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Page 1

### Q1

Our Vision is: A district where biodiversity is protected and enhanced from the mountains to the sea (ki uta ki tai) by a community that values and cares for it. Think about what our district, thriving with biodiversity, could look like in 20 years' time. What do you see?

Clean waterways- wetland corridors connecting coastal and inland sites, enhanced, healthy swamps, places for native fish and eels, healthy shellfish in our lakes, more native birdlife particularly wetland birds like bittern, crested grebe, spotless crake, corridors of native trees and shrubs which provide food and habitat for native birds, insects and reptiles. Rabbits, cats, hedgehogs, possums, mustelids, rats, and browsing animals like deer, goats, wallaby gone. Rare ecosystems are protected and the communities that live and spend recreational time in our places show respect and value the environment and the biodiversity. A protected dark sky in the Lake Clearwater area so that all can come and see the spectacular night sky.

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### Q2

Do the goals and objectives of the strategy capture what you see as the key issues facing biodiversity in the district?

**Yes,**

Please explain::

It is good to see the encouragement of ownership and funding so that groups can feel that they are part of the enhancement of the Mid Canterbury Biodiversity.

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### Q3

What do you see as the top five priorities from the objectives mentioned in the strategy? Tick up to five objectives:

**Identify and protect taoka (taonga) species and their habitat**

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**Prevent further loss of threatened indigenous species via pest control**

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**Properly manage human activity on biodiversity,**

**Support projects that aim to restore and interconnect indigenous biodiversity sites**

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**Sustain and improve school environmental programmes**

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#### Q4

We have identified 55 actions to reach the goals in the strategy. You can read about them in the Action Plan on pages 28 - 35 of the draft strategy. Is there any specific action or anything else Council should be doing to support biodiversity in the district? Note – Goals and objectives related to water quality for rivers, lakes and wetlands are regulated via the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan and therefore not part of this strategy.

Fire preparedness - Making sure that with Climate Change we don't have huge fires. Cessation of burning off crops as this destroys biodiversity and releases carbon into the atmosphere and damages the soil.

Street lights - according to a recent study reported in the NZ Geographic (<https://www.nzgeo.com/stories/land-of-the-bright-white-light/>) Ashburton, started the process of installing LED's in 2000 and is now sitting at 83 per cent, one of the highest light pollution

The evidence of the impacts of light pollution on species and ecosystems has grown and strengthened. Increased Artificial Light at Night, known as ALAN, is directly linked to measurable negative impacts on energy consumption, human health, and wildlife such as bats, birds, insects, reptiles, amphibians, mammals, and plants. Unnecessary artificial light increases financial costs and contributes to greenhouse emissions.

Many in the Lake Clearwater Community wanted our dark sky protected like around Lake Tekapo as the night sky is pristine and magnificent.

Spreading fertiliser by air over the hills adjacent to lakes and rivers needs to be supervised and managed as this feeds directly into the waterways causing eutrophication in lakes.

Tourism - Ensuring tourism is sustainable and is respecting the delicate environments in which they visit. Making sure that Mid Canterbury is a place where everyone can go and experience the peace and tranquility of the unique hills, mountains and waterways.

Restrictions on adventuring on motor bikes and 4 wheel drive - Have allocated places for this activity so that our backcountry is not destroyed. Tracks by vehicles are visible by satellite for decades to potentially centuries on the back country hills. Education in this area so that people realise the damage that can be done to the fragile environment records in New Zealand.

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#### Q5

Do you have any other comments or feedback?

Under 3.3B Bioblitz - Lincoln had a Bioblitz in 2009 which you can read about here (<https://lincolnecolony.org.nz/2009/04/30/bioblitz-lincoln-2009-1637-species-in-24-hours/>) This was an amazing event which I was a part of. This event provided a springboard for knowledge understanding and future developments in the Lincoln area.

I recognise that a lot of effort has gone into the preparation of this Biodiversity Strategy. Many generations of people have enjoyed tramping and water activities particularly in the high country and I hope that future generations will continue to enjoy an even more enhanced environment.

**Q6**

Your contact details

Name

**Maureen Keen**

Organisation (if appropriate)

**Lake Clearwater Hutholders**

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**Q7**

**Yes - I wish to present in person**

Do you wish to speak in support of your submission at the hearing?

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