



Anonymous User just submitted the survey Submission Form - Plan Change 28: Hazards and Risks, Historic Heritage and Notable Trees, and Variations with the responses below.

**Full Name**

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**I acknowledge that the information above and all other information provided in this submission will be made publicly available**

Acknowledged

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**Do you believe you could gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission?**

No

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**Are you directly affected by an effect or the subject matter that adversely affects the environment and does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition?**

No

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**The specific provisions of the proposal that my submission relates to are as follows:**

All concerning Biota protection in 'Historic and Cultural Values in Part 2 of 'District Wide Matters.'

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**I support/oppose these provisions:**  
**(include whether you support or oppose in full or in part)**

I support them but urge the adoption of more specific rules regarding: 1. Wilding pines - their control and preferably destruction. 2. The provision of biota reserves that have the educational, informational and heritage aims of attempting to reconstruct the pre-human biota of the Mackenzie - strand forests, grassland tundra and wetlands and streams with suitable conditions for the propagation of the native biota. We will never undo the damage that humans have caused - for example, moa no longer thrive in the Mackenzie, but we could reconstruct small areas to preserve little blue butterflies, the native thistle, and other endangered species. The expenses might be met by central government since the Mackenzie is so special and unique. It would be a marvellous educational facility, and school children could help by working on the facility. This approach would give more direction and purpose for conservation efforts in the Mackenzie.

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**The reason(s) for my submission are:**  
**(state in summary your reasons, and whether you seek any amendments)**

AS under 10, I think that such efforts are very important and useful. They represent more formal directions and purpose for such facilities in the District Plan.

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**I seek the following decision from the Mackenzie District Council: (give precise details)**

If not in this round, then can I ask for thought be given to implementing such facilities.

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**Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?**

I do

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**If others make a similar submission would you be prepared to consider presenting a joint case with them at any hearing?**

I would

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**If you have any additional supporting information as part of this submission please attach it here.**

[https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/fa5f89aee9220f7cfa177ea4ae5ec7129d12a812/original/1737356130/9467e492de6390f568539d10aeb4f4ed\\_Mckenzie\\_Submission.pdf?1737356130](https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/fa5f89aee9220f7cfa177ea4ae5ec7129d12a812/original/1737356130/9467e492de6390f568539d10aeb4f4ed_Mckenzie_Submission.pdf?1737356130)

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18 January, 2025

**Mackenzie District Plan, submission on the proposed plan changes.**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I wish to suggest possible additions that could be important in the future to protect, enhance and promote the natural features and beauty of the Mackenzie Country.

**1. Mackenzie, the way it was:**

Before humans came, the Mackenzie was a mosaic of forest stands (mainly mountain beech), shrubs and grasses on ridges and drier parts of the landscape. Bog and water plants thrived in the waterways. Native fish and birds thrived. Interestingly, no plants could fix nitrogen. This broken nitrogen cycle puzzled botanists until the suggestion was made that birds, especially nesting seabirds, were so numerous that their guano provided the necessary nitrogen.

When humans came they lit massive fires to make Moa hunting easier and to drive out enemies (the Fires of Tamatea). This profoundly altered the landscape, destroying trees, inducing tall tussock grasslands, and causing massive slips and erosion on the hills. The charcoal from these fires can still be found today.

When Europeans arrived and introduced sheep, the shrubland was converted to grassland and the native grasses were dominated by short tussock, that could withstand sheep grazing and burning. Pasture plants, such as clover, were introduced to grow between the tussocks. Fertiliser was applied to make the valuable plants grow better.

All this gave us the present day landscape, but with the danger that wilding pines are spreading and rapidly taking over. This is a problem I have been aware of since 1972 when I suggested a solution to the use of pines as protection forestry in the same year (use sterile pines cultivated by plant biotechnology). Unfortunately, the then forestry department did not take up my suggestion.

**My suggestion is: can we have a small area accessible to tourists, resident, and schoolchildren, that provides a hint of Mackenzie the way it was before humans arrived?**

I make no suggestion as to what should be grown, where it should be (Tekapo?) and how it should be planted and what species should be planted and by whom, other than to suggest that school kids make a wonderful group - they are keen and they learn. However, I have ideas that I can share.

**2. Control of the placement and scope of renewable electricity generation facilities.**

Although these are a great development (at least until nuclear generation becomes acceptable) it must be admitted that they are a gross visual pollutant. If any installations are proposed, please ensure it does not spoil the wonderful vistas of the Mackenzie.

"Renewables" will only be required for a few years as the progress on safe pebble bed and thorium reactors is such that most advanced countries are installing these as they have proved to be safe, reliable, effective, and cheap.

Even better, rapid advances are being made with fusion reactors, which will be even safer, cleaner (no radioactive by-products), and even cheaper.

Therefore, please do not ruin the Mackenzie for a temporary advantage as has been the pattern in the past.

Kelvin (Kelly) Duncan, PhD  
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(I am a ratepayer of the district).