

Before the Independent Hearing  
Commissioners

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Under the Resource Management Act 1991

In the matter of Plan Change 20 to the Mackenzie District Plan

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**Written Statement of Nicola Lee Snoyink on behalf of the Royal Forest and Bird  
Protection Society of New Zealand (Forest & Bird)**

18 November 2022

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## Introduction

1. My name is Nicola Lee Snoyink.
2. I am the Regional Conservation Manager for Canterbury / Westland for Forest & Bird.

## Statement

3. Forest & Bird supports the evidence of the Director General of Conservation in so far that it is consistent with our own submissions.
4. Forest & Bird supports the evidence of Environment Canterbury in so far that it is consistent with our own submissions.
5. Forest & Bird largely supports the Strategic Directions as set out in the S42A Officers Report Appendix 1 (Appendix 1) however we consider that some of the strategic directions could be further clarified. We support the introduction where plan development and implementation has been separated out; and the proposed additions to ATC-05 with regard to natural hazards and climate change, though consider that these two significant issues should be separated out into objectives of their own.
6. We suggest minor amendments to the following provisions:
  - ATC-05
  - NE – Natural Environment Introduction
  - NE-O1
  - UFD- O1

## ATC - 05

7. We agree with Mr. Geddes' for Environment Canterbury statement that "*Climate change and natural hazards are both significant strategic issues and therefore should be dealt with comprehensively*" and his recommendation to replace ATC-05 with two objectives, one dealing with climate change and another with natural hazards.

## NE Natural Environment Introduction

8. Forest & Bird supports the introduction as written in the Appendix 1 with the following amendments.

*The District contains many natural resources ~~of importance significance~~. These include (but are not limited to) resources valued by mana whenua for mahika kai; the Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve; those landscapes and features that*

*are considered outstanding, and indigenous biodiversity; and the District's wetlands, lakes and rivers and their margins.*

#### **NE-O1**

9. As drafted in Appendix 1, Forest & Bird is concerned that without the list of special factors which make the Mackenzie District unique, NE O1 loses specificity.

Given that our submission point to include a new objective has not been adopted, the list of factors should be reinstated to NE-O1; and the word 'important' should be removed. It should also be made clear that the list of factors 1-5 is not an exhaustive list.

*The ~~important~~ values of the natural environment that make the District unique, contribute to its character, identity, and wellbeing, ~~and~~ or have significant or outstanding intrinsic values, are recognised, and provided for, and where appropriate protected and enhanced. This includes (but is not limited to) values associated with:*

*1. mahika kai resources;*

*2. night sky darkness;*

*3. outstanding natural features and landscapes;*

*4. significant indigenous biodiversity; and*

*5. water bodies and their margins*

#### **UFD-O1**

10. As originally submitted Forest & Bird considers that to give effect to the NPSUD 2020 for a well-functioning environment, and to complement further changes to the proposed ATC-05 regarding climate change and managing natural hazards, this objective needs to recognise the importance of integrating the natural and physical environment of which indigenous biodiversity is a part, into urban development. We support the objective as written in Appendix 1, with the removal of the word 'surrounding'.

*The District's townships and settlements grow and develop in a consolidated way that:*

- 1. is integrated into, and respects the values of the ~~surrounding~~ natural and physical environment:*

Nicola Lee Snoyink  
Regional Conservation Manager Forest & Bird  
Canterbury/West Coast

18 November 2022