

DESIGNLAB IN ACTION: REGIONAL SCALE LANDSCAPE DESIGN

ABBOTT, MICK

Lincoln University School of Landscape Architecture, New Zealand, mick.abbott@lincoln.ac.nz

BLACKBURNE, KATE

Lincoln University School of Landscape Architecture, New Zealand, kate.blackburne@lincoln.ac.nz

LEE, WOODY

Lincoln University School of Landscape Architecture, New Zealand, woody.lee@lincoln.ac.nz

LI, XUEJING

Lincoln University School of Landscape Architecture, New Zealand, xuejing.li@lincoln.ac.nz

BOYLE, CAMERON

Lincoln University School of Landscape Architecture, New Zealand, cameron.boyle@lincoln.ac.nz

1 ABSTRACT

In this paper we present two DesignLab projects that provide insight into the practice of design directed research. Te Whenua Hou reimagines a 7600 ha dairy conversion project as a gateway for brand values and also a biodiversity corridor across monocultural agricultural landscapes. The Mackenzie Drylands Conservation Park investigates ways biodiversity values can be fostered through diverse land tenure relationships within a distributed park system. The two projects generate possibilities that challenge default expectations of these landscape types. Their function is to identify novel possibilities that might unsettle aesthetic clichés and normative landscape architecture practice, and instead acting as experiments into innovative expressions of bio-diversity, culture, and sense of place.

1.1 Keywords

Design-directed research, regional scale design, agriculture, conservation