# Scotland's third Land Use Strategy: consultation

**Vision**

**“A Scotland where we fully recognise, understand and value the importance of our land resources, and where our plans and decisions about land use will deliver improved and enduring benefits, enhancing the wellbeing of our nation.”**

**Q1: Do you think that this vision still reflects the outcomes we need to achieve?**

B) No

**Q2: If not, what key changes would you like to see for a new Land Use vision?**

We feel that the current vision does not reflect the fundamental reframing of our relationship with the natural world that is required. As Quakers our understanding is that “We do not own the World and its riches are not ours to dispose of at will” (Advices & Queries 42). Instead of framing Scotland’s land use purely in terms of how we as humans can benefit from it, we believe the vision should be sufficiently broadened to recognise that the natural resources of Scotland are sacred and have intrinsic value. Such a reframing is vital in shaping how we understand and therefore interact with the natural world, moving us away from an extractive model to a vision where we recognise that, rather than masters, we are but part of the natural world, with a role to play. Such a reframing is not unprecedented, being widely recognised by traditional communities across the world, while parallels from another modern democratic state can be found in New Zealand where the Whanganui River was granted legal personhood, with associated rights in 2017.

**Q3: Do you think any of the objectives need updating? If so, please indicate which you think needs changes. You can tick all that apply.**

A) I think they are good as they are, no changes needed

B) “Land based businesses working with nature to contribute more to Scotland's prosperity” should be changed

C) “Responsible stewardship of Scotland's natural resources delivering more benefits to Scotland's people” should be changed

D) “Urban and rural communities better connected to the land, with more people enjoying the land and positively influencing land use” should be changed

**Q4: If you consider that one or more objectives need updating, please explain what changes you would like to see in the objective(s). Please make sure you state clearly which objective each suggestion relates to.**

**Each of the above objectives would benefit from the addition of “and the wellbeing of the natural world” at the end.**