

Different people have different views because of different values on the Long-finned eel, whether it is social or cultural reasons. My particular view is that long finned eels are quite important to the biodiversity. I find it interesting that the eels will swim back to Tonga to produce eggs and they will both then die in Tonga. The long-finned eel is supposed to be endangered but when we set traps in the Uretara there were more Long-finned eels than the short-finned eels that aren't endangered. I have the idea that we need to be the guardians of the eels like the Maori people believe in. ①

From the article that I read about people's opinions on the long-finned eels and how they are endangered I learned that NT of Forest and Bird believes that New Zealand needs to take a stand and say that these animals need to be protected. We are shown that NT used to fish the eels when he was younger but now that he knows what happens to the long-finned eel he no longer does this. It is also showing that Forest and Bird is not just talking the talk that they are also walking the walk as have created a petition to stop the fishing of Long-finned eels. ② ④

We see another person that believes that eels should be protected is MJ a Massey University ecologist. MJ believes that if the long-finned eels had the same amount of public love that the Kiwis and Kereru have there would many people marching down the street to stop the eels from going into pet food. MJ says that countries like the UK, USA and Japan and buying our eels because they 'wiped out' their own, thus increasing the fishing market here. ②

Of course because there is the people on the other side of the scale that believe that the eels are not important and it doesn't matter how many eels are killed. People like commercial fishing companies like ██████ that believe that the long-finned eel is just there to make money and they don't care about how that can affect the environment. They are finding that the eels are getting smaller and smaller in size. They think that there shouldn't be quotas on the long-finned eel because then they would have to cut back the amount of money that they make. This is shown in the way that they behave. ⑤

My personal view is that the long-finned eels need to be protected so that the biodiversity is not affected when if the long-finned eels become extinct. This is a cultural and an environmental reason. I was taught from an early age that all animals are to be respected and protected no matter what. As I grew my understanding of what is right and what is wrong grew too. I believe that without long-finned eels the natural biodiversity that this country has will fail to thrive as it is. I believe that as a country we need support the Department of Conservation and green politics to protect the animals that are endemic to NZ to have a sustainable future. ① ③

NT changed his behaviours from catching and eating long-finned eels to standing up and protecting them. He thinks that if we teach instead of preach there will be more changes in ④

the people that will lead to a sustainable future.

The long-finned eels are important to the biodiversity of the Uretara stream, as the eels are within the food chain that happens within the stream. If the eels are fully taken out of the environment then there will be dire implications within the stream. There will be a gap in the food chain where the Long-finned eels would fit in, there will be disturbance because of this. The animals below the Long-finned eels, like water snails and worms, will increase in numbers while the animals above the Long-finned eels, like fish, will decrease in numbers.

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The commercial fishing companies like [REDACTED] are only looking for the economic options that the Long-finned eels are able to give them. They don't care about the long term sustainable future of the long-finned eels because they are able to get the economic growth that they want. The companies only value the money, not the eels or the biodiversity and food webs that they would be destroying if they were to carry on the way that they are going.

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They believe that the Long-finned eels are not becoming extinct and that they can kill as many of them as they would like to get. The companies are using the quota management to their advantage by getting as many eels as the quota will let them on a daily bases. They go fishing almost every day but they believe that if they stick to the quota they are being sustainable.

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