Action " From 2024 onwards there will be no loss and a net gain of indigenous flora and fauna....." 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

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

- Identify and protect taoka (taonga) species and their habitats
- Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species via pest control
- Encourage and support community projects that participate in conservation and celebration of biodiversity
- Control and manage negative impacts on biodiversity in the district

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

All of the above actions are important - SDC taking a lead, educating , encouraging and supporting communities to improve biodiversity fundamental . SDC doing a good job, but needs to be sustained .and ongoing . Issues for the future include Jobs for Nature ending in mid 2024, climate change already evident (increase in rats in Craigieburn Forest as result of clinal change (Emeritus Prof Dave Kelly UoC)

Q7. Full name

Louise Porteous, Secretary Craigieburn Trapping Alliance

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 19

Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 15, 2023 14:34:59 pm

Last Seen: Dec 15, 2023 00:48:25 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

Through my work for Te Ara Kakāriki Greenway Canterbury Trust I work closely with the Council Biodiversity team and Reserves team. They are highly skilled and passionate about protecting biodiversity in Selwyn but their work is under resourced, affecting their reach and effectiveness.

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)

The Council supports Te Ara Kakāriki 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.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

Protect remnant vegetation and restore indigenous habitat for wildlife - this is urgent as there is less than 0.5% of indigenous vegetation remaining in the Selwyn District. 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. School conservation education programmes. 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. These children are not forming connections with nature, affecting their lifelong well-being and sense of responsibility for our natural spaces. The Kids Discovery Plant-out programme is a successful collaboration between Te Ara Kākāriki and Enviroschools and has been delivered to Selwyn schools for the 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.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

Stronger resourcing of the Council Biodiversity team. Stronger ongoing support of Te Ara Kākāriki Greenway Canterbury Trust. Pest control education and support so remaining wildlife is protected.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

Identify and protect biodiversity and ecological values across the district
Increase indigenous vegetation cover
Sustain and improve school environmental programmes
Encourage and support community projects that participate in conservation and celebration of biodiversity

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

Selwyn District has an appalling lack of protections for indigenous biodiversity and a grim record of ongoing poor water quality in our waterways and lake. Roll-out of the biodiversity strategy is extremely urgent!

Q7. Full name

Lou Drage

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 20

Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 15, 2023 15:32:21 pm

Last Seen: Dec 15, 2023 02:21:31 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

pretty good

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)

Could be a separate category in the Selwyn Awards and staff could enter landowners in to various awards to raise the profile

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

connecting young people and their communities to indigenous native biodiversity in the place they love, to cultivate instinctive action to protect. This can be achieved through supporting school planting projects.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

celebrating what is there first and making the most of raising the profile of it , a bit like Mike Bowie's column in the paper in the style of Critter of the week. I'm not sure if people realise how amazing and charismatic some of the Selwyn Species are, e.g. a cave weta living in a wood pile on a lincoln property or giant century old long fin eel in the Ararria etc. This is a better approach then coming in with ' we have lost so and so' as they didn't know what 'so and so' was, what ecosystem service it held, its cultural signifiance and therefore why they should care.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

Identify and protect taoka (taonga) species and their habitats

Sustain and improve school environmental programmes

Encourage and support community projects that participate in conservation and celebration of biodiversity

Share knowledge on indigenous biodiversity with the community

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

All of the above are important, I would also have liked to tick sharing mana whenua knowledge in a culturally safe and mana upholding/ enhancing way, and to identity and protect biodiversity and ecological values across the district

Q7. Full name

Matthew Stanford

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

No

Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission



Respondent No: 21

Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 15, 2023 17:17:51 pm

Last Seen: Dec 15, 2023 03:02:38 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

Good. Although a lot of people aren't aware of SNEF fund! It has been awesome to see the council engage the community in biodiversity events such as the SWELL tour of Ahuriri Lagoon. It is excellent to have a Biodiversity officer supporting Te Ara Kākāriki in person at Community and School volunteer planting events. Support of Te Ara Kākāriki to support landowners to plant native plants and engage the community and schools is excellent and reaches a great number of people in the community.

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)

More is needed. (funding for planting and ecologist / planting advice, fencing etc) We are focused on restoring biodiversity so I can only speak of my experience with that. With Canterbury having one of the lowest levels of natural native vegetation nationwide we must prioritise identifying and protecting what is left. At the same time SDC need to prioritise enhancing native biodiversity by restoring more land back to indigenous cover. Support for landowners is quite minimal especially with costs of plants and expert advice increasing hugely over the past two years. Te Ara Kākāriki continue to receive steady numbers of responses to our annual applications for restoration assistance showing there is strong local support for restoring native biodiversity and a desire by landowners to contribute by restoring part of their land. We can't offer assistance to everyone who has a valuable project and have quite a few people who want to extend their projects but cost or lack of advice is holding them back. We try to balance our resources between new Greendots / landowners keen to increasing the size of their existing Greendots. Obviously larger projects offer more future biodiversity value so it is important to help as many people who want to keep planting as possible. We would like more landowner support.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

Engaging and educating landowners and students on the biodiversity values of native plant species and associated wildlife (eg birds and invertebrate). Keep them engaged and active within their local environment. Supporting landowners to do more planting on their land. (To plant Greendots or stepping stones.) There are many who are already engaged but need encouragement to do their plant native or do more. The biodiversity of Te Waihora Lake Ellesmere and its tributaries should clearly be a key focus for SDC as it is full of valuable fragile ecosystems and threatened wildlife, not to mention its cultural values and national significance. So much of Selwyn's land and waterways contributes to its health.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

Increased penalties or enforcing existing rules when people damage existing native vegetation and biodiversity. Especially waterways. More ecological consideration on the impacts of urban development on our waterways leading into Te Waihora

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

- Identify and protect biodiversity and ecological values across the district
- Increase indigenous vegetation cover
- Sustain and improve school environmental programmes
- Encourage and support community projects that participate in conservation and celebration of biodiversity

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

not answered

Q7. Full name	Letitia Lum
<hr/>	
Q8. Address	
<hr/>	
Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person	No
<hr/>	
Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission	
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Respondent No: 22

Login: Registered

Responded At: Dec 16, 2023 11:37:59 am

Last Seen: Dec 15, 2023 22:20:16 pm

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

I believe the Council tries but is not consistent in delivering messages or methods to achieve indigenous biodiversity outcomes.

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)

Generally speaking no I don't, although I do accept there are efforts at place to make a difference.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

Certainly we need to protect what is left in the hill and high country, with a focus on the few wetlands that remain - these are an absolute priority. But, if we want connectivity then both town and country, especially on the Plains, have major roles to play. As it stands some of the best indigenous biodiversity, terrestrial, is in townships like Lincoln and Prebbleton, yet new subdivisions (apart from the flood retention wetlands which are great) are largely devoid of indigenous biodiversity. And the plains, especially now all the dairy farms are almost completely void of indigenous vegetation - restoration, connectivity efforts are simple and should be encouraged by each farm establishing either or both a small wetland or small forest (a la Te ara Kakariki) at scale, and using the Selwyn riparian margin as a focus to better connect the hills to the lake. So, a combination of protection, restore and enhance are all needed with leadership from the Council.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

In order to protect indigenous biodiversity the Council first needs to do what it can to protect and help properly manage what is left - and yes it is doing some of this, but not noticeably on the Plains which is the majority of the District. Take Prebbleton where I live - new subdivisions are being developed seemingly (apart of flood overflow management via wetlands (which is to be applauded)) without indigenous biodiversity enhancement being prioritised. I have lived in Prebbleton for about 20 years and in that time have recorded an increase in the diversity of native bird species and abundance of some, e.g., bellbird. These species have increased in numbers largely because of what some private property owners (including us with a native forest being developed), rather than a plan by council. This likely means that with further growth there will be the loss of trees (habitat) that until now has helped support these species. The Council needs to enable/encourage subdivisions with an indigenous biodiversity focus. another obvious area on the plains is the water races - I know this is an issue for council but increasing I witness the race on Trents Road drying up and trout and eels dying (I have photos of both in the built up area of town, including one from this week!). These water races are mini biodiversity hotspots but do not seem to have a biodiversity plan associated with their management. Something the Council could think about would be establishing an indigenous biodiversity advisory group, to capture and build on some of the ideas above?

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district 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
- Increase indigenous vegetation cover
- Council to take a leadership role in working together and encouraging conservation and enhancement

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

Overall I applaud the Council for taking this initiative - there is a huge amount to be done, so lets get on with it.

Q7. **Full name** Ken Hughey

Q8. **Address**

Q9. **Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person** No

Q10. **Please provide an email or phone number so we can contact you about speaking to your submission**



Respondent No: 23

Login: Registered

Responded At: Jan 10, 2024 16:34:11 pm

Last Seen: Jan 10, 2024 02:10:30 am

Q1. How would you describe the Council's working relationship with the community on biodiversity issues?

Could be better and a work in progress, mostly due to capacity, resourcing and education rather than lack of effort. Inconsistencies across the district for many and varied reasons are an issue.

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)

In some areas yes, where established groups or networks are already operating, but again the inconsistency across the district are limiting the progress in this area. There is also an issue with project management, as establishment and planting is only the first phase but the longer term success of projects is dependant on many external factors, not just environmental.

Q3. Which indigenous biodiversity needs in Waikirikiri Selwyn should the Council focus on?

Education and co-ordination of projects plus monitoring after baseline measuring is established.

Q4. How can the Council improve its response to indigenous biodiversity threats and losses in Waikirikiri Selwyn?

Through education, monitoring and by increasing the perception of the value (both economic and environmental) of biodiversity and ecosystem services within the district, and how that fits with the national strategy. To be a leader in this area nationally.

Q5. What do you see as four priorities for improving biodiversity within the district based on the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick your four favourites.

- Identify and protect biodiversity and ecological values across the district
- Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species via pest control
- Research and collect data on the state of biodiversity
- Council to take a leadership role in working together and encouraging conservation and enhancement

Q6. Do you have any other comments or feedback about this strategy? (please include here)

Better co-ordination and awareness of community actions/project groups within Selwyn and the greater Canterbury region would be beneficial. There is a lot at ground level going on, but not always the recognition of similar issues/constraints that the various groups/landowners/stakeholders face when undertaking a biodiversity restoration projects. Often competing for the same pool of money and resources which is limiting opportunities. Along with navigating the competing roles/conflicts of council roles and function, eg economic development, district planning, community development, resource management, urbanisation, contractor KPI's, ratepayer's and residents expectation's as well as infrastructure and regulatory pressures. This is at least a starting point in the formation of a biodiversity strategy for Selwyn.

Q7. Full name

Susan Elizabeth Mcleod Allan

Q8. Address

Q9. Do you wish to attend a hearing to present your submission in person

No

**Q10. Please provide an email or phone number so we
can contact you about speaking to your
submission**
