





# **Agenda**

# Notice is hereby given of a Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee Meeting

Wednesday 17 July 2019

Commencing at 1.00pm

Waimate Event Centre
15 Paul Street
Waimate

www.waimatedc.govt.nz

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee will be held in the Waimate Event Centre, 15 Paul Street, Waimate on Wednesday 17 July 2019, commencing at 1.00pm.

#### **Committee Membership**

Kate White Community Member (Chair)

Emily Anderson Community Member
Suzanne Eddington Waihao Runanga Rep
Jakki Guilford Waimate Councillor

Sandra Hampstead- Arowhenua Runanga Rep

Tipene

Jeremy Holding Waitaki Councillor
Barney Hoskins Community Rep
Daniel Isbister Community Rep
Bruce Murphy Community Rep
Brent Packman Community Rep
Jared Ross Community Rep

Peter Scott Environment Canterbury Councillor

Kieran Whyte Moeraki Runanga Rep

Quorum - no less than six members

#### **Lower Waitaki SCC Zone Committee Meeting**

#### July 17<sup>th</sup> 2019, at 1:00pm Waimate Event Centre, Waimate

#### 12:15pm: Zone Committee lunch and Regional Roundup

	2016 Committee fundit and Regional Roundap			
	Time	Agenda item Title	Who	Paper/Verbal
1	1:00pm	Standing items  1 Welcome, Karakia and Introductions 2 Apologies 3 Declaration of Interests 4 Confirmation of Previous Minutes 5 Matters Arising 6 Correspondence • Inwards	Kate White	Verbal
2	1:30pm	Te Reo words for this month:  • Te Kohurau – Kurow River *  • Te Tari-a-Te-Kaumira  • (The Long Range of Te Kaumira) - The Hunters Hills. **	Suzanne Eddington	Verbal
3	1:35pm	Facilitator's Update	Dave Moore	Facilitators update July 2019 All Zone Committee Annual Reports
4	1:45pm	Regional Council update	Peter Scott	Verbal
5	1:55pm	Zone Delivery Quarterly Report	Chris Eccleston	Verbal
6	2:15pm	Wilding Conifer Control and how it works	Graeme Sullivan	Verbal
7	2:45pm	Consents and Compliance Q&A	Brian Reeves Zella Smith	Consents Compliance Monitoring Q & A
	3:05pm	General Business	Kate White	Verbal
	3:20pm	Close of meeting & Karakia	Kate White	

<sup>\*</sup> Te Kohurau is the correct spelling for the Kurow River, which flows from St Marys Range into the south bank of the Waitaki River. Te Kohurau was an ancestor on the Ārai-te-uru waka that capsized near Matakaea (Shag Point) on the Otago coastline. After the capsize, many of the passengers went ashore to explore the land. However, they needed to be back at the waka before daylight. Many did not make it, including Te Kohurau, and transformed into many of the geographical features of Te Waipounamu. Tieke Pukurākau from Glenavy - the last known mōkihi navigator of the Waitaki and a noted authority on the traditional Maori place names of the Waitaki - recorded in his 1915 notebooks that Te Kohurau-nui was the name for the Kurow River. During the 1879 Smith-Nairn Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Ngāi Tahu land claims. Rāwiri Te Mamaru and other Ngāi Tahu kaumātua recorded Te Kohurau as a kāinga mahinga kai (food-gathering place) where weka and tuna (eels) gathered. Source: http://www.kahurumanu.co.nz/atlas

\*\* Te Tari-a-Te-Kaumira ("The Long Range of Te Kaumira") is the Māori name for the Hunters Hills. Tari is a geographical term describing a mountain range, and Te Kaumira was a tupuna (ancestor) who led a travelling party from Hakataramea Valley to the Pureora (Pareora) district. While crossing the mountain range, the travellers were overtaken by an unexpected snowstorm. They scattered in their haste to seek safety. When the travellers re-assembled, they realised that Te Kaumira was missing. His body was eventually discovered underneath a nearby rock shelter. The mountain range was subsequently named in Te Kaumira's memory. The name Hunters Hills was given by surveyor Charles Torlesse after the local Ngāi Tahu leader, Te Huruhuru, explained to Torlesse in 1849 that the hills were a prized hunting ground for local Ngāi Tahu. Source: http://www.kahurumanu.co.nz/atlas

## **Order Of Business**

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#### **OPENING**

1 APOLOGIES

Barney Hoskins and Brent Packman

- 2 VISITORS
- 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

#### **MINUTES**

#### 4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES OF THE LOWER WAITAKI SOUTH COASTAL CANTERBURY ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 APRIL 2019

Author: Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor Authoriser: Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor

Attachments: 1. Minutes of the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone

**Committee Meeting held on 17 April 2019** 

#### **PURPOSE**

For the unconfirmed Minutes of the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee Meeting held on 17 April 2019 be presented for confirmation.

Note: The May meeting was cancelled, and June meeting of the Zone Committee was a workshop combined with the Upper Waitaki Zone Committee.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Minutes of the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee Meeting held on 17 April 2019 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.

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## **MINUTES**

# Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee Meeting

17 April 2019

# MINUTES OF THE LOWER WAITAKI SOUTH COASTAL CANTERBURY ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE WAIMATE EVENT CENTRE, 15 PAUL STREET, WAIMATE ON WEDNESDAY 17 APRIL 2019, COMMENCING AT 1.30PM

PRESENT: Chair Kate White, Emily Anderson, Suzanne Eddington, Sandra Hampstead-

Tipene, Cr Jeremy Holding, Barney Hoskins, Daniel Isbister, Bruce Murphy,

Brent Packman, Jared Ross, Cr Peter Scott

**APOLOGIES:** Kieran Whyte, Cr Jakki Guilford

IN ATTENDANCE: Facilitator Dave Moore, ECan staff: Anna Morrow, Matt Dodson, Dennis

Jamieson, Steve Thomas, Hannah Duncan; NIWA Dr MS Srinivasan, Kurow Duntroon Irrigation Collective Chair Geoff Keeling, Babbage Consultants Ltd

(Oceania Dairy) Lobo Coutinho; Karalyn Reid (Committee Secretary)

#### **OPENING**

Chair Kate Scott welcomed members and Cr Peter Scott opened the meeting with a karakia.

#### 1 APOLOGIES

#### **APOLOGIES**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2019/6**

Moved: Cr Jeremy Holding

Seconded: Member Suzanne Eddington

That apologies from Kieran Whyte and Cr Jakki Guilford be received and accepted.

**CARRIED** 

#### 2 VISITORS

Nil

#### 3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There are no changes to the Declarations of Interest Register.

#### **MINUTES**

#### 4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

## 4.1 MINUTES OF THE LOWER WAITAKI SOUTH COASTAL CANTERBURY ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20 MARCH 2019

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2019/7**

Moved: Member Bruce Murphy Seconded: Member Jared Ross

That the Minutes of the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee Meeting held on 20 March 2019 be accepted as a true and correct record.

**CARRIED** 

#### **REPORTS**

#### 5 GENERAL BUSINESS

#### 5.1 TE REO WORDS

Suzanne explained the words of greeting outlined in the agenda.

#### 5.2 FACILITATOR'S UPDATE

#### **Wainono Augmentation Update**

Dave stated he had been unable to progress this due to other work commitments. However, Dennis Jamieson spoke to the Committee about the process of preparing an issues and options paper on Wainono Augmentation. Reassessment work is currently being undertaken to work out the next logical steps now that Hunter Downs Irrigation has been ruled out. Dave will also talk to Judith Earl-Goulet and Chris Eccleston to find out the progress of the work being done around protocols on opening the Waihao Box.

#### 5.3 IMPROVING FARMING PRACTICES ON HILLSLIPE LANDSCAPES PROJECT

The Committee received a presentation on Improving Farming Practices on Hillslope Landscapes Project and provided feedback on other stakeholders that could be involved, useful approaches and suitable technology.

The Committee asked to receive updates on progress.

#### 5.4 KUROW DUNTROON IRRIGATION COMPANY

The Committee received a presentation from Chair Geoff Keeling on the background of the scheme, and their expansion project. The Committee was particularly interested in the environmental benefits of the project and may in future visit the scheme.

#### 5.5 OCEANIA DAIRY EXPANSION AND PROPOSED OCEAN OUTFALL

The Committee received a presentation from Lobo Coutinho, Babbage Consultants Ltd on expansion plans and plans for an ocean outfall for treated factory wastewater.

A discussion was held on the short timeline on the Action Plan, the need for consultation, especially with the local Rūnanga and Ngai Tahu.

#### **MEETING CLOSURE**

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 3.30pm and Cr Peter Scott closed the meeting with a karakia.

The minutes of this meeting are to be confirmed at the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee Meeting scheduled on 15 May 2019.

Note: The next formal meeting is scheduled on 17 July 2019.	
	CHAIRPERSON

#### **REPORTS**

#### **5 GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### 5.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST REGISTER

Author: Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor Authoriser: Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor

Attachments: 1. Declarations of Interest Register J.

#### **PURPOSE**

1. To present the Declarations of Interest Register for the information of the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee.

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## LOWER WAITAKI SOUTH COASTAL CANTERBURY ZONE COMMITTEE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST REGISTER

MEMBER	DECLARATION
Emily Anderson -	
Community	
Suzanne Eddington –	
Waihao Runanga	
Cr Jakki Guilford – Waimate	Waimate District Councillor
District Council	
Sandra Hampstead-Tipene –	
Arowhenua Runanga	
Cr Jeremy Holding – Waitaki	Waitaki District Councillor
District Council	
Barney Hoskins -	
Community	
Daniel Isbister - Community	Farmer - McKirdy Ventures Ltd
	Shareholder – Fonterra
	Shareholder – Lower Waitaki Irrigation Company
	Councillor – Fish & Game Central South Island
	Councillor – NZ Fish and Game Council
	Steering Committee – North Otago Sustainable Land Management (NOSLaM)
Bruce Murphy (Deputy	Farmer
Chair) - Community	Director – Murphy Farms Ltd
	Trustee – Waimate Vet Trust
	Shareholder – Fonterra
	Shareholder Councillor – LIC
	Member – Otaio Water Users Group
	Director – Hunter Downs Irrigation
Brent Packman -	Jan 1
Community	
Jared Ross - Community	Farmer
	Director – Home Creek Holdings Ltd
	Director – Kurow Duntroon Irrigation Company
	Federated Farmers North Otago Dairy Chairman
	Central South Island Beef and Lamb Farmer Council
Cr Peter Scott –	Environment Canterbury Councillor
Environment Canterbury	Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora Water Zone Committee
Councillor	member (temporary)
	Farmer – Dirragh Farm Ltd
	Ballance Shareholder
	Ravensdown Shareholder Silver Fern Farms Shareholder
Kate White (Chair) -	
Community	Shareholder in the Kurow and Duntroon Irrigation Company Ltd (KDIC)
Kieran Whyte – Moeraki	Liu (NDIO)
Runanga	
rvuriariya	

#### 5.2 **CORRESPONDENCE REPORT**

**Author:** Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor Authoriser: Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor

WIC Stakeholder Letter - 8 May 2019 U Attachments: 1.

Network Waitaki - 17 May 2019 U Network Waitaki - 17 May 2019 U 2.

3.

#### **PURPOSE**

For the correspondence to be presented for the information of the Zone Committee.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the correspondence be accepted.

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#### Waitaki Irrigators Collective Ltd

PO Box 159, Oamaru 9444 info@waitakiirrigators.co.nz Ph: 03 434 6721 www.waitakiirrigators.co.nz

Attention: Dave Moore - Facilitator

Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee

Email: <u>Dave.moore@ecan.govt.nz</u>

8th May 2019

Dear Dave

#### Re: Water Stewardship and the Waitaki River

Since 2010, the irrigators of the Waitaki River and its surrounding catchments have been applying an innovative approach to the management of water related issues. The primary vehicle utilised has been the initiation and on-going operation of the Waitaki Irrigators Collective (WIC), ably led by its Director of Strategy and Policy Elizabeth Soal. Elizabeth has of course gone on to bigger things at Irrigation NZ, which is exciting and gratifying for both her and WIC, as we know that she will continue to have the interests of those of us in the Waitaki at heart as she represents the industry nationally.

One of the initiatives of WIC while Elizabeth was still on board, was the idea of a water stewardship programme that would be an auditable means of demonstrating that water was used in a socially equitable, environmentally sustainable and economically beneficial way. We visited many of you in 2018 to gauge your interest in such an approach and we were gratified to receive positive feedback. Since then the idea has progressed, which brings me to the point if this letter, which is to introduce Waitaki Water, the group that has been formed to further the aims of the original concepts of good water stewardship.

We now have an operative Waitaki Water Oversight Group, made up of representatives from the WIC command area, and an Administrator, Jen Fellowes. The group has developed Terms of Reference and have decided to focus on removing barriers and improving communications so that ideas can successfully move into active projects that when delivered can have a positive outcome of benefit to the community surrounding the Waitaki River and catchments.

#### What does this actually look like?

Waitaki Water invites an entity or individual who has an idea that they believe will have a common, positive outcome to approach them with a project outline. Waitaki Water will then utilise its knowledge of all projects underway or planned in the area; its database of possible funding streams and contacts; and, its relationships with regional stakeholders to facilitate a successful project application phase. Once underway, Waitaki Water will support and prompt the successful grantee to ensure that milestone boxes are ticked, and administrative tasks are delivered appropriately. We believe that there are many good ideas out there but that there is currently no central, knowledgeable and connected group to assist from concept to delivery.

Ultimately, if we are successful, then we will contribute to the Kaitiaki of the Waitaki and its surrounding catchments.

We have prepared an application form explaining who we are and what our aims are, and it is available under the Waitaki Water tab on the WIC website <a href="https://www.waitakiirrigators.co.nz">www.waitakiirrigators.co.nz</a>



What would be useful for us is an indication from you that your organisation would support what we are trying to achieve with Waitaki Water. We would like to start building up the database of projects in the area, to renew relationships and contacts, and to particularly hear if there are projects that you think we could help to facilitate.

We do have an initial project in the pipeline that we are using to fine tune our approach and make sure we are offering value to the project initiators.

Jen Fellowes or I will follow up with you in the next few weeks to answer any questions and, hopefully, gain your endorsement.

Regards,

Robyn J Wells

Acting Director Strategy & Policy





17 May 2019

Ms Kay White Chair Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee c/o Dave Moore, Zone Facilitator, Environment Canterbury PO Box 550 Timaru 7940

Dear Ms White

## WITHDRAWAL OF NETWORK WAITAKI LIMITED'S APPLICATION TO THE PROVINCIAL GROWTH FUND

This letter is to provide an update on Network Waitaki Limited's (NWL) application to the Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) for "Investment in reliability of the Lower Waitaki electricity transmission network" dated 20 December 2018.

We greatly appreciate the support offered by the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee for our application to the PGF following our presentation to the Joint Zone Committees on 18 October 2018.

Unfortunately, we have been advised by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment that the proposed project does not meet the criteria of the PGF for funding and withdrawal of our Expression of Interest was recommended. We formally withdrew that application on 2 May 2019, following discussion with our Board and Trust.

We recognise that the investment in transmission capacity is critical to the ongoing growth and development of the region and it has the potential to impede local economic development if electricity supply becomes constrained. In particular, plans to improve efficiency of large scale irrigation schemes in the Waitaki Valley and to facilitate the decarbonisation of transport and industry through the use of electricity.

NWL is continuing to work with Transpower, our neighbours Alpine Energy, and the Commerce Commission to find an equitable means of cost allocation for this investment and will continue to explore options to work with Government on funding this project through other means given the regional significance.

On behalf of Network Waitaki I would like to thank the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee for the support offered including the time and attention your team gave to my predecessor, Graham Clark, the Chairman of NWL Board of Directors and the Chair of Waitaki Power Trust on this matter. The discussions and your expression of support to find a solution are very much appreciated.

Please feel free to contact me should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Douch Chief Executive

Network Waitaki Limited 10 Chelmer Street PO Box 147, Oamaru 9444 Telephone 03 433 0065 Facsimile 03 434 8845 service@networkwaitaki.co.nz www.networkwaitaki.co.nz 2



1 May 2019

Chris Eccleston
Zone Committee Manager
Environment Canterbury
75 Church Street
Waimate 7910

Dear Chris

#### Annual Report Presentations - Lower Waitaki and OTOP Zone Committees

On behalf of the Environment Services and Finance Committee, I wanted to thank you for the Zone Committee presentations yesterday.

It is always helpful for our district's key groups and stakeholders to be able to address Council as a whole, and be able to freely discuss issues, opportunities, and ask questions.

We commend the work that is carried out by the Zone Committees in our district, and watch their progress with interest.

Please pass on our thanks to Dave Moore and Lower Waitaki Zone Committee Chair Kate White for their time.

Yours faithfully

Sharyn Cain

Chair

PO Box 122, Waimate | Telephone (03) 689 0000 | Email mayor@waimatedc.govt.nz

#### 5.3 FACILITATORS UPDATE

Author: Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor Authoriser: Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor

Attachments: 1. CWMS Annual Reports 2018 U

HUI/MEETING: Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee		
AGENDA ITEM NO: 5.3	KAUPAPA/SUBJECT:	
	Facilitator's update	
KAITUHI/AUTHOR:	WĀ/MEETING DATE: 17 July 2019	
Dave Moore, Zone Facilitator		

#### **PURPOSE**

1. To update the Committee on actions from the previous meeting, relevant information and upcoming engagement opportunities.

#### **UPDATE**

#### **Treaty of Waitangi Workshop**

2. A two-day Treaty of Waitangi workshop for Zone Committee members and staff was held on 10 June. The Lower Waitaki Zone Committee had an excellent turn out with Jakki Guilford, Kieran Whyte, Suzanne Eddington, Barney Hoskins and Bruce Murphy attending.

#### **Improving Farming Practices on Hillslope Landscapes Project**

3. In April, the Committee received a presentation on the "Improving Farming Practices on Hillslope Landscapes Project". The project scope is being refined and preparation made for the funding application. It is expected the project lead will give an update to the Zone Committee in August or September.

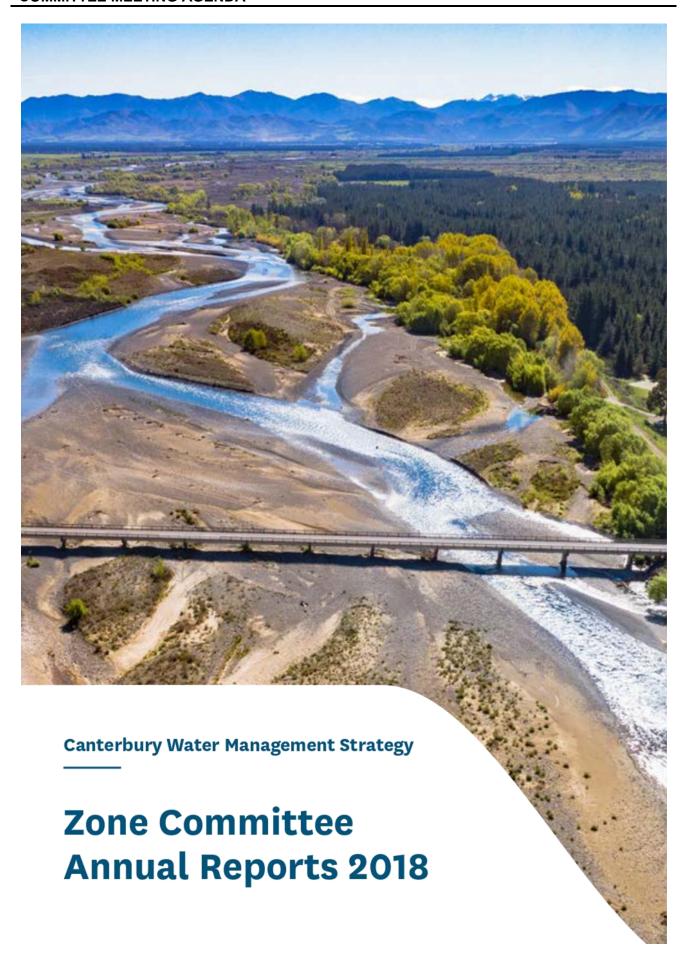
#### **Zone Committee Annual Reports**

4. For your information, attached to this Agenda is a copy of the 2018 Annual Reports for all CWMS Zone Committees.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Zone Committee receive the update.

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#### CWMS Regional Water Zone Committee

## **2018 Annual Report**

#### Comments from chair, Hugh Logan



The Canterbury Water Management
Regional Committee Regional is charged
with integrating region-wide initiatives that
collectively make up the CWMS. Most people
in Canterbury recognize that how well the
region manages water will dictate the future
health and well-being of our community
environmentally, socially, and economically.
This report details the activities of the
Committee in 2018. The CWMS has now
been in place for nine years. Much has been
achieved, yet more needs to be done. The

key focus in the year has been developing targets for intervening years in addition to those already in the strategy. This work will be completed in 2019. Measuring progress against targets, and how work programmes to deliver against those targets are the most important instrumental part of the Committee's work. The committee's views, arrived at collectively, is a powerful voice in affirming direction and responding to new information that is so important to a living strategy like the CWMS.

#### **Key achievements 2018**

Zone Committee Chair

- Last year the Mayoral Forum asked the Regional Water Committee
  to develop interim targets for 2025 and 2030. The CWMS currently
  sets targets for 2010, 2015, 2020 and 2040. The major focus for
  the committee in 2018 has been leading a process to develop these
  interim goals.
- The WaterShed event brought together 100 people from across the region involved in the implementation of the CWMS.
- Accelerating progress on the recreation and amenity targets and improving the effectiveness of fish screens has also been a priority for the committee in 2018.

#### **CWMS Fit for Future Project**

In 2017 the Regional Committee reported to the Canterbury Mayoral Forum on the progress to meet the CWMS targets.

The Forum subsequently asked the Regional Committee to lead a process to develop interim targets for 2025 and 2030. This piece of work was later called the "CWMS Fit for the Future" project.

This project has been a large part of the Regional Committee's 2018 work programme. The project is not yet complete but good progress has been made with the help and input of many individuals and stakeholders.

The committee is due to provide their final advice to the Mayoral Forum in May 2019.

#### **Watershed Event**

In April the WaterShed event brought more than 100 people together who have been leading the implementation of the CWMS from across the region.

Participants acknowledged the difficulty of meeting many of the targets as many are extremely challenging and difficult to measure. As our knowledge increases there becomes a greater appreciation that it will take time and significant effort to reverse the impact of decades of urban and rural development.

Despite these challenges, and a collective desire to make faster progress, participants supported the general direction set out in the CWMS and left with a renewed commitment to turning the vision of the CWMS into local action on the ground.

#### **CWMS - Vision for fresh water**

The Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) puts finding solutions for freshwater management in the hands of the community, with support from councils, Ngai Tahu, and others. The strategy sets out freshwater goals and targets to deliver the community's vision for freshwater.

"To gain the greatest cultural, economic, environmental, recreational and social benefits from our water resources within a sustainable framework both now and for future generations."

The Regional Committee has been working to accelerate progress on some of the target areas by working to provide further advice on;

- Recreation and amenity target
- Ecosystem health and biodiversity
- CWMS Targets
- Monitoring and reporting
- Integration and efficiency of irrigation infrastructure



#### **CWMS Target: recreation & amenity**

It is difficult to measure whether there has been a 'positive trend in the availability and quality of recreational opportunities in each zone" given the diversity of options available and the numerous ways people chose to enjoy our rivers and lakes.

Around the region new recreational opportunities are being improved or developed by councils (Hurunui Waiau committee has been working on a 'splash project' that includes improving water quality and flow in the Hurunui River at Balmoral, and Selwyn Waihora committee have a "swimmable Selwyn" project underway) but more needs to be done to understand the region's recreational resources. The committee has set up a working group to achieve this.

A report was commissioned from Lincoln University that provides a theoretical basis for the identification of individual and clusters of opportunities. Further work will be undertaken in 2019 to map existing recreational and amenity locations which should make it easier to understand and measure progress.

#### **CWMS Target - Ecosystem health and biodiversity**

Under the Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity target there is a group of sub-targets that seek to improve native species populations and habitats.

As part of this, a Working Group has begun looking at the effectiveness of fish screens. It found that while almost 1000 water take consents required fish screens, there has been limited research done into the effectiveness of various fish screen designs.

This work has prompted Environment Canterbury to include fish screens as a priority for compliance checks in 2018/19.

The Working Group has also been facilitating discussions with NIWA, Irrigation NZ, Department of Conservation and other regional councils on further actions to improve the effectiveness of fish screens around New Zealand.

#### Monitoring and Reporting - Water Meters and Farm Environment Plan Audits

One of the functions of the Regional Committee is to monitor the progress of the CWMS. It does this by leading the development of a targets report every two years. The committee also receives regular reports on specific work undertaken to deliver the CWMS. Two programmes reported to the committee this year focused on water meters and the data they generate and Farm Environment Plan Audits.

#### Water Meters and Water Take Data

Regulations now require water meters on water takes of 5 l/s and greater. In the case of Canterbury this means more than 6,000 takes require water meters; 5,000 are telemetered and provide real time data and data from 1,000 are uploaded annually. Work has focused on ensuring water meters are installed and the data provided is accurate. There is now no tolerance for missing meters and meters must be verified every five years.

#### Farm Environment Plans Audits

Farm environment plans (FEPs) and independent audits are now part of Canterbury farming life. FEPs and audits are a means to an end not an end in themselves. They are a tool to manage environmental risks and improve an individual farm's environmental performance. Audits are done by independent certified auditors who provide assurance that a farmer is operating at Good Management Practice level or above. Last season 1200 audits were undertaken. Auditors are seeing a growing awareness of potential risks and investments are being made to improve practices and systems.

#### Future challenges and opportunities

The Fit for the Future project is providing a much clearer focus of what needs to be achieved by 2025 and 2030 if we are going to achieve the 2040 targets. The 2025 targets are only six years away and will need to be achieved within existing plan and consent frameworks. This will require a real shift in budget and resources from planning to doing and will only be achieved if everyone jumps into the whaka and begins to paddle.

The Fit for Future project has also highlighted several strategic issues including:

- · Growing the collective commitment to deliver the CWMS
- Balancing monitoring, compliance and reporting demands with the need to for action
- Generating real change in a world of complexity
- · Lag times and climate change
- · Providing for cultural values.

Other challenges include providing clean and safe drinking water, improving the state of urban streams by improving stormwater and waste water standards, restoring mahinga kai values and sites and improving ecosystem health.

#### **Regional Committee Focus for 2019**

- · Deliver advice to the Mayoral Forum on CWMS Fit for Future
- Review the Regional Committee work programme in the light of the Fit for Future project to ensure its focus is on the areas it can make the
  greatest positive change
- · Continue its work to develop advice on;
  - Recreation and Amenity Target
  - Improving the effectiveness of fish screens
- · Monitor and Report on progress to achieve the CWMS Targets by providing advice on the biannual CWMS Targets progress report

## **Reflections from Dr Andy Pearce**

In June 2018 independent chair Dr Andy Pearce stood down from the Regional Committee. Andy has been involved in the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) since 2006 when he designed and trialled a community-led decision-making process as part of the Canterbury Strategic Water Study, the precursor to the CWMS. Read his reflections below.

Initially the CWMS was about water storage, having enough water during the summer period to maintain river flows, supply irrigation schemes and further irrigation development.

Twenty-two years on and the CWMS is so much more. It is about making progress on all ten targets not just irrigation development. Some of the biggest changes I've seen have been the increasing concern about water quality and a growing appreciation of cultural values and the importance of makinga kai. Another change has been a shift away from the need for more water to making the best use of what we have. Over the next few years we are likely to see farmers adapting to less water as minimum flows are progressively increased. We are also likely to see attention turn to urban environments and how drinking water, wastewater and stormwater are all managed.

It is not easy chairing a committee that is deliberately made up of different views and perspectives with the idea that they must come to a consensus when there is no right answer. The only thing we could initially agree on was that the Resource Management Act was not working, and we needed to try something different.

It is true that the CWMS is not perfect either and some may feel that it has failed because they haven't got what they wanted but neither has anyone else. Members need to listen to one another and work creatively on solutions. I firmly believe that to improve water management in Canterbury there needs to be a safe place where we can talk constructively about solutions. I think the Regional Committee goes some way to doing this.

### Zone committee membership

#### NGAI TAHU REPRESENTATIVES

Rebecca Clements, Te Rūnanga o Ngai Tahu

Vacant,

Rūnanga - North Canterbury

Riki Lewis,

Rūnanga - Mid Canterbury

David Higgins,

Rūnanga - South Canterbury

#### COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Mayor Winton Dalley, North Canterbury District Councils

Cr Nicole Reid, Mid Canterbury District Councils

Peter McIlraith.

South Canterbury District Councils

Cr Sara Templeton, Christchurch City Council

## ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY REPRESENTATIVES

Cr Peter Scott, Environment Canterbury

Cr Claire McKay, Environment Canterbury

#### COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Hugh Canard
Jane Demeter
Cole Groves
Nicky Hyslop
Ross Millichamp
Vicky Southworth

#### ZONE REPRESENTATIVES

Ben Curry,

Zone representative Ashburton

Figna Nicol

Zone representative Banks Peninsula

Les Wanhalla

Zone representative Christchurch-

West Melton

Michele Hawke,

Zone representative Hurunui-Waiau

Ted Howard,

Zone representative Kaikõura

Hamish McFarlane,

Zone representative Orari-Temuka-

Opihi-Pareora

Sandra Hampstead-Tipene, Zone representative Upper Waitaki

Carolyne Latham,

Zone representative Waimakariri

Karaitiana Taiuru,

Zone representative Selwyn-Waihora

Sandra Hampstead-Tipene,

Zone representative Lower Waitaki-South Coastal Canterbury

#### GOVERNMENT OBSERVERS

Murray Doak and Jo Buckner, Ministry of Primary Industries

Dr Alistair Humphrey,

Canterbury District Health Board

Nick Vincent,

Ministry for the Environment

John Benn,

Department of Conservation

#### The Regional Committee

The purpose of the Regional committee is to;

- Monitor the progress of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy across the region; and
- 2. Provide advice to Environment Canterbury on regional issues.

The membership reflects these functions and includes community, rūnanga, Te Rūnanga o Ngãi Tahu and council representatives. Each of the ten zone committees are also represented. The Canterbury District Health Board, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries and the Department of Conservation have observer status.



CWMS Regional Water Zone Committee is a community led committee supported by councils.

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R18/32

Upper Waitaki Water Zone Committee

## 2018 Annual Report



## Working with key agencies to improve our environment



Simon Cameron, Upper Waitaki Water Zone Committee Chair

The complexities of consenting requirements, land use and nutrient regulations for farming in the Mackenzie and Upper Waitaki areas were in the national spotlight this year. As a committee, we were pleased to welcome the establishment of the Mackenzie Basin Agency Alignment, to improve how five agencies - Environment Canterbury, the Department of Conservation, Land Information New Zealand and the Mackenzie and Waitaki District Councils - work together on these issues for the benefit of our unique environment and everyone that lives here. We look forward to being in dialogue with this group again in 2019.

Mid-year, we expressed our concern about the lack of appropriate toilet facilities at the Ahuriri Bridge camping site, very close to the river. The Department of Conservation presented to our

committee on its plans for improving the site - including a new toilet block.

Our Love Your Lakes campaign, which kicked off at Labour Weekend (the traditional beginning of the season), also has a focus on reducing waste and encouraging responsible tourism around our waterways. This year, we highlighted wastefree options for picnics by the lake, like packing reusable containers and drink bottles.

Please remember that everyone is welcome to attend our meetings and view agendas. These are available on the Upper Waitaki Water Zone Committee website. We have also been distributing posters around local towns highlighting key issues and news affecting waterways and biodiversity. We hope you have seen some of these about in your community.

## **Key achievements 2018**

- Allocated \$100,000 of Immediate Steps Biodiversity Funding to five projects. This year, committee members enjoyed checking in with landowners who had previously received IMS funding to see how their biodiversity projects were progressing.
- Recommended that agencies take action to manage the
  environmental impacts of tourism. The committee recommended
  that more toilet facilities be provided in popular tourist/
  freedom camping locations. Several public meetings were
  held to discuss the issue with community members and
  new toilet facilities are now in place at Ahuriri Bridge.
- The 2018 'Love your Lakes' campaign included a competition to encourage visitors to pack a low-waste picnic and be environmentally responsible when holidaying around waterways.
   The committee also supported the display of educational posters in

- popular tourist and town locations. The posters included information about land use, irrigation and the role of the zone committee.
- Committee members provided community connections and advice on the BRIDGE Project. This project aims to better define the bed of braided rivers and the activities which can occur within it. The Ahuriri River was one of four Canterbury rivers that was included in the Project.
- A report was released which identified numerous opportunities for the Department of Conservation, Land Information New Zealand, Environment Canterbury and the Mackenzie and Waitaki District Councils to work together to deliver improved environmental outcomes for Mackenzie Basin. The zone committee will have a key role in supporting recommendations to become reality.

Lake Ruataniwha, a hydro storage lake formed between 1977 and 1981 in the Ōhau River gorge.



#### **Upper Waitaki Water Zone Committee**

## Delivering the community's vision for freshwater

The Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) puts finding solutions for freshwater management in the hands of the community, with support from councils, Ngãi Tahu, and others. The strategy sets out freshwater goals and targets to deliver the community's vision for freshwater.

"To gain the greatest cultural, economic, environmental, recreational and social benefits from our water resources within a sustainable framework both now and for future generations."

Each of the ten community-led water zone committees work collaboratively to develop freshwater recommendations to ensure council plans give effect to these goals and targets.

Within each target area there are several specific time-bound targets to be achieved and these are monitored and reported on to ensure progress is being made.

The target areas are shown below - read some of the stories about what is being done in the zone to achieve delivery on these on the next page.

## **CWMS Targets**



Ecosystem health and biodiversity



Kaitiakitanga



Recreational and amenity opportunities



Irrigated land area



Regional and national economies



Natural character of braided rivers



**Drinking water** 



Water use efficiency



Energy security and efficiency



Environmental limits



## Special kete created to share Love Your Lakes message

Two unique flax kete, filled with re-usable picnic gear, were woven to help spread the message to 'Love Your Lakes' and reduce rubbish in or near waterways last summer.

The two kete were created by weaver Sally Reihana (Kati Huirapa) from Te Runanga o Arowhenua as a competition prize to raise awareness of the zone committee's summer-time 'Love Your Lakes' campaign.

The competition, which ran on the Canterbury Water Facebook page, had more than 200 entries where people shared a tip for packing a lowwaste picnic.

Zone Committee member, Sandra Hampstead-Tipene, says offering the kete as a prize embodies the philosophy 'Ki uta ki tai' (from the mountains to the sea); "The kete are part of us, our whanau, who we represent and show what we're looking after."



Upper Waitaki Zone Committee member Sandra Hampstead-Tipene (left) and weaver Sally Reihana with the two kete created to encourage people to 'Love Your Lakes'.



## ▲ Invasive alders get the chop at Lake Poaka

A popular little lake in the Mackenzie Basin, Lake Poaka, is getting some help to improve its shoreline and surrounding wetlands.

A joint project to reduce alder trees around the lake is underway by the Department of Conservation, Central South Island Fish & Game and Environment Canterbury.

Introduced alder trees, which spread rapidly, have been clogging up the shoreline and wetlands, reducing the amenity of the lake and degrading the habitat of many wetland species. Opening up the wetlands will make it a more attractive habitat for native bird species, including the kakī.

Zone Committee member, Mat Bayliss, said: "This is going to be a great improvement for Lake Poaka over time and fits in well with the committee's vision to protect and enhance biodiversity in the area."



Work has begun to remove invasive alder trees at Lake Poaka

#### 2018 Annual Report

## Planting boosts habitat at Twaddle's Swamp

A natural spring-fed stream system running through a farm near Omarama has received some extra help to improve water quality.

'Twaddle's Swamp', on land owned by Wendy and Richard Parsons, received Immediate Steps funding for stream enhancement and the planting of 500 new native plants to help its VIP residents - the threatened native fish bignose galaxias.

Previous stream enhancement work and fencing had already been carried out on the property but the Parsons noticed that the streams were still not draining well and clogging with weeds and plants.

After the landowner raised the problem with the Upper Waitaki Water Zone Committee, a field trip was organised to understand the issues and a plan agreed to help the stream flow better.

Now, with the stream cleared and natives planted to provide shade and reduce weeds, it's hoped the stream will continue to improve in water quality, without the help of human - and digger - intervention.



New native planting aims to enhance Twaddle's Swamp.

## **A** Lake Alexandrina fencing project begins

An extensive fencing project, funded by the zone committee in conjunction with the landowner, will block stock access to two lakes and three tarns in Upper Waitaki.

Both Lake Alexandrina and Lake Murray are now on the way to being fully protected from stock impact, which will protect water quality, improve the habitat and also reduce impact on native bird species such

Fencing will also be put into place around Tui, Stony and Grebe Tarns (small mountain lakes formed by glaciers).

The fencing project, which is expected to take about two years, will contribute to protecting one of the best areas of tarns and kettle holes in the South Island and is funded by the Immediate Steps programme.



A significant fencing project is underway at Lake Alexandrina

## Future challenges and opportunities

#### Manging the impacts of tourism

The number of tourists visiting the Upper Waitaki zone is increasing. Freedom campers are an ongoing challenge and there is a lack of toilet facilities in some locations. In 2019, the committee will continue to work with the District Councils to provide advice and recommendations about how to better manage these impacts.

#### Agencies aligning in the Mackenzie Basin

In response to a report released in 2018, the key agencies operating in the Mackenzie Basin are working together to develop an aligned work programme to deliver better outcomes for the environment and the Basin's communities. The committee look forward to seeing this implemented.

#### Sharing water quality information with the community

Understanding the health of the zone water resources is critical for informing future water management decisions. In 2019, the Committee will develop a plan to outline how they would like water quality and water use information to be shared with locals and visitors. This includes the

development of an integrated monitoring framework, including monitoring data collected by Environment Canterbury, consent holders, other agencies and community groups. To start this, work is already underway to coordinate environmental monitoring in the Omarama Catchment.

#### Supporting landowners to implement Good Management Practices (GMP)

Ongoing work is required to support landowners to meet the requirements of Plan Change 5 and industry agreed GMP. The committee will continue to work with Environment Canterbury and industry to motivate and support farmers to implement GMP.

#### Waitaki Flow and Allocation Plan

The Waitaki Flow and Allocation Plan is scheduled to be reviewed in 2022. The Plan includes policies and rules which manage water quantity in the Waitaki District. Some preliminary technical work is already underway and the Zone Committee, along with key stakeholders and the Waitaki community, will play a critical role in the review.



Each of the region's 10 Zone Committees includes four to seven community members and this membership is regularly refreshed to ensure a wide range of perspectives are reflected.

### **Key Zone contacts**

Chris Eccleston Upper Waitaki Water Zone Committee Manager Chris.Eccleston@ecan.govt.nz | 027 562 2492

Ian Whitehouse Upper Waitaki Water Zone Committee Facilitator Ian.Whitehouse@ecan.govt.nz | 027 500 1833

## Zone committee membership 2018

Barry Shepherd finished at the end of the year with Joy Paterson joining the committee in 2019 as a community member.

Simon Cameron - Chair (Community member)

Mat Bayliss - Deputy Chair (Community member)

Lisa Anderson (Community member)

Barry Shepherd (Community member)

Richard Subtil (Community member)

John Wilkie (Rūnanga representative – Waihao) Sandra Hampstead-Tipene (Rūnanga representative – Arowhenua)

Craig Dawson (Waitaki District Council)

Stuart Barwood (Mackenzie District Council)

John Sunckell (Environment Canterbury)

## **Upper Waitaki Zone**

The Upper Waitaki Zone covers the catchments upstream of the Waitaki Dam, from the Lindis Pass to Burkes Pass, including the Mackenzie Basin, and straddles parts of the Waitaki, Waimate and Mackenzie Districts. The committee is a joint committee of the Mackenzie and Waitaki District Councils, and Environment Canterbury. The zone is in the rohe of Arowhenua Rūnanga, Moeraki Rūnanga and Waihao Rūnanga.



The Upper Waitaki Water Zone Committee is a community led committee supported by councils.

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Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Water Zone Committee

## 2018 Annual Report



## Future plans for Wainono Lagoon a key focus for committee



Kate White, Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Water Zone Committee Chair

Finding a solution to achieving augmentation of Wainono Lagoon with clean water is a high priority for the community. Without augmentation, a plan change outlining a much stricter regime may be necessary to achieve water quality outcomes.

We will continue to work with key stakeholders over the next year towards a more certain outcome for the lagoon – we recognise how significant it is for South Canterbury people and native wildlife.

Meanwhile, we've been supporting on-theground action in the Waihao catchment to make a difference, including riparian planting, farmer engagement and willow removal to the river, to stop the waterway clogging.

I'd like to thank all my fellow committee

members for their time and input over the past year, especially our two 'new' members Barney Hoskins and Daniel Isbister for putting themselves forward to work with us on improving water quality in the zone. I also wish to acknowledge Andrew Hayes and Mark Kingsbury who finished their terms with the Committee at the end of 2018. The experience and hard mahi they brought to the committee is greatly appreciated.

Please remember that everyone is welcome to attend our meetings and view agendas. These are available on the Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Water Zone Committee website. We often meet in Waimate but also visit other communities throughout the year, including those over the 'other side' of the Waitaki and in Hakataramea.

## **Key achievements 2018**

- Allocated \$100,000 to community-driven projects that aim to protect and enhance the natural environment, including protection of indigenous grey scrub and wetlands.
- Supported improvement of water quality in the Waihao River, including the Black Hole. Improvements were made by landowners, the Waihao Wainono Catchment Community Group and the community, including removal of willows, reducing runoff and planting river banks which will bring biodiversity and water quality benefits to the catchment in the long term.
- Supported science work for flow regimes in the Hakataramea river and Southern tributaries of the Waitaki River (Awakino, Kurow, Otaike and Otekaieke) in preparation for the review of the Waitaki Catchment Water Allocation Regional Plan, scheduled for notification in 2022.
- Continued focus on improving the water quality and habitat of the regionally significant Wainono Lagoon, through the Te Mana o Te Wai project funded by the Ministry for the Environment.
- Supported the work of the Hakataramea Sustainability Collective including a field day on biosecurity. Willow control on the Hakataramea River has improved habitat for river birds and Black Fronted Terns and Black Billed Gulls have been sighted in this area.
- Supported Environment Canterbury's Braided River (BRIDGE)
   Project to develop a better approach to identifying the extent of the "river bed" on a braided river, the values associated with the river bed and how to manage for these.
- Continued to support the Department of Conservation's project to create and control weeds at nesting islands for braided river birds along the Waitaki River.

Volunteers enjoy a sausage sizzle lunch after helping with native planting near the Waihao River in October.



#### Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Water Zone Committee

## Delivering the community's vision for freshwater

The Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) puts finding solutions for freshwater management in the hands of the community, with support from councils, Ngãi Tahu, and others. The strategy sets out freshwater goals and targets to deliver the community's vision for freshwater.

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Each of the ten community-led water zone committees work collaboratively to develop freshwater recommendations to ensure council plans give effect to these goals and targets.

Within each target area there are several specific time-bound targets to be achieved and these are monitored and reported on to ensure progress is being made.

The target areas are shown below - read some of the stories about what is being done in the zone to achieve deliver on these on the next page.

## **CWMS Targets**



Ecosystem health and biodiversity



Kaitiakitanga



Recreational and amenity opportunities



land area



Regional and national



Natural character of braided rivers



Drinking water



Water use efficiency



Energy security and efficiency



Environmental



## **♦** Sessions help farmers through consenting process

South Coastal Canterbury farmers took up the offer of one-on-one support to help understand rules on land use consent to farm at special drop-in sessions during October and November.

Environment Canterbury held three sessions in Waimate and Makikihi to help landowners work through the steps they need to take to comply with the South Coastal Canterbury section of the Canterbury Land & Water Regional Plan, which became operative in September 2017.

The new regulations place responsibilities on farmers to operate within water quality limits and implement good management practices. Landowners need to apply for a land use consent to farm if their property is over 5 hectares in size and their nitrogen losses exceed certain limits, which recognise differences between soil types.

The changes are part of a region-wide approach to improve water outcomes in Canterbury.

The South Coastal Canterbury area spans from the Otaio catchment in the north, to the Morven catchment in the south and to the Hunters Hills in the west. The area includes hill-fed intermittent flowing rivers and lowland springs. The major feature of the area is the extensive wetlands at Wainono Lagoon.

## A Protecting native scrub at Limestone Hills

Precious native forest and grey scrub will have the chance to be protected and regenerate, thanks to a joint biodiversity project at Limestone Hills, near Waimate.

More than 11 hectares of land with high biodiversity value is to be surveyed, fenced from stock and a QE2 National Trust covenant applied for future protection. This has been made possible thanks to \$15,000 of biodiversity funding allocated by the zone committee, along with contributions from the landowner.

The remnants of native forest to be protected include mixed broadleaf varieties and podocarp species, such as matai, kahikatea, and tōtara. Grey scrub is an ancient native plant community that consisted of a variety of small-leaved, highly branched shrubs such as matagouri, mingimingi and olearias. All of these species provide habitat for a wide range of native birds and wildlife, as well as other native plants.

Grey scrub also helps prevent erosion, maintain catchment water yields and can provide valuable shelter for stock. These plant communities are increasingly under threat because of intensification of land use.



Environment Canterbury staff answer questions from landowners at a drop-in session in Makikihi.



A mix of podocarp forest and native grey scrub will be protected at Limestone Hills, near Waimate.

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#### 2018 Annual Report



## Community pitches in at wetlands planting

More than 800 locally-sourced native seedlings were planted by volunteers at a community day at Te Punatarakao wetland.

The event, organised by Te Rūnanga o Waihao, attracted 80 volunteers of all ages, who enjoyed the chance to learn more about the local natural environment - with a barbecue lunch afterwards.

The planting was part of Te Mana o Te Wai Wainono Lagoon restoration project to protect mahinga kai (traditional food and resource gathering) and contribute towards improving water quality in Wainono Lagoon.

Te Punatarakao wetland is important as a mahinga kai site with habitat for tuna (eels) and inanga (whitebait). The planting will help protect the site from run off and weed invasion and will improve habitat through



Volunteers help with native planting at Te Punatarakao wetland.

## **♦ Electric dinghy goes live** at Wainono

Water monitoring at Wainono Lagoon was made quicker to undertake and safer for staff thanks to Environment Canterbury's new electricpowered boat, launched in 2018.

Up until 2018, an inflatable rowboat was used to get out to the existing monitoring site in the lagoon - which was a good exercise for the skipper but slow and challenging to work from.

When a new continuous water quality monitoring site was recently added 850 metres from shore, the team needed a vessel with a mode of propulsion and a stable base to carry out monthly sampling, calibration, and instrument readings.

Outside of these visits, the new water monitor continues to gather and report data and helps give a better understanding of water quality changes in the lagoon over short-time periods.

Water monitoring at Wainono Lagoon is part of a network of hundreds of regularly monitored sites across Canterbury. Water quality results are uploaded to the LAWA website annually and are used by Environment Canterbury to determine the state and trend of water quality in the lagoon. Improving the health of the lagoon is a key priority for the zone committee.



The new electric dinghy is launched at Wainono Lagoon - making it easier for Environment Canterbury water quality monitoring

## Future challenges and opportunities

#### Wainono Lagoon

A key priority for the Zone Committee is improving the water quality of Wainono Lagoon. The Te Mana o Te Wai project funding will finish at the end of June 2019 but ongoing work will still be required. Finding a solution to achieving augmentation of the lagoon with clean water is a high priority. Without augmentation, a plan change outlining a much stricter regime will be necessary to achieve water quality outcomes.

#### Waihao River water quality

Focusing on improving water quality in the catchments that are the source of water for the lagoon is important ongoing work to ensure the Waihao-Wainono Catchment meets its water quality outcomes. The Black Hole enhancement project will continue, working closely with the Waihao Wainono Community Catchment Group and landowners to improve the flow of the waterway, as well as encourage voluntary mitigations to reduce run-off.

#### Supporting landowners to implement Good Management Practices (GMP)

Ongoing work is required to support landowners to meet the requirements of Plan Change 5 and industry agreed GMP. The committee will continue to work with Environment Canterbury and industry to motivate and support farmers to implement GMP.

#### Waitaki Flow and Allocation Plan

The Waitaki Flow and Allocation Plan is scheduled to be reviewed in 2022. The Plan includes policies and rules which manage water quantity in the Waitaki District. Some preliminary technical work is already underway and the Zone Committee, along with key stakeholders and the Waitaki community, will play a critical role the review.



Left to right: Sandra Hampstead-Tipene (Te Rünanga o Arowhenua Representative), Brent Packman, Cr Jakki Guilford (Waimate District Council), Andrew Hayes, Mark Kingsbury (Deputy Chair), Kate White (Chair), Bruce Murphy, Jared Ross (incoming Community Representative), Cr Peter Scott (Environment Canterbury), Dave Moore (Pacilitator), Daniel Isbister, Anna Morrow (Environment Canterbury Land Management Advisor), Karalyn Reid (Committee Secretary), Suzanne Eddington (Te Rünanga o Waihao Representative) Missing: Ranui Ryan (Te Rūnanga o Moeraki Representative), Cllr Jeremy Holding (Waitaki District Council), Barney Hoskins.

## **Zone description**

The Lower Waitaki-South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee covers the Waimate District and part of the Waitaki District, including the Waitaki River and its tributaries below the Waitaki Dam, Wainono Lagoon and its tributaries including the Waihao and Hook rivers and the Makikihi and Otaio rivers.

It is a joint committee of the Waimate and Waitaki district councils, and Environment Canterbury. The zone is in the rohe of Kāti Huirapa.

The zone boasts significant recreational, cultural and natural values. It has a network of spring-fed streams, coastal lagoons and complex groundwater flows, and includes part of the large alpine Waitaki River, home to the largest hydro-electricity generation scheme in New Zealand.

## Zone committee membership 2018

Kate White, Chairperson and Community Representative

Mark Kingsbury, Deputy Chairperson and Community Representative

Suzanne Eddington, Te Rūnanga o Waihao Representative

Jakki Guilford. Waimate District Council Representative

Sandra Hampstead-Tipene, Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua Representative and Regional Committee Representative

Andrew Hayes, Community Representative

Jeremy Holding, Waitaki District Council Representative

Barney Hoskins, Community Representative

Daniel Isbister, Community Representative

Bruce Murphy, Community Representative

Brent Packman, Community Representative

Te Rünanga o Moeraki Representative

Peter Scott.

Ranui Rvan.

**Environment Canterbury Councillor** 

## Key Zone contacts

Chris Eccleston - Southern Zone Manager Chris.Eccleston@ecan.govt.nz | 027 562 2492

Dave Moore - Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Facilitator Dave.Moore@ecan.govt.nz | 027 604 3908



The Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Water Zone Committee is a community led committee supported by councils.

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Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora Water Zone Committee

## **2018 Annual Report**



## Recommendations for future water management a major milestone



Hamish McFarlane Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora Water Zone Committee Chair

Finalising recommendations for local water management was the committee's major focus and achievement during 2018. I'd like to thank my fellow committee members for their dedication - and many hours of extra work - needed to complete our Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA).

The recommendations provide a pathway towards meeting the community's expectations for water for our whānau, businesses and the environment. As a committee, we know these recommendations may go too far for some and not far enough for others – it has been a balancing act and we have considered feedback across the spectrum.

The more than 100 recommendations focus on protecting and enhancing drinking water, mahinga kai and sites of cultural significance, native species, and maintaining a reliable source of water that contributes to the economy.

A huge thank you to the team who have allowed the zone committee to get to this point: the late Mandy Waaka-Home, former chairs John Talbot and Dermott O'Sullivan, past zone committee members Kylee Galbraith, Ad Sintinie and James Pearse, who kindly remained on the committee until the conclusion of the ZIPA. Plus, the many people who have supported Catchment Groups, working parties, public consultation meetings and kindly provided feedback on our drafts.

Our recommendations require buy-in from our landowners, our local councils and our communities - whether they be urban or rural. We hope you will join us as we take this important step towards healthier waterways for our future generations.

## **Key achievements 2018**

- Finalised the ZIP Addendum that includes more than 100 recommendations to improve water quality and quantity in the OTOP zone.
- Supported the launch of the Otipua-Saltwater Creek catchment group, which includes motivated community members who want to help improve water quality, flows and biodiversity in the catchment.
- Allocated \$100,000 of Immediate Steps biodiversity funding to projects in the zone with a focus on coastal environments.
- Provided ongoing support for the protection and enhancement of roosting habitat for the endangered long tail bats, near the Te Ngāwai River. A joint predator control project is also underway with the Department of Conservation and forestry company Port Blakely.
- Continued to support landowners to implement Good Management Practices (GMP) with a strong focus on working one-on-one with landowners farming within the community drinking water protection zones.

In early July, the zone committee celebrated the contribution of former chair, John Talbot, by having a working bee to provide new homes and better habitat for the endangered long-tailed bat. Committee members and their families spent a day installing bat roosting boxes on old-aged trees and planting native seedlings near Te Ngāwai River, where the rare bats are known to 'hang out'.



#### Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora Water Zone Committee

## Delivering the community's vision for freshwater

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### **CWMS Targets**



Ecosystem health and biodiversity



Kaitiakitanga



Recreational and amenity opportunities



Irrigated land area



Regional and national economies

Natural character of braided rivers



Drinking water



Water use efficiency



Energy security and efficiency



Environmental



## The not so secret lagoon success

You may not have heard of the secretive bittern before – it tends to fly under the radar and hang out in hard to get to places.

The good news is that a local project at Milford Lagoon is now under way to provide a better habitat for these rare birds, as well as other native species including inanga (whitebait).

A total of \$44,000 has been allocated from the zone committee's Immediate Steps fund to three separate projects at Milford and Orari lagoons and the coastal wetland at Ellis Road.

All three sites are important to the local rūnanga as mahinga kai gathering sites, as well as places of cultural significance.

Milford Lagoon, which received \$22,000 of biodiversity funding, is a large coastal lagoon that is a nationally important breeding area and nursery for fish, a whitebait spawning area and habitat for native bird species. The threats to the lagoon include the steady encroachment of crack willow and yellow flag iris, as well as the impact of pest animals.

The project involves working with the landowner on predator control, willow control and native planting over the next few years.

Other coastal lagoons within the zone, including Timaru's Waitarakao Washdyke Lagoon, will continue to be a key focus for the committee in 2019.

Milford Lagoon received Immediate Steps biodiversity funding of \$22,000 to improve habitat for native species.



#### 2018 Annual Report



## **▲** New catchment group for **Otipua-Saltwater Creek**

A new river catchment group was launched in October to improve water quality and flow issues at Otipua-Saltwater Creek, one of Timaru's main urban/rural waterways.

More than 50 local people attended the first meeting, which featured a presentation on key issues facing the waterway, and a core group have continued to attend follow up events.

Rhys Taylor, who is facilitating the group on behalf of the zone committee, says the catchment group will provide an opportunity for local people to connect and contribute to a key waterway in their area.

"Whether you're a cyclist, dog-walker, property owner or an interested community member - you're welcome to come along to the new catchment group. You don't need to have a scientific or environmental background - just an interest in Otipua-Saltwater Creek's future."

Upcoming activities include sharing information for all landowners on good management practices that protect water quality, volunteering to help plant and manage water-side (riparian) planting and arranging community events and field visits and encouraging industry and households to improve urban stormwater.

More information is available at www.ecan.govt.nz/saltwatercreek.

## **▲** Community feedback kicks off with touring roadshow

A family friendly community roadshow around five South Canterbury towns was one of the ways the committee gained feedback on its draft recommendations for managing water resources during 2018.

During January and February, the roadshow toured five locations -Fairlie, Pleasant Point, Pareora, Geraldine and Timaru - to answer questions and provide a chance for feedback on the draft Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA).

These sessions included informal Q&A sessions with the committee members and scientific and technical staff from Environment Canterbury – as well as some fun activities for children including looking at what lives in the local rivers. Feedback on the proposed recommendations was collected from attendees via a simple form at the event, or via email, phone or a written submission.

More community engagement took place in April before the zone committee released an updated draft ZIPA in September for further community feedback.

The finalised OTOP ZIPA recommendations were released in December and are available to view from Environment Canterbury offices or at www.ecan.govt.nz/OTOPZIPA



Timaru Bovs' Hiah School students Josh Earnshaw (left) and Nico Evans (right) at the Otipua-Saltwater Creek Catchment Group launch event.



Water Zone Committee member, Ad Sintinie, with a young community roadshow participant in Geraldine.

## Future challenges and opportunities

#### Implementing the recommendations in the OTOP ZIP Addendum

In 2019, the zone committee will turn their focus to implementing the recommendations in the OTOP ZIPA. Some of these recommendations will inform the development of a sub-regional plan change to the Canterbury Land and Water Plan. This plan change will be notified in June 2019 and will set new rules for the management of water quality and quantity in the OTOP Zone. Other recommendations in the ZIPA will be delivered through practical 'on the ground' projects, which will require the ongoing support of the community, primary sector, rūnanga, Environment Canterbury and District Councils.

#### Helping farmers implement Good Management Practices (GMP)

Many farmers are already operating at, or beyond, industry-agreed GMP, however, some have more work to do. To support these farmers, industry and Environment Canterbury will continue to work with catchment groups, host farm visits and work one-on-one with farmers to help landowners understand what GMP looks like in practice.

#### A focus on water efficiency

South Canterbury water users are often on restrictions due to low flows in rivers and streams. Effective and efficient irrigation practices not only reduce water use but can reduce nutrient leaching and maximise productivity. During the 2018/2019 summer Irrigation NZ ran its water efficiency 'bucket' testing programme and provided farmers in the OTOP zone with advice on how to increase the performance of their irrigators. This year, the committee will work with industry to remind farmers about the importance of maintaining their irrigator prior to the next irrigation season.

#### Otipua-Saltwater Creek Catchment Group

The Otipua-Saltwater Creek catchment in Timaru is home to farms, lifestyle blocks, the rowing club and is a popular recreation area. The new Catchment Group involves a wide range of members including recreational users, Timaru schools, urban ratepayers, local industry and landowners. In 2019, the group will focus on understanding the water quality and quantity issues in the catchment and taking action to address them.



The committee with its final recommendations, the Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (Chair Hamish McFarlane pictured front row centre).

## Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora Zone

The zone covers the area from the Rangitata River to the southern boundary of the Pareora River, from Burkes Pass to the sea. It includes Timaru as well as the rural townships of Fairlie, Temuka, Pleasant Point and Geraldine. It is a joint committee of the Timaru, Waimate and Mackenzie District Councils and Environment Canterbury. It is in the rohe of Arowhenua Rūnanga.

## Zone committee membership 2018

This year John Talbot, Ad Sintenie, James Pearse, Ivon Hurst and Kylee Galbraith finished thier term with the zone committee. Very sadly, Mandy Waaka Home passed away in April. In 2019, Hamish McFarlane was reappointed, and Lucy Millar and Luke Reihana will join the committee.

Hamish McFarlane, Community member, Chair

Herstall Ulrich,

Community member, Deputy Chair

Ad Sintenie, Community member John Talbot,

Community member

Mark Webb, Community member

Kylee Galbraith,

Community member

James Pearse, Community member

Ivon Hurst,

Community member

Glen Smith, Community member Phil Driver,

Community member

Mandy Home, Rũnanga representative – Arowhenua

John Henry, Rűnanga

representative – Arowhenua

Sue Eddington, Rūnanga representative – Waihao

Richard Lyon, Timaru District Council

Anne Munro, Mackenzie District Council

David Anderson,

Waimate District Council

Lan Pham,

Environment Canterbury Councillor

Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora Water Zone Committee is a community led committee supported by councils.

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### **Key Zone contacts**

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#### Lesley Woudberg

Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora Water Zone Committee Facilitator Lesley.Woudbergx@ecan.govt.nz | 027 706 4273











Ashburton Water Zone Committee

# **2018 Annual Report**



## Engaging with young people a key focus for 2018



Ashburton Water

Zone Committee Chair

The Ashburton Water Zone Committee had a busy and productive year and I am very grateful to the other members of the committee for their time and commitment. I especially wish to thank Gordon Guthrie whose membership concluded at the end of 2018, having served a massive eight years on the committee.

I would like to express how valuable Councillor David Caygill has been to our committee. We appreciate his great knowledge and understanding of the issues and the Resource Management Act.

We were pleased to see Plan Change 2 to the Land and Water Regional Plan (covering the Hinds/Hekeao Plains area) become operative on 1 June, which stems from the Ashburton Zone Implementation Plan Addendum.

Engaging with youth was a focus for the zone

committee this year. We were inspired by a presentation from Wakanui School on their landscape concept and management plan for Wakanui Beach. The students worked with Forest and Bird, the Ashburton District Council, and the community to collect and propagate seeds before holding a planting day.

The Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) trial continues to progress well with the opening of the Hinds River Recharge site. Early indications show significant reduction in groundwater nitrate levels downstream of the MAR site.

A key priority for the committee is increasing the minimum flows of the Hakatere/
Ashburton River to 6,000 litres/second, in line with the Land and Water Regional Plan for 2023. Two workshops interpreting the scientific modelling were held in 2018 and this work will continue into early 2019.

## **Key achievements 2018**

- Allocated about \$70,000 for community driven projects that aim to protect and enhance the natural environment.
- Increased monitoring of land use practices to protect Community Drinking Water Zones and ensure a safe and reliable supply of water.
- Investigations of microbiological contamination in the Hakatere/ Ashburton River at State Highway 1 established that faecal contamination is predominantly of an avian source, from highly valued indigenous riverbed bird species. Steps to minimise other controllable faecal sources, such as land runoff and pest species, remain important.
- The Hinds River Recharge site was officially opened in September with 600 native plantings and the first release of water.
- Supported Environment Canterbury's Braided River (BRIDGE) Project to develop a better approach to identifying the extent of the "river bed" on a braided river.
- Plan Change 2 to the Land and Water Regional Plan (recommended in the Zone Implementation Plan Addendum) became operative on 1 June 2018. This plan change sets limits, targets, timeframes and additional policies and rules on water quantity and quality for the Hinds/Hekeao Plains Area.

Protecting two wetlands in the Hinds area ensure habitats of freshwater mussels and native fish are not affected by grazing stock. A small population of the mussels have been found in the Upper Hinds Catchment in a stream in Swamp Grass wetland. This 8ha area is covered with silver tussock, carex, and native plants that provide shelter for native species along the stream margins. Immediate Steps funding has been granted to help the area regenerate.



#### **Ashburton Water Zone Committee**

## Delivering the community's vision for freshwater

The Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) puts finding solutions for freshwater management in the hands of the community, with support from councils, Ngãi Tahu, and others. The strategy sets out freshwater goals and targets to deliver the community's vision for freshwater.

"To gain the greatest cultural, economic, environmental, recreational and social benefits from our water resources within a sustainable framework both now and for future generations."

Each of the ten community-led water zone committees work collaboratively to develop freshwater recommendations to ensure council plans give effect to these goals and targets.

Within each target area there are several specific time-bound targets to be achieved and these are monitored and reported on to ensure progress is being made.

The target areas are shown below – read some of the stories about what is being done in the zone to achieve delivery on these on the next page.

## **CWMS Targets**



Ecosystem health and biodiversity



Kaitiakitanga



Recreational and amenity opportunities



Irrigated land area



Regional and national



Natural character of braided rivers



Drinking water



Water use efficiency



Energy security and efficiency



Environmental limits



# MAR Community trust formed

A community trust is being set up to progress long-term Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) in Mid Canterbury.

In 2016, a pilot MAR site was established at Lagmhor where infiltration basins (which act like big leaky ponds) are filled with high-quality clean water which seeps down and recharges the groundwater.

Recent results show groundwater levels around the recharge site have risen and nitrate concentrations have decreased.

A second site has already been established near the Hinds River and testing is underway at nine more sites.

The Ashburton Water Zone Committee gave its endorsement to the trust at its November meeting.

MAR is seen as an effective tool for improving water quality and quantity in the district. It will help reduce nitrate levels, increase groundwater storage and improve biodiversity in lowland streams





# Local farmers chip in to help improve water quality

Water quality in Hinds Plains streams has been given a helping hand thanks to the work of landowners and scientists from the University of Canterbury.

Over the past four years, three local projects received close to \$70,000 in  $Immediate \ Steps \ funding \ from \ the \ Ashburton \ Water \ Zone \ Committee \ to$ help address aquatic weed, sediment and nutrient management issues.

This work is being led by the University of Canterbury's Waterway Rehabilitation Experiment (CAREX), which helps find practical ways to improve waterway health.

At Warren Harris' Coldstream farm, woodchip-filled trenches known as denitrifying bioreactors were installed in the ground beside the waterway to help remove nitrates. Recent results show an average 10% reduction in nitrate levels.

Environment Canterbury staff have also been working with farmers in the zone to help develop and implement plans to reduce their impact on the environment.



Woodchip-filled trenches were installed in the ground beside the waterway to help remove nitrates

## **♦** Funding helps boost tuna numbers

The Ashburton Water Zone Committee granted funding for a planting project that will enhance the tuna (eel) habitat in Harding Creek. Tuna have been spotted regularly in the small waterway and it is important to ensure the environment in which they thrive is protected.

New Zealand has two species of tuna, the native longfin and the shortfin. Tuna are a good indicator of in-stream health and there are fewer of them today because of the loss of wetland habitats.

The money from the Immediate Steps fund will also help with regenerating native plants and improving biodiversity along the margins of the creek. In an area with less than 10% of the indigenous vegetation remaining, it is important to increase and support as much native biodiversity as possible.

The landowner has already undertaken other significant planting projects along the lower section of the creek.

Regenerating native plants and improving biodiversity values is a key priority of the Ashburton Water Zone Committee.



Planting natives along waterways helps to protect tuna habitat and boosts biodiversity in the area

## 🛕 New project helps protect drinking water

The Ashburton Water Zone Committee welcomed an increase in the monitoring of land-use practices that can affect community drinking supplies.

Zone Committee Chair Bill Thomas said ensuring the community has a safe supply of drinking water was a non-negotiable priority for the committee.

"In the past two years, we have seen greater awareness of the need to protect our community drinking water zones and ensure nearby landuses are not impacting on water quality."

Earlier this year, the committee signed off on a new 'Safe and Sustainable Drinking Water' priority outcome that will help ensure there is a sustainable supply of water that meets the needs of future generations and complies with drinking water standards.

There are just under 30 community drinking water protection zones in the district and Environment Canterbury is increasing its water quality monitoring and compliance monitoring to help make sure this happens.



Environment Canterbury is increasing its water quality monitoring and compliance programmes to help protect the resource



Zone committee members visited Craig and Helen Elliott's Farm at Lauriston to learn about their extensive riparian planting.

## Future challenges and opportunities

The Ashburton Water Zone Committee is very keen to remain relevant in today's world and is endeavouring to have a broad section of the community represented on the committee and set meaningful agendas. This may mean fewer formal meetings each year and more field days and workshops to better understand the issues, build our knowledge, and be accessible to the community.

This will hopefully make engaging with the committee a more enjoyable experience and enable the committee to provide a greater contribution to water management in the zone.

Some of the key priorities for the coming year include:

 Developing recommendations on how to increase of minimum flows for the Ashburton River.

## **Zone description**

The Ashburton Water Zone is divided by the Ashburton and Hekeao/ Hinds rivers, which have their origins in the foothills.

The rivers, lakes and wetlands that once covered large areas of the zone have always been an important place and food basket for Ngãi Tahu. Three rūnanga consider the zone part of their takiwā – Arowhenua Rūnanga, Taumutu Rūnanga and Ngãi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga.

## Zone committee membership

William Thomas (Community member)

- Chair

Chris Allen

(Community member)

- Deputy Chair

Ben Curry

(Community member)

Gordon Guthrie

(Community member)

John Waugh (Community member)

(Community member

Angela Cushnie (Community Member) Cargill Henderson (Community Member)

Karl Russel

(Arowhenua Rūnanga)

Arapata Reuben

(Tūāhuriri Rūnanga )

Stuart Wilson (Ashburton District Council representative)

David Caygill

(Environment Canterbury Councillor)

The Ashburton Water Zone Committee is a community led committee supported by councils.

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- Receiving progress updates on the Managed Aquifer Recharge Pilot and considering how this technology could be used in other parts of our zone.
- Engaging more effectively with young people in the zone and through the Ashburton District Council, Environment Canterbury, Rūnanga and local schools.
- Work with interested parties to develop solutions that address the community's concern about the reliability of water supply to the Wakanui hapua/lagoon.
- Maintain oversight of investigations into poor water quality in Carters Creek and make recommendations for improvement.

## **Key Zone contacts**

Janine Holland - Ashburton Water Zone Team Lead Janine.Holland@ecan.govt.nz | 027 205 7128

Dave Moore - Ashburton Water Zone Team Facilitator
Dave.Moore@ecan.govt.nz | 027 604 3908







Selwyn Waihora Water Zone Committee

## 2018 Annual Report



## Collaboration and education key to freshwater success



Allen Lim, Selwyn Waihora Water Zone Committee Chair

What a year it has been. Compared to early 2017, when Coes Ford dried up, we have had a relatively non-eventful year. That's not to say we have not been busy, because we have.

Work on the Selwyn River / Waikirikiri Near River Recharge is nearing completion. It will, in the future give us the ability to keep groundwater topped up during the winter months when the Central Plains Water irrigation water is not needed. This means once water enters the Selwyn River system, it can flow on down the river and reduce the chance of Coes Ford going dry again.

Lots of work has also been done in the upper catchment to ensure the water coming down the catchment is as clean as can be. Similar work has been carried out in the problematic Silver Stream catchment.

The Snake Creek restoration project is another good example of the community and

various stakeholder groups coming together for the common good.

Part of the stream was restored in 2017 to allow for trout spawning, and now it's looking great aesthetically and in terms of biodiversity values.

To ensure we have a good supply of future zone committee members in years to come, we are working with the Selwyn youth through experiential learning – for all of us! If I have one message from 2018, it would be to central government, make freshwater management part of the school curriculum.

All in all, I am heartened to report that the degree of information sharing and collaboration is going from strength to strength. I hope that we can keep the conversation going and continue to build trust so we can work together effectively.

## **Key achievements 2018**

- The committee hosted a successful youth zone committee meeting with young people from six local schools. The meeting encouraged everyone to play their part to improve water quality and ecosystem health in the zone.
- \$105,000 of Immediate Steps funding was allocated to ten local projects to protect and enhance biodiversity values in the zone.
- A focus on the Selwyn River / Waikirikiri this year has seen the committee support practical projects in Snake Creek and Silver Stream, and a Near River Recharge project, and set up a working group to identify further action to improve the river.
- Regular news items have been produced to share information with the community about practical projects underway within the zone.
- Committee members continue to raise the profile of the committee's work and encourage more action within the zone by attending a multitude of water managementrelated events, field-days, conferences and meetings.
- The committee have supported Environment Canterbury's
   Cultural Land Management Advisor to work with landowners and
   industry groups to better understand mahinga kai and Ngäi Tahu
   values. This has resulted in farmers making mahinga kai a part
   of their everyday land management and incorporating mahinga
   kai into their audited Farm Environment Plans, and industry
   groups showcasing what mahinga kai protection looks like.

A highlight of the year was hosting students from local Enviroschools in April and again at the committee's November meeting. The committee recognises that young people are at the heart of effective community participation and were blown away by quality and extent of the projects, including hydroponics, stream restoration, tree planting, eel hotels and waterslides, and vegetable gardens.



#### Selwyn Waihora Water Zone Committee

## Delivering the community's vision for freshwater

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The target areas are shown below - read some of the stories about what is being done in the zone to achieve these on the next page.

## **CWMS Targets**



Ecosystem health and biodiversity



Kaitiakitanga



Recreational and amenity opportunities



Irrigated land area



Regional and national economies



Natural character of braided rivers



**Drinking** water



efficiency



Energy security and efficiency



Environmental limits



## 🛦 💧 Swimmable Selwyn @ **Coes Ford key focus** for committee

Implementing the Swimmable Selwyn @ Coes Ford project has been a key focus for the committee this year, having endorsed Environment Canterbury's work programme early in 2017.

Chamberlains Ford and Coes Ford are both popular summer recreational sites but while monitoring has shown Chamberlains Ford is generally suitable for swimming, the nearby and downstream Coes Ford often isn't.

Much of the project's catchment area has now been visited and mapped, and priority areas for on-the-ground work have been identified and ongoing water quality monitoring and reporting is underway.

In 2018, the committee set up a working group consisting of rūnanga, farmers, government organisations and community groups to develop a roadmap to identify what further work needs to be done to improve water quality.

The committee is also supporting a project that uses a solar powered pump to supply groundwater to a tributary of the river when the spring stops flowing. Likewise the Selwyn Near River Recharge project includes constructing a leaky basin beside the upper reaches of the river that will provide water to the river during dry periods.



## Helping protect Canterbury's threatened mudfish

Helping to achieve healthy ecosystems and biodiversity is of great importance to the committee. This year the committee has supported ten projects which have focused on restoration of wetlands and riparian areas, with fencing, willow removal, weed control and planting.

Several projects are underway to enhance the habitat of Canterbury's threatened mudfish, including weed and willow control and an exciting trial of a mudfish protection barrier in Haldon Springs.

Mudfish conservation in Canterbury



## progress first hand

Talking to community, stakeholders and partners and getting out and about in the zone is important to the committee, and this year's schedule was no exception.

In March the committee visited the Central Plains Water construction site for the Selwyn River / Waikirikiri Near River Recharge Project site, the Broadacres targeted stream augmentation site, and the Snake Creek restoration site run by Water and Wildlife Habitat Trust.

The committee held their August meeting on Ngāti Moki marae in Taumutu, where they met with Te Waihora Co-Govenors. The committee and Co-Governors took the opportunity to discuss the work they have been doing. Ngāti Moki marae provided an important location for the two groups to commit to working towards achieving their shared vision.

The committee held their August meeting on Ngāti Moki marae.



## Reflections of a departing water zone committee member

By Maree Goldring

What can happen in seven years? More than 70 monthly meetings. Lots of water under the bridges. And a lot of water still to go under the bridges.

This has been the length of my membership as a community member on the Selwyn Waihora Water Zone Committee. It has been a challenging and inspiring, sometimes frustrating, time but one rich in new learnings and new friendships.

As the only high country resident on the committee, I have felt a responsibility to keep the issues of the hills to the fore. Our precious water begins its journey to the plains in the mountains and foothills, so protecting that fragile land is vital for the quality and quantity of water down country.

This has meant dealing with wilding pine and other weed pest issues, spawning sites and wetland protection.

Coming onto the committee at the draft Zone Implementation Programme (ZIP) point was a great way to focus on the future. Over the seven years several things changed:

- · There is more understanding that the responsibility for the protection of the water is shared by all.
- · The farming community has become focused on reducing its environmental impact utilising all the new technology, resources, and knowledge available
- Environment Canterbury has developed systems of compliance monitoring and auditing that support the industries.
- · Canterbury Plains Water Ltd (CPW) is now fully on line, taking pressure off groundwater resources.

I am grateful for my time on the committee. I have had the opportunity to learn so much from so many knowledgeable people, who have my great respect, both from Environment Canterbury and in the agricultural industries. I will miss the meetings and people, my friends, but it is time to let someone else embark on this journey.



Maree (centre) with members of the zone committee on a field trip in December.

## Future challenges and opportunities

There are many groups and organisations working together to improve environmental outcomes in our waterways - from the unique Co-Governance arrangement to university students undertaking ground-breaking research.

The committee is motivated to continue to develop and improve relationships with all these groups so that progress can be made together.

The unique cultural heritage and ecological significance of the area and its waterways is recognised in the committee's support for enhancing mahinga kai values, improving farming practices, and encouraging the zone to be a showcase for culturally aware and environmentally focused farming.



The Selwyn Waihora Water Zone Committee went on a field trip in December to see local sites with high natural values and learn about what is being done to protect them.

## Selwyn Waihora Zone

The Selwyn Waihora Zone covers the Selwyn District and a small piece of Christchurch City. It includes Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere and its catchment (including the Selwyn River / Waikirikiri, spring-fed lowland streams, and some of the Port Hills streams), Lake Coleridge, the Rakaia River and the upper Waimakariri basin.

Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere and its margins are a taonga (treasure) to Ngãi Tahu, reflecting the area's cultural significance and the concentration of mahinga kai, wāhi tapu and wāhi taonga.

The Selwyn Waihora Water Zone Committee is a joint committee of Selwyn District Council, Christchurch City Council and Environment Canterbury, and in the rohe of Wairewa, Rāpaki, Taumutu, Tūāhuriri, Koukourarata and Ōnuku rūnanga.

## Zone committee membership 2018

Allen Lim (Chair, community member)

Karaitiana Taiuru (Deputy Chair, Koukourārata representative)

Maree Golding (community member)

Megan Hands (community member)

Ron Pellow (community member)

Paul Hodgson (community member)

George Tikao (Ōnuku)

Les Wanhalla (Taumutu)

Kylie-Jane Phillips (Wheke)

Benita Wakefield (Wairewa)

Iaean Cranwell (Environment Canterbury)

Murray Lemon

(Selwyn District Council)

Anne Galloway (Christchurch City Council)

## **Key Zone contacts**

Johannes Welsch - Selwyn Waihora Zone Manager Johannes.Welsch@ecan.govt.nz | 027 512 3158

Miria Goodwin - Selwyn Waihora Water Zone Committee Facilitator Miria.Goodwin@ecan.govt.nz | 027 809 6991



The Selwyn Waihora Water Zone Committee is a community led committee supported by councils.

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Banks Peninsula Water Zone Committee

# **2018 Annual Report**



## Community becoming more aware of water



Banks Peninsula Water Zone Committee

Since launching in 2011 we have achieved many positive outcomes to deliver the community's goals for fresh water.

In 2018 we were pleased the water quality of Te Roto o Wairewa improved, but there are other catchments that haven't improved as much as we'd expected. More scientific research may be warranted.

We were also pleased to provide eight projects with \$100,000 of biodiversity funding to undertake fencing and riparian planting projects around the zone.

We hosted a Farm Environment Plan workshop where Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour landowners considered how to design and manage their farms to minimise their effects on waterways and the harbour.

The zone committee was especially pleased to see the growing number of community groups active in water management in our zone - the result of increased community awareness of water issues.

We also had some really good discussions about how to manage the risks of forestry, fish barriers and freshwater springs on Banks Peninsula and we now have a clear three year plan going forward. We are optimistic about what lies ahead in 2019.

## **Key achievements 2018**

- \$100,000 of Immediate Steps biodiversity funding was allocated to eight projects to help support covenants, riparian planting and fencing, among other things.
- Provided ongoing support for the Okuti River Community Project to help members monitor stream health, plant native species and install a fence to exclude stock from the river. Progress was celebrated with a community day in September.
- New research was shared with the community about springs on Banks Peninsula. More than 8000 springs have been identified so the committee highlighted the importance of protecting springs in the zone.
- The zone committee co-hosted a Farm Environment Plan Workshop with Beef and Lamb focused on mahinga kai and biodiversity in the Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour Catchment.
- A three year Action Plan was developed which outlines the priority actions the zone committee want to progress by 2021.
- Zone committee members wrote regular articles for local papers to help educate people about water management and biodiversity on Banks Peninsula.
- Recommended Christchurch City Council reconsider how zone committee recommendations are actioned to ensure there is a robust process to deliver zone committee recommendations.

The Banks Peninsula Water Zone Committee attended the Little River A&P Show in January 2019 to engage with community members. The committee plans to attend more community events in 2019 to raise awareness about the zone's freshwater resource and what can be done to address future challenges.



#### **Banks Peninsula Water Zone Committee**

## Delivering the community's vision for freshwater

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## CWMS Targets



Ecosystem health and biodiversity



Kaitiakitanga



Recreational and amenity opportunities



Irrigated land area



Regional and national economies



Natural character of braided rivers



Drinking water



Water use efficiency



Energy security and efficiency



Environmental limits



## Community joins in Wainui Stream protection

Work to protect Wainui Stream has continued this year with the zone committee allocating \$17,000 of Immediate Steps funding towards riparian planting and fencing in the area. \$7000 was also allocated to improve inanga spawning habitat at French Farm stream.

In previous years, the zone committee and the QEII Trust have supported several landowners to covenant indigenous vegetations on their properties in the upper Wainui catchment.

In 2018, the community also got involved, planting hundreds of natives on the lower reach of the Wainui Stream and French Farm Stream to improve habitat for inanga spawning. This was supplemented by fencing to prevent stock accessing the stream.

In addition to the zone committee's funding contribution, the Wainui Project received funding from Christchurch City Council's biodiversity fund.



The community and thered to gether to plant hundreds of native plants alona Wainui stream



## 🛕 🛕 Whakaraupō farmers on board with Farm Environment Plans

Whakaraupō farmers have shown a commitment to minimising the impact of farming activities on the environment by attending a workshop on Farm Environment Plans.

In June, the Banks Peninsula Water Zone Committee along with Beef and Lamb hosted an FEP workshop at Orton Bradley Park. The workshop focused on biodiversity and mahinga kai and how farmers could integrate its protection into their farming system.

It was well attended with most of the major landowners in the catchment attending

The workshop was the fourth one to be held on the Banks Peninsula and is in line with the delivery of the Whaka Ora Healthy Harbour catchment

The zone committee intends to host two more workshops in 2019.



## Forestry monitoring a priority for zone committee

The Banks Peninsula Water Zone Committee has asked Environment Canterbury to prioritise monitoring forestry activities to help reduce erosion and sediment loss.

Banks Peninsula soils are prone to erosion and its important forestry activities are carefully undertaken to reduce the environmental harm.

There are many commercial and private forestry plantations scattered across Banks Peninsula and some of these are located on steep slopes in gullies with streams.

In May, a National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry was released. This has implications for the way forestry activities are managed across New Zealand. The zone committee recommended that Environment Canterbury and the Christchurch City Council establish a working group with the forestry industry to implement the new National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry.

## **Spotlight on native fish**

Fish passage has been a hot topic for the Banks Peninsula Water Zone Committee in 2018.

Zone committee members and local runanga identified several opportunities where changes could be made to culverts to improve fish passage. In response, freshwater ecologists have undertaken initial fish surveys and culvert assessments on several streams.

These surveys revealed significant populations of banded kokupo and in some streams, culverts were acting as barriers to some native species migration.

Work is now underway to address barriers and enhance habitats

Fish passage will continue to be a focus for the zone committee in 2019, with members sharing information with landowners at public events, such as the Little River A&P Show, to raise awareness and help landowners identify what they can do to improve fish passage on their property.



Surveys have revealed significant populations of banded kokupo and in Whakaraupō streams



## **State of the Waterways**

The 2018 water quality and ecosystem health results for Banks Peninsula waterways are mixed.

The zone committee are pleased to see an improvement in the water quality of Te Roto o Wairewa. In 2018, Te Roto o Wairewa had a Trophic Level Index (TLI) of 5.2 which was an improvement on the previous three years. The lake is still considered super trophic and further work is required to reach the zone committees TLI target of 4 by 2035.

Many streams have 'fair' water quality with have high levels of dissolved reactive phosphorous and dissolved inorganic nitrogen. There was an improvement in macro-invertebrate health grades at nine sites and a decline at another six sites. Similarly, habitat grades improved at 4 sites and decreased at 4 sites. The ecosystem health results for streams in catchments with good riparian protection are not yet improving,

Further work is required to better understand the drivers of the some of these results. In 2019 the Committee is considering how to assess mahinga kai trends as part of the annual monitoring programme.



2018 Monitoring results show an improvement in the water quality of Te Roto O Wairewa



## **A** Engaging our Community

In month more than 30 community members joined the committee to hear about Dr Sam Hampton's research on Banks Peninsula springs.

The research revealed that there are more than 8000 springs on Banks Peninsula and many of these appear as seepages.

The research highlighted the unique nature of these springs and the importance of protecting springs flow and water quality.

The research generated much discussion in the community and committee member, Gina Waibl, wrote an article for community newspapers which explained how much water people can take from springs and what people can do to protect them.



One of over 8000 springs on Banks Peninsula.



Each of the region's 10 zone committees includes four to seven community members and this membership is regularly refreshed to ensure a wide range of perspectives are reflected.

## Future challenges and opportunities

In 2019 the zone committee will focus on making progress with implementing their 3-Year Action Plan which outlines the priority actions they want to progress by 2021.

#### TE ROTO O WAIREWA

In 2015 the zone committee allocated \$60,000 of IMS biodiversity funding, toward a project to stabilise stream banks to reduce sediment entering the lake. Progress with this project has been slow, however works to batter, stabilise and plant the banks are schduled to start in March 2019.

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The zone committee wants to engage with the community to help people better understand Mahinga Kai values, fish passage, and the health of Banks Peninsula waterways.

## Zone committee membership

Pam Richardson and Ian Lloyd finished with the zone committee at the end of the year. In 2019, Ben Manson, Elizabeth Macpherson and Rima Herber will join the committee.

Rūnanga members

Benita Wakefield -Te Rūnanga o Wairewa

June Swindells -Te Hapu O Ngati Wheke

Manaia Cunningham -Te Rūnanga o Koukourārata

Pere Tainui -Te Rūnanga o Ōnuku

Community members

Gina Waibl

Paula Smith

Fiona Nichol (Grace)

Pam Richardson Garrick Thorn

Ian Lloyd

Council representatives

Andrew Turner

(Christchurch City Council)

Elizabeth Cunningham

(Environment Canterbury)

## **Key Zone contacts**

Olivia Smith - Banks Peninsula Water Zone Committee Facilitator Olivia.Smith@ecan.govt.nz | 027 886 3949

Gillian Jenkins - Banks Peninsula Zone Delivery Lead Gillian.Jenkins@ecan.govt.nz | 027 706 7254

The Banks Peninsula Water Zone Committee is a community led committee supported by councils.

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They also plan to co-host two Farm Environment Plan workshops with Beef and Lamb.

#### IMPLEMENTING THE WHAKA ORA HEALTHY HARBOUR PLAN

The zone committee look forward to having a representative on the Whaka Ora community advisory group in 2019.

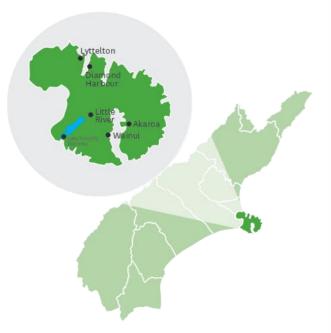
#### FISH PASSAGE

The zone committee will continue to raise awareness and create solutions to issues preventing fish passage as well as focus on enhancing fish habitat.

#### STREAM FLOWS

The zone committee want to better understand how permitted and consented water takes impact on flows and stream ecology.

## Banks Peninsula Water Zone







Christchurch West Melton Water Zone Committee

# **2018 Annual Report**



## Sharing our goals with the community a key highlight for the year



Arapata Reuben, Zone Committee Chair, Papatipu Rünanga Te Ngãi Tüāhuriri

The Christchurch West Melton Water Zone Committee has had another busy year and I want to take this opportunity to thank my fellow committee members for their commitment.

All zone committee members are participants because we care about our local waterways.

We know that results won't be instantaneous, but we hope that future generations benefit from the work our local communities undertake now. As we have continued towards making progress on achieving the CWMS targets there have been several highlights.

These include participating in the Mother of all Clean ups in May, where over 700 people got together to help clean up some of our local rivers, and the Meet in the Middle which provided us with an opportunity to engage with local communities about our goals and work.

Much of the community engagement this year has focused our Stormwater Superhero campaign, which encourages the community to do their bit to help clean up our rivers.

The zone committee also had a win this year with their stand on advocating copper free brake pads. You can read more about this later on in our annual report and be assured we will continue to put pressure on in this space in

the coming year.

We've also been taking a close interest in the on-going investigations around potential groundwater movements under the Waimakariri River following the discovery of low levels of "nitrate-nitrogen" in aquifers and wells in Kaiapoi and northern Christchurch. We have provided feedback to the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee on nitrate limits to ensure our city's drinking water and springfed stream are protected.

Finally, I want to thank three of our zone committee members whose membership concluded at the end of 2018. Your time and energy were much appreciated during the term of your membership.

Please remember that the community are welcome to attend our monthly meetings. These are available on the Environment Canterbury Christchurch West Melton Water Zone Committee webpage.

## **Key achievements 2018**

- Allocated more than \$70,000 of Immediate Steps biodiversity funding to five projects including the Cashmere Stream Care Group, Wairarapa Stream, Albert Stream, and Ōtukaikino, which was voted New Zealand's Most Improved River for 2018.
- Provided feedback on the draft Waimakariri Zone Implementation Programme Addendum which includes recommendations to manage the impact of nitrates in Christchurch's groundwater supply.
- Celebrated the success of a remit to Local Government
   New Zealand calling for central government to introduce legislation to reduce the use of copper brake pads.
- Supported an Erosion and Sediment Best Practice Field Day which was held as part of the International Erosion Control Association conference in Christchurch.
- Hosted a series of Stormwater Superhero events including Meet in the Middle, Canterbury University innovation event, and a community workshop to get feedback on a mobile Stormwater Superhero resource.
- Supported the development of a catchment management plan for Addington Brook and an action plan for Haytons Stream.

The Ötukaikino River won the Supreme Award for Most Improved River at the 2018 New Zealand River Awards thanks to a community restoration programme. Phosphorus was the indicator used to determine the most improved river this year, in the past ten years phosphorus levels have decreased by 17.5 percent per annum The zone committee has allocated more than \$200,000 to the project.



#### **Christchurch West Melton Water Zone Committee**

## Delivering the community's vision for freshwater

The Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) puts finding solutions for freshwater management in the hands of the community, with support from councils, Ngãi Tahu, and others. The strategy sets out freshwater goals and targets to deliver the community's vision for freshwater.

"To gain the greatest cultural, economic, environmental, recreational and social benefits from our water resources within a sustainable framework both now and for future generations."

Each of the ten community-led water zone committees work collaboratively to develop freshwater recommendations to ensure council plans give effect to these goals and targets.

Within each target area there are several specific time-bound targets to be achieved and these are monitored and reported on to ensure progress is being made.

The target areas are shown below - read some of the stories about what is being done in the zone to achieve delivery on these on the next page.

## **CWMS Targets**



Ecosystem health and biodiversity



Kaitiakitanga



Recreational and amenity opportunities



Irrigated land area



Regional and national economies



Natural character of braided rivers



Drinking water



Water use efficiency



Energy security and efficiency



**Environmental** limits



## 🛦 Creating a dryland biodiversity hub

The zone committee has a vision of creating an outstanding dryland biodiversity hub with recreation opportunities on the south side of the Waimakariri River. This substantive area, is a unique dryland ecosystem which provides habitat for several threatened lizards, insects and vulnerable dryland plant species.

Without support, many of these dryland remnants will simply become pieces of history. Much of the land in this area is owned by Environment Canterbury and the Christchurch City Council and the zone committee is keen to see a long-term management plan developed for this unique area.

To kick-start this project, the zone committee has allocated \$62,000 of Immediate Steps biodiversity funding for the next three years to undertake weed control, fencing and native planting.



Rauparaha's Copper- A rare and threatened butterfly found on the Canterbury Plains.

## **♦ ♦** Students helping **Urban Eels**

As part of the Te Tuna Tāone (Urban Eel Project) students at Burnside Primary School and Cobham Intermediate have been learning about urban stormwater issues and what is living in their local stream.

This year the zone committee allocated Immediate Steps funding for native plants which students planted along Wairarapa Stream to improve the home of their giant friends - the longfin eel.

Wairarapa Stream is right on the school's doorstep and students were surprised to learn there is so much life in the stream. The project was also supported by the Working Waters Trust, Christchurch City Council, Innovation and Sustainability Fund and the Rātā Foundation.



This year the zone committee allocated funding to protect tuna populations.

# Committee Launch Stormwater Superhero campaign

The Christchurch West Melton Water Zone Committee is on a mission to turn Christchurch residents into Stormwater Superheros.

Christchurch's stormwater has a significant impact on the water quality of our urban waterways. Stormwater is often contaminated with sediment, paint, detergents, metals, rubber, fuels and oils, and flows untreated into waterways. Addressing this issue is complex and challenging and improving infrastructure is only part of the solution.

Reducing contaminants at their source is also important, so the committee has launched a campaign to inform residents about the simple things they can do to improve the quality of stormwater.

In addition to attending the 'Meet in the Middle' event in October, the zone committee will have a Stormwater Superhero stand at Westfield Mall in January 2019 and attend Estuary Fest the following month.



City Councillor Pauline Cotter and Kevin Brown at the Meet in the Middle event.



## Materway weapons the STORMINATOR™

The zone committee hosted a 'Stormwater Innovation' event at Canterbury University in October to share the latest research on stormwater treatment innovations with the community.

Participants got to learn about the world-first STORMINATOR™ gadget which has been developed by the University of Canterbury to remove more than 80% of heavy metals from roof run-off as it drains through downpipes.

Stormwater runoff from roofs often contains heavy metals, mainly zinc and copper, which are toxic to aquatic life in urban rivers. In Christchurch, roofs contribute about 65% of the zinc found in stormwater. The STORMINATOR™ provides an easy solution to this difficult problem. It can be easily retrofitted to existing downpipes, is quick to install and cost effective.

Environment Canterbury and Canterbury University are working together with business owners to establish a series of trials on buildings in Christchurch City.



Community members joined zone committee members at the Stormwater Innovation event at the University of Canterbury.



## ♠ Committee puts brakes on copper pads

Vehicle brake pads contribute a significant amount of copper to urban waterways, particularly in areas with high density road use. Copper enters our waterways through the stormwater network and can be toxic to aquatic life. Copper levels in many Christchurch streams exceed guideline values for protection of aquatic life.

Last year the zone committee recommended that councils approach central government for a national response to address the use of copper brake pads. In July a remit went to the Local Government New Zealand Conference calling for central government to introduce legislation to limit or eliminate the copper content of vehicle brake pads. The remit was passed with 87% sector support.

The zone committee look forward to hearing progress on a national response. In the meantime, they will continue to raise awareness about copper free brake pads as part of their stormwater superhero campaign.



Zone Committee Chair, Arapata Rueben, celebrates the launch of stormwater superhero campaign with Cr Tom Lambie and Cr Iaean Cranwell.

# Christchurch West Melton Water Zone

The zone is bordered by the Waimakariri River to the north and the Pacific Ocean to the east. It follows the Summit Road along the crest of the Port Hills to above Governors Bay before cutting back towards the Waimakariri River. It falls within the Christchurch City and Selwyn District Council boundaries.

The expansive wetlands that once covered large areas of the zone have always been an important place to live and gather food for Ngãi Tahu. Three rūnanga consider the zone part of their takiwā – Ngãi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga, Te Hapū ō Ngāti Wheke/Rāpaki and Te Taumutu Rūnanga.



## Future challenges and opportunities

#### STORMWATER

In 2019 the committee will continue to host events and share messages to help create a city of stormwater superheroes.

The committee will continue to call for national action to address heavy metals in urban areas and are keen to start a conversation about how to tackle zinc. A series of STORMINATOR™ trials will get underway with Christchurch businesses this year.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The committee will continue to support and celebrate the work of community groups who are doing amazing work to help deliver CWMS in the Christchurch. In 2019, the zone committee are motivated to host events to help educate Christchurch residents about the City's drinking water supply.

#### ADDINGTON BROOK

Implement the catchment management plan for Addington Brook with support of Christchurch City Council and landowners in the Addington catchment.

#### **EROSION AND SEDIMENT**

Erosion and sediment loss is a significant issue in the Heathcote/ Opāwaho catchment and is a key driver of poor water quality. In 2019, two trials will begin to test the effectiveness of erosion/sediment control methods. The zone committee will work with Councils to explore further opportunities to address erosion hotspots in the catchment.

#### BIODIVERSITY

In 2019, the zone committee are motivated to explore opportunities with the new Billion Trees fund for the Port Hills and continue support for the development of a dryland park.

## Zone committee membership 2018

Robert Wynn-Williams, Lance Kenyon and Suzanne Furkert finished at the end of 2018. Kevin Brown was reappointed to the committee and Abbie Wilson and Annabelle Hasselman will join in 2019.

Arapata Reuben (Ngāi Tūāhuriri

Rūnanga) – Chair

Lance Kenyon (Community member) - Deputy Chair

Les Wanhalla (Te Taumutu Rūnanga) – Regional representative

Herewini Banks (Te Hapū ō Ngāti Wheke/Rāpaki rūnanga )

Kevin Brown (Community member)

Robert Wynn-Williams (Community member) Helen Caley (Community member)

Suzanne Furkert (Community member)

Gareth Oddy (Community member)

Carly Sluys (Community member)

Pauline Cotter (Christchurch City Council Councillor)

Debra Hasson (Selwyn District

Council Councillor)

Tom Lambie (Environment Canterbury Councillor)

# Airport CBD Avon River Avon Heathrote River Estuary

## **Key Zone contacts**

Steve Firth - Christchurch West Melton Zone Manager Steve.Firth@ecan.govt.nz | 027 561 0581

Olivia Smith - Christchurch West Melton Water Zone Committee Facilitator Olivia.Smith@ecan.govt.nz | 027 886 3949

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## Waimakariri Water Zone Committee

# 2018 Annual Report



## Community action key to improving fresh water



David Ashby, Waimakariri Water Zone Committee Chair

Throughout 2018 the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee has focused on reflecting the views of the wider community in our final version of the Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA), which was received by both Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council in December 2018.

We've held 60 community meetings, workshops and feedback sessions over the last two years and it's clear that we must reduce our impact on the environment to improve Waimakariri's water quality and quantity.

No matter where we live or how we use our land, we all need to work together to create the changes we want to see for future generations. With around 350 farms and 3500 small blocks

we all have a part to play when it comes to reducing our environmental footprint.

We're not waiting for the Plan Change to come into effect to make changes; instead we're actively working together with industry partners, farmers, environmental groups and the wider public to create real change through on the ground actions.

Projects such as the joint ECan-WIL infiltration trial and the zone committee's ongoing support of the Ashley Rakahuri Rivercare Group's outstanding efforts to enhance the environment for braided river birds show what can be achieve when we move forward together towards a better future for our waterways.

## **Key achievements 2018**

- The committee has produced a challenging suite of ZIPA recommendations, based on some difficult decisions. The result is a document that seeks improved environmental outcomes that will restrict further intensification in land use, and set challenging targets to achieve over time.
- The emergence of leadership through this year's ZIPA engagement, from the likes of the Next Generation Farming Group, demonstrates what's required to achieve the community outcomes at the heart of the zone committee's work.
- The committee allocated \$65,710 of Immediate Steps biodiversity funding across 3 projects in 2018 – Easterbrook Road Community Planting, Kānuka remnant project (near Eyreton), and the Dagnum dryland project (near Burnt Hill).
- A partnership between Waimakariri Irrigation Limited, a landowner, and ECan led to the successful start to a 3 year infiltration trial aimed at developing a cost-effective solution to reducing nitrates in the Sliverstream.

Twelve lifestyle block owners and farmers on Easterbrook Road have teamed up to restore a 1.8 kilometre waterway which flows from a springhead near the Number Four Drain to Fernside Road. The group received \$49,710 of Immediate Steps funding from the Waimakairi Zone Committee for the purchase or native plants, plant guards and maintenance.



#### Waimakariri Water Zone Committee

## Delivering the community's vision for freshwater

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Ecosystem health and biodiversity



Kaitiakitanga



Recreational and amenity opportunities



Irrigated land area



Regional and national



Natural character of braided rivers



Drinking water



Water use efficiency



Energy security and efficiency



Environmental



## App boosts Silverstream knowledge

A stream walk app has been used to map over 12 kilometres of Silverstream and its tributaries to provide a broader understanding of the waterway's ecosystem.

Environment Canterbury principal biodiversity officer Jason Butt and a colleague gathered a wealth of data during the two weeks they spent mapping Silverstream from Silverstream subdivision through to the springhead east of the Eyre River diversion.

"We collected data on macrophytes (aquatic plants), sediment, vegetation and fish species. Gathering this information gives us an understanding of what sort of management practices could improve the health of the stream."

Jason says the stream walk app provides consistency and allows scientists to compare data in the future.

"In a few years when we return, we can revisit points of interest along the stream and see if actions we've taken have resulted in better outcomes for the stream because we have the original data at our fingertips."

North Canterbury zone manager Andrew Arps says the stream walk app is an excellent tool which supports ongoing projects to improve Silverstream's water quality.

"We're protecting and enhancing springheads through fencing and riparian planting. We're also working with landowners to create wetlands in an area of under-utilised farmland. This will help resolve high nitrate levels at the upper reaches of Silverstream while restoring critical biodiversity values."

This project addresses the priority catchment of Silverstream, which is a key focus area for the zone committee due to elevated nitrate levels in the stream. It also provides an insight into ecosystem health and biodiversity.

Environment Canterbury Biodiversity Officer, Jason Butt, using a stream walk app to gather data at Silverstream Reserve.



# Infiltration trial could solve Silverstream's nitrate issues

A three-year infiltration trial being carried out by Environment Canterbury and Waimakariri Irrigation Limited (WIL) aims to reduce Silverstream's nitrate levels by introducing more water into the stream.

The trial is operating on a WIL shareholder's farm using a trench connected to an irrigation race which receives water from the Browns Rock intake of the Waimakariri River. The trench, which is located seven kilometres east of Silverstream, is 1.5 metres deep and 150 metres long.

Environment Canterbury senior hydrogeologist Zeb Etheridge says initial results from the first eight weeks of the trial are promising.

"We knew within the first week that it was a really good infiltration location  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left($ as we're getting at least 80 litres of water per second into the trench.

"We've also recorded a drop from 9-10 mg/L to 4.5 - 5mg/L of nitrate at the piezometer located next to the trench which is really positive."

This project furthers the zone committee's commitment to achieving the targets of improving ecosystem health and biodiversity, along with water use efficiency.



Environment Canterbury senior hydrogeologist Zeb Etheridge and WIL environmental manager Paul Reese discuss initial results from an infiltration trial designed to reduce Silverstream's nitrate levels.

## ▲ Community feedback key to improving waterways

Over 80 people attended two drop-in sessions at the Ohoka Farmers Market in October to provide feedback on Waimakariri Zone Committee's draft recommendations for solving water management issues. These sessions were part of several rounds of engagement hosted by the Zone Committee from April to October in 2018.

Attendees provided feedback on the draft Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA) which covers topics such as: reducing nitrate, phosphorus and sediment losses, managing environmental flows and improving ecological and cultural values.

Concerns raised by residents included: low flows in the Ashley/Rakahuri River, cows accessing local streams, assistance for farmers to reach new nitrate limits, access to clean rivers and streams for safe swimming and recreation, and high nitrate levels at Silverstream and in groundwater. Attendees were pleased to see on-the-ground action being taken to improve local streams and rivers but believed more needed to be done to reverse the damage to Waimakariri's waterways.

North Canterbury zone manager Andrew Arps says it's great to see locals getting involved in the process and they will have a further opportunity to provide submissions on the Waimakariri Plan Change when it is notified in mid 2019.



People attending a drop-in session at the Ohoka Farmers Market received a ribbonwood/manatu seedling for sharing their thoughts on the Waimakariri Zone Committee's draft recommendations for addressing water issues.

## 🛕 🐧 Lifestyle block owners keen to protect environment

Swannanoa couple Daniel and Michelle Power have gained a fresh insight into best management practices for their lifestyle block during a lifestyle block environment project run by the Waimakariri Zone Committee.

There are over 3500 lifestyle blocks in Waimakariri, and while they are not significant contributors to water quality issues in the area, collectively they do have an impact on the environment.

The pilot project covered topics such as animal welfare, riparian planting, waterways, pasture growth, feed requirements and fertiliser use.

Daniel and Michelle were reassured to discover that their regular soil testing programme is helping them to get the best use of their 20-acre block.

"One thing we're doing differently now is graphing all of our soil test results so we can see if there are any trends developing over time.

"Soil testing makes sense because it gives you the facts you need to make decisions about what to use on your land."

This project advances the zone committee's goals of everyone doing their bit in meeting environmental limits and promoting water use efficiency.



Michelle and Daniel Power moved to their Swannanoa lifestyle block to provide daughters Jess and Ashlee with a rural lifestyle.



## Future challenges and opportunities

Having completed the ZIPA recommendations by the end of 2018, the committee is focused on priority ZIPA recommendations to advance actions on the ground in the zone. These priorities will include engagement on catchment management planning in select sub-catchments, the monitoring of water quality, an action plan for biodiversity, and ongoing support for projects such as the Silverstream infiltration trial.

Continuing to engage with the community is another priority in 2019, particularly with groups like the Next Generation Farming Group. Having committed to extensive community engagement on the ZIPA, and the community outcomes it is focused on, it is important to continue this

**Zone description** 

The Waimakariri Zone boundaries are similar to those of the Waimakariri District Council. The zone lies north of the Waimakariri River and extends from Pegasus Bay in the east to the Puketeraki Range in the west.

Much of the land to the eastern part of the zone is naturally subject to poor drainage and occasional flooding.

The rivers, streams, lagoons and wetlands have always been important places and a food basket for Ngãi Tūāhuriri. The zone is part of the Rūnanga's takiwā.

## Zone committee membership

David Ashby, Chair, Community member

Grant Edge, Deputy Chair, Community member

Michael Blackwell, Community member

Cameron Henderson, Community member

Judith Roper-Lindsay, Community member Gary Walton, Community member

Carolyne Latham, Community member

Arapata Reuben, Rūnanga representative – Ngāi Tūāhuriri

Sandra Stewart.

Waimakariri District Councillor

Claire McKay, Environment Canterbury Councillor engagement if the community outcomes are to be achieved.

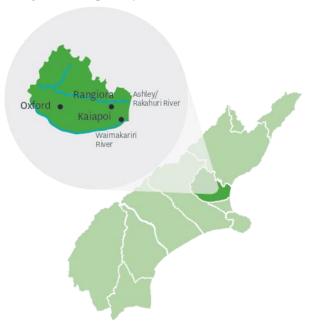
In mid-2019 the plan change based on the ZIPA recommendations will be notified with another round of public submissions on this plan change to follow this year.

The zone committee will also go through a 'refresh', this refresh was deferred to allow the current committee members to focus on their task of preparing the ZIPA recommendations by the end of 2018. The refreshed zone committee will take on the challenge of implementing these next recommendations and advance a solutions programme over the 3 years towards achieving the ZIPA's community outcomes.

## **Key Zone contacts**

Andrew Arps - Waimakariri Water Committee Zone Manager Andrew.Arps@ecan.govt.nz | 027 554 4007

Murray Griffin - Waimakariri Water Zone Committee Facilitator Murray.Griffin@ecan.govt.nz | 027 705 4798



The Waimakariri Water Zone Committee is a community led committee supported by councils.

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Hurunui Waiau Water Zone Committee

# **2018 Annual Report**



## Good progress being made to address local freshwater challenges



John Faulkner, Hurunui Waiau Water Zone Committee Chair

The Hurunui Waiau Water Zone Committee continues to progress a wide range of Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) targets. Notably, the implementation of the Hurunui Waiau River Regional Plan (HWRRP) is well underway and the need to set and attain environmental standards is widely accepted within the zone.

A solution to the unintended consequences of the HWRRP for dryland farms is also being progressed and the BRIDGE Project is addressing changes made to managing river beds in the Land and Water Regional Plan.

Another key focus for the committee has been to improve nesting habitat for nationally declining threatened bird species. This includes funding a flagship project to clear and build nesting sites on the Hurunui and Waiau Uwha rivers and

funding a predator control programme.

The predator control programme particularly targets black-backed gulls which predate on the young of endangered river birds. The gulls also contribute to the contamination of the Balmoral swimming site. It is anticipated that the Hurunui SPLASH project which aims to have swimmable community water holes will benefit from the reduction of *E. coli* levels.

The CWMS has been in operation for almost ten years and a region-wide project is underway to review the progress being made and identify how to build on the momentum. A key theme that has developed within the Hurunui Waiau zone is that more action needs to be taken to strengthen the commitment to mahinga kai and cultural values and we expect this project to address that.

## **Key achievements 2018**

- Successful control of southern black-backed gulls, a key predator of threatened braided-river birds, at two large colonies on the Hurunui River as part of the committee's multi-year Immediate Steps funded Braided River Flagship Project.
- The committee recommended, through its Zone Implementation Programme (ZIP) Addendum, that the HWRRP be changed to fix the "10%" issue that has frustrated dryland farmers since 2014. Environment Canterbury will notify the plan change in early 2019.
- The committee allocated \$36,000 of Immediate Steps funding to four new projects. All the projects are partnerships between QEII Trust and the farmer, ensuring long term protection. The projects are spread across the zone – Greta Valley, coastal Conway, Parnassus and Cheviot.

## Waiau Uwha

In early 2018 the official name for the Waiau River became "Waiau Uwha". This recognises the river's connection to the Waiau Toa/Clarence River. Te Runanga o Kaikōura tradition is that "Waiau Uwha, the female river, coupled with Waiau Toa, the male river, but drifted away from each other. Waiau Uwha laments this separation and her tears swell the waters when melted snow enters the river."

Many farmers are already farming in ways that provide for mahinga kai. However there is little understanding of mahinga kai and Ngãi Tahu values and how farming practices impact them. A Cultural Land Management Advisor has been appointed to work in the zone and the committee joined farmers at a mahinga kai field day.



#### Hurunui Waiau Water Zone Committee

## Delivering the community's vision for fresh water

The Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) puts finding solutions for freshwater management in the hands of the community, with support from councils, Ngãi Tahu, and others. The strategy sets out freshwater goals and targets to deliver the community's vision for freshwater.

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Within each target area there are time-bound targets to be achieved and these are monitored and reported on to ensure progress is being made.

The target areas are shown below - read some of the stories about what is being done in the zone to achieve deliver on these on the next page.

The committee acknowledges and celebrates the work being done to deliver the targets in particular by Environment Canterbury, Hurunui District Council, irrigation schemes and farmers.

## **CWMS Targets**



Ecosystem health and biodiversity



Kaitiakitanga



Recreational and amenity opportunities



Irrigated land area



Regional and national economies



Natural character of braided rivers



**Drinking water** 



Water use efficiency



Energy security and efficiency



Environmental limits



# Predator control helps protect threatened braided-river birds

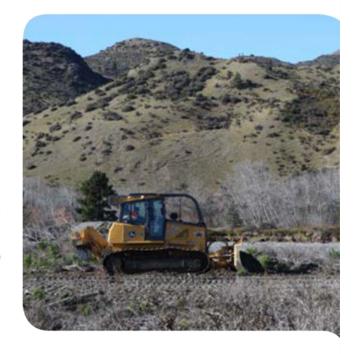
The colonies of black-fronted terns, black-billed gulls, and other threatened braided-river birds in the Hurunui and Waiau Uwha rivers are struggling.

Only 11 chicks are known to have successfully fledged in the 14 blackfronted tern colonies across both rivers in 2017. Predation is the main cause, followed by flooding. Southern black-backed gulls are believed to be a major predator.

Increasing the populations of the threatened birds that nest in the Hurunui River and Waiau Uwha is the goal of the committee's \$310,000 Immediate Steps, 5-year, Braided River Flagship Project.

This year, seven islands were enhanced across both rivers, to improve bird habitat. Southern black-backed gull control was done at two of the largest colonies on the Hurunui River. Over 1,500 gulls were culled.

Weed control and island creation work has been undertaken in the zone to help protect rare braided river birds.







# Understanding swimming water quality at Balmoral campground

The Hurunui River beside the Balmoral campground is a popular swimming spot. At times, E. coli levels breach the swimming standard.

The committee wanted to find out more about the source of this contamination and asked Environment Canterbury to investigate.

Weekly sampling at six sites in 2016/17 honed in on the source area. Monitoring and further investigations last summer narrowed the source to riverbed birds.

There are large colonies of southern black-backed gulls upstream of the swimming spot. Gull control, as part of the committee's Braided River Flagship Project, is expected to reduce E. coli levels and monitoring will continue at a site just below the largest gull colony.

Environment Canterbury's Zone Delivery Team started the Hurunui SPLASH project to improve swimming holes starting with the Balmoral campground site. As part of this project, river channels were modified to ensure more flow in the side channel people swim in.



The popular swimming site beside the Balmoral campground.



# Fixing the "10%-rule" issue for dryland farming

Some of the provisions for nutrient management in the Hurunui Waiau River Regional Plan (HWRRP), generally referred to as the "10% rule", had unintended consequences for dryland farmers. For example, changes in the ratio of sheep to beef or changes in the area of fodder crops to address feed deficits can fall outside what is permitted and trigger a requirement for resource consent.

More than 300 farmers protested about the unfairness of the HWRRP "10% rule" at the September 2014 committee meeting. In 2015 Environment Canterbury, with the endorsement of the committee, issued an advice note setting out the approach that would be taken to be compliant with the 10% rule.

While this provided some relief for dryland farmers uncertainty remains, so the committee recommended changes to the HWRRP to enable dryland farming to continue as a permitted activity.

Environment Canterbury endorsed the committee's recommendations and will notify a plan change in early 2019.



More than 300 farmers met to discuss the HWRRP 10% rule.



## State of water quality

Water quality is variable across the zone depending on the river and the water quality attribute. Water quality is generally better in Waiau Uwha as it is a larger river with more floods and freshes. Nitrate from intensive land use in the Amuri Basin is a major source of N to the rivers with increasing trend in concentrations at some tributary and groundwater sites and downstream in the Hurunui River and Waiau Uwha. Phosphorus concentrations do not show a trend in the Hurunui River and Waiau Uwha except a slight decrease in the Hurunui River when flow is taken into consideration. There are decreasing P trends for Waitohi, Pahau and Dry Stream. Cyanobacteria can be an issue in the Hurunui River. While there are uncertainties about the impact of altering in-river N and P concentrations on periphyton (including cyanobacteria) growth, the committee is clear that it is essential to manage the loss of nutrients, sediment and E. coli to avoid poor water quality.



The Pahau River won the 2017 New Zealand River Award for most improved river The River Awards celebrate water quality improvement. Each year rivers across New Zealand are judged on one of four key water quality indicators. In 2017 the indicator was E. coli. Over the last ten years there has been a 15% year-on-year reduction in E. coli levels at monitoring sites along the Pahau River



Each of the region's 10 Zone Committees includes four to seven community members and this membership is regularly refreshed to ensure a wide range of perspectives are reflected.

## Future challenges and opportunities

Integrated water management

In September Hurunui Water Project (HWP) completed its share offer with insufficient interest to advance the planned construction of an irrigation scheme on the south side of the Hurunui River.

Amuri Irrigation (AIC) is looking to take over the resource consents held by HWP and will seek to advance a piped irrigation scheme on the south bank of the Hurunui with an initial command area of 8,000-10,000ha between the Hurunui River and Hawarden.

While the committee is disappointed at the failure of HWP, initiated over 15 years ago by farmers in the catchment, integrated water (irrigation) management of the Hurunui River and Waiau Uwha has now become easier. The committee looks forward to continuing to work closely with AIC on integrated management of water and nutrient management.

## Hurunui Waiau Zone

The Hurunui Waiau Zone Committee was formed in 2010 to work with the community, rūnanga and councils to develop and implement water management recommendations that deliver the vision of the CWMS.

Our zone features Lake Sumner, the alpine Hurunui River and Waiau Uwha, the hill-fed Waipara and Tūtaeputaputa/Conway rivers and the north Pegasus Bay coastal wetlands and coastal hills.

## **Zone Committee membership 2018**

Ben Ensor, James Costello and Dan Shand finished at the end of the year with Julia McLean, John Preece and Josh Dondertman joining the Committee in 2019 as community members.

James Costello, Community Member

Ken Hughey, Community Member

James McCone, Community

Member

Dan Shand, Community Member

John Faulkner,

Community Member; Chair

Ben Ensor, Community Member;

Deputy Chair

Michele Hawke, Community Member; Regional Committee Nukuroa Tirikatene-Nash, Rūnanga Rep-Kaikōura

Makarini Rupene, Rūnanga Rep-Tūāhuriri

Cynthia Roberts,

Council-Environment Canterbury

Vincent Daly, Council-Hurunui

DISTRICT

Winton Dalley, Council-Hurunui District Mayor

The Hurunui Waiau Water Zone Committee is a community led committee supported by councils.

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#### Implementing HWRRP minimum flows

The Hurunui Waiau River Regional Plan, which became operative in December 2013, contains the provision for minimum flows in both rivers to be raised, from 15 to 20 m3/s for the Waiau Uwha and 12 to 15 m3/s for the Hurunui River.

The new minimum flows apply on new consents and on consents as they come up for renewal. AIC, one of the larger water users, has consents that will not come up for renewal for decades. The committee wants the minimum flows to be implemented "sooner rather than later".

The committee is working with AIC to develop a proposal for staged implementation of the plan minimum flows from now until 2026 alongside an environmental enhancement package provided by AIC.

## **Key Zone contacts**

Hurunui Waiau Water Zone Committee Facilitator - Ian Whitehouse email: Ian.Whitehouse@ecan.govt.nz | phone: 027 500 1833

Hurunui Waiau Water Zone Delivery Lead - Marco Cataloni email: marco.cataloni@ecan.govt.nz | phone: 027 241 7951







#### Kaikõura Water Zone Committee

# **2018 Annual Report**



## **Moving Forward: A celebration of 2018**



Ted Howard, Kaikõura Water Zone Committee Chair

2018 marked a turning point for us moving forward after the 2016 North Canterbury earthquakes.

The Kaikōura Plains Recovery Project is now into its second year and thanks to MPI funding, we were able to get some recommendations on how to improve the water quality and community interaction out on our flats.

The focus of the zone committee right now is the Waikōau/Lyell Creek. We have funding to be able to make a difference, and we are pushing ahead.

We want everyone to be involved. Wetland developments, planting and fencing of the

margins, overland flow paths into drains and creeks are important aspects to focus on and together make a big difference.

It was great to see more than 180 local people turn out to Waikōau/Lyell Creek clean-up days this year. This is building on the work of many in the community and is something we want to continue.

There are a lot of people in this community who, despite being busy and having multiple interests, make the effort to improve the quality of our waterways.

Thank you to all those who made an effort and thank you also to all those who appreciate the difference in some way.

## **Key achievements 2018**

- The Waikōau/Lyell Creek Catchment Recovery Plan was completed with funding support from the Kaikōura Plains Recovery Project. Undertaken by a team from NIWA, this plan provides recommendations to advance catchment recovery for the Waikōau/Lyell Creek.
- A great community turnout for the Waikōau/Lyell Creek clean-up day in September.
- The first of the Catchment Recovery Plan projects was completed, with riffles constructed in the lower Lyell providing better instream habitat and water aeration.
- Two Immediate Steps biodiversity projects in the Waiau Toa/Clarence River were completed this year - A weed survey (stage one), and a black-billed gull survey.
- This black-billed gull survey confirmed two significant breeding colonies have been established in the upper Waiau Toa/Clarence River catchment, with up to 250 birds observed.
- More than \$85,000 Immediate Steps funding approved in 2018. Visit ecan.govt.nz/biodiversity for information on how to apply for funding.
- A Cultural Land Management Advisor was appointed to the zone. The zone committee were delighted to welcome Makarini Rupene into this role.
- The zone committee introduced Te Reo lessons to the start of meetings this year, with a particular focus on the pronunciation and meaning of local waterways and place names.

Waiau Toa/Clarence River – In January 2018 the New Zealand Geographic Board confirmed the official name of the Clarence River is the Waiau Toa/Clarence River. This coincided with the Waiau River being officially renamed the Waiau Uwha. In Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura tradition the Waiau Uwha (the female river) coupled with Waiau Toa (the male river) but they drifted away from each other. Waiau Uwha laments this separation and her tears swell the waters when melted snow enters the river



#### Kaikōura Water Zone Committee

## Delivering the community's vision for freshwater

The Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) puts finding solutions for freshwater management in the hands of the community, with support from councils, Ngãi Tahu, and others. The strategy sets out freshwater goals and targets to deliver the community's vision for freshwater.

"To gain the greatest cultural, economic, environmental, recreational and social benefits from our water resources within a sustainable framework both now and for future generations."

Each of the ten community-led water zone committees work collaboratively to develop freshwater recommendations to ensure council plans give effect to these goals and targets.

Within each target area there are several specific time-bound targets to be achieved and these are monitored and reported on to ensure progress is being made.

The target areas are shown below - read some of the stories about what is being done in the zone to deliver on these on the next page.

## **CWMS Targets**



Ecosystem health and biodiversity



Kaitiakitanga



Recreational and amenity opportunities



Irrigated land area



Regional and national economies

Natural character of braided rivers



**Drinking** water



Water use efficiency



Energy security and efficiency



Environmental



## Kaikōura Plains Recovery **Project: Year Two**

The Kaikōura Plains Recovery Project (KPRP) has moved full steam ahead in its second year.

The project, which seeks to assist farmers recovering from the impact of the 2016 earthquake, is supported by the Kaikōura Water Zone Committee.

In 2018, two drainage sites were set up at two farms to demonstrate new drainage techniques to farmers whose properties have been affected by new springs or bogs created by the earthquake. Another two sites will be utilised in 2019.

The KPRP governance group and Fonterra rolled out a soil moisture project giving farmers the technical capability to understand their soils better. This will help remove the guess work around when to irrigate or spread effluent.

Farmers have also been given the opportunity to get ahead of the game with regards to mahinga kai. A cultural land management advisor has been seconded to the project to help farmers understand mahinga kai on their farms.

NIWA was commissioned to provide recommendations on how to restore the Waikōau/Lyell Creek as a healthy waterway.

Those recommendations have been developed to form the Love the Lyell programme which seeks to reduce contaminants, enhance habitats, increase plantings and restore the community's connection with the creek.



## **↑** ★ Stream protection longterm focus for farmers

A project to protect and restore a small tributary of the Kahutara River to riparian forest was awarded \$12,000 of Immediate Steps funding by the Kaikoura Water Zone Committee.

The project on Rod and Catherine Lamb's Inland Route dairy farm will see about 26ha of land restored to create a riparian canopy to share the stream and provide a corridor to the Kahutara River.

The couple hopes the planting will help filter out the nitrates, and they intend on doing regular water quality sampling to monitor progress.

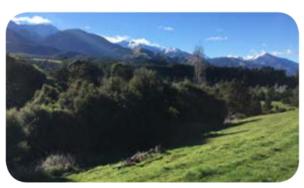
"We're hoping that by the time we've finished, it has improved the water quality going through our farm so that it's the same as when it came in as it is going out," they said.

The couple utilised the Ministry for Primary Industries Earthquake Recovery Fund to get the initial planning done. The plan has created six area's for work, and the couple expects it will take at least 10-12 years to

They hope the project could be used as part of environmental education for students in the area. The cultural importance of the Kahutara, as one of the areas large braided rivers, further adds to the project's educational potential and value.



Drainage sites were set up at two farms to demonstrate new drainage techniques for farmers whose properties have been affected by new springs or bogs created by the earthquake



The committee provided funding to help protect and restore a small tributary of the Kahutara River.

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## Ko au ko Waikoau



## Record turn-out for creek clean-up

Kaikõura locals showed their love for Waikōau/Lyell Creek with a record number of people offering their hand for the annual Love the Lyell clean up.

More than 150 people, including schools and staff from NCTIR, Kaikōura District Council and Environment Canterbury, attended the event in September hosted by the Kaikōura Water Zone Committee's Love the Lyell group.

Some of the unusual things pulled out of the creek included a bike, wooden garden seat, truck, tyre and a laptop.

Environment Canterbury's Kaikōura zone manager Kevin Heays said the clean-up days were about bringing the community together to deliver their vision of a swimmable Waikōau/Lyell Creek.

"The creek is a major attraction and is important to the town so that is one of the Kaikoura Water Zone Committee's long-term goals- to take away the no swimming signs," he said.

"These community-led clean-up and planting days will help to improve the water quality in the creek over time, and we're going to be working hard over the next few years to achieve this."

Thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a success.



More than 180 people attended a creek clean-up event in September hosted by the Kaikõura Water Zone Committee



## ♠ Delivering the community's vision for Waikōau/Lyell Creek

When the Kaikōura Water Zone Committee was formed in 2011, they identified the Waikoau/Lyell Creek as a priority for improving water quality. Since then, the committee has supported numerous community projects to help restore it.

However, there is still much to be done. New funding was secured to develop a programme to continue to work towards restoring Waikōau/ Lyell Creek as a healthy waterway that can be enjoyed by future generations.

The 'Love the Lyell' programme, based on recommendations by NIWA as part of the Kaikoura Plains Recovery Project, seeks to deliver on the priority actions and vision for the creek. It will do so by:

- · Reducing contaminants
- · Enhancing habitats
- Increasing plantings
- · Restoring the community's connection with the creek



NIWA research team site visit with Plains Recovery project staff.

## Future challenges and opportunities

- · Our target is to have the water quality safe to swim and to gather mahinga kai; a beautiful place to be; a safe place for our native species including whitebait and lamprey; while maintaining flood protection and drainage values.
- Supporting local farmers with advice on the Land and Water Regional Plan including Plan Change 5, irrigation efficiency, and cultural land management advice.
- A key feature of the Cultural Land Management Advisory role is working with local farmers and industry groups, to understand how to incorporate mahinga kai values into managing their farms.
- Completion of Immediate Steps biodiversity funding and projects with a particular focus on the Biodiversity Action Plan for the Waiau Toa/Clarence

- catchment, and continue to promote this funding across the zone.
- · More than 95% of our wetlands have been drained and turned into pasture. Much of that was necessary and as a result many of the native birds, fish, insects, plants, and multitudes of tiny plants, animals and bacteria that once inhabited those areas are now threatened with extinction. The balance between our human needs for food and prosperity, and the ability of natural ecosystems to survive, is strained to breaking point. Saving what few wetlands remain is important.
- Continuing to support the Kaikoura Plains Recovery Project.
- Explore the opportunities the hill-country erosion fund may present for Kaikōura in looking for for practical ways to make the best of the many impacts of the earthquake.



Zone Committee, as listed below, Ted, Rob, Ari, Gina, Celeste, Steve, Nicky, Tony and John.

## **Zone description**

The Kaikōura Water Zone Committee was formed in 2011 and an initial milestone was the development of a Zone Implementation Programme (ZIP), which sets out what needs to be done to deliver improved water management outcomes in Kaikōura.

The ZIP has several areas of focus including the Waiau Toa/Clarence River and the Kaikoura Plains. Kaikōura's distinctive coastline is in close proximity to high mountains and gives rise to many short, steep, swift-flowing rivers and diverse landscapes, biodiversity, and land uses over short distances.

The Kaikōura Water Zone includes all of the Kaikōura District and part of the Hurunui District that includes the upper Waiau Toa/Clarence River catchment above the Acheron River confluence.

The zone is entirely within the takiwā (area) of the tangata whenua Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura who represent the hapū Ngāti Kuri, from the iwi Ngāi Tahu.

## Zone committee membership

Ted Howard, Chair, Community member

John Murray,

Community member

Tony Blunt,

Community member

Teri Sonal, Community member

Nicky McArthur.

Nicky McArthur, Community member

Rob Roche,

Community member

Gina Solomon, Deputy Chair, Kaikõura Rūnanga representative

Ari Boyd,

Kaikõura Rūnanga representative

Celeste Harnett,

Kaikõura District Council

Steve Lowndes,

**Environment Canterbury** 

The Kaikōura Water Zone Committee is a community led committee supported by councils.

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## **Key Zone contacts**

Kevin Heays - Kaikōura Water Zone Committee Manager Kevin.Heays@ecan.govt.nz | 027 646 2230

Murray Griffin - Kaikōura Water Zone Committee Facilitator Murray.Griffin@ecan.govt.nz | 027 705 4798







# 5.4 CONSENT COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND INCIDENT RESPONSE - QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION

Author: Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor Authoriser: Karalyn Reid, Committee Secretary and PA to the Mayor

Attachments: Nil

HUI/MEETING: Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee	
AGENDA ITEM NO: 5.4	KAUPAPA/SUBJECT:  Consent Compliance Monitoring and Incident Response Question & Answer session
KAITUHI/AUTHOR: Dave Moore, Zone Facilitator	WĀ/MEETING DATE: 17 July 2019

#### **PURPOSE**

- 1. To provide an interactive opportunity for Committee members to learn more about Environment Canterbury's compliance monitoring and incident response processes and procedures.
- 2. This will be a relatively unstructured session and is an opportunity to gain a better understanding of this area.

#### **BACKGROUND**

- 3. Effective monitoring of consent compliance and responding to incidents is critical to safeguard the outcomes of Zone Implementation Plans.
- 4. Zone Committee members are sometimes contacted by members of the community regarding perceived compliance issues. In April, the Zone Committee requested a Question and Answer session to gain a better understanding of these processes.

#### **ACTION**

- 5. Zella Smith (Principle Consents Planner) and Brian Reeves (Zone Delivery Lead, Southern) from Environment Canterbury will present a short overview and invite questions from the committee.
- 6. Please note Zella and Brian will <u>not</u> be able comment on specific consents or compliance investigations but are happy to discuss the processes, protocols and challenges.

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**MEETING CLOSURES**