



**WAIMAKARIRI**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL



# Agenda

## **Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting**

**at 3.30pm  
on Monday 1 February 2016**

to be held in the

**Function Room  
Rangiora Town Hall  
303 High Street  
Rangiora**

### *Members*

Claire McKay (Chairperson)  
David Ashby  
Grant Edge  
WDC Councillor Kevin Felstead  
Judith Roper-Lindsay  
Gary Walton  
Carolyn Latham  
Clare Williams (Te Ngai Tūāhuriri Rūnanga)  
Cherie Williams (Te Ngai Tūāhuriri Rūnanga)  
Rex Williams (Environment Canterbury Commissioner)

Chairman and Members  
**WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE**

A Meeting of the **CANTERBURY WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE** will be held in the **FUNCTION ROOM, RANGIORA TOWN HALL, 303 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA** on **MONDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2016** to commence at **3.30PM.**

Adrienne Smith  
 COMMITTEE ADVISOR

Page No.

**Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as  
 Council policy until adopted by the Council**

**BUSINESS**

**1 KARAKIA**

**APOLOGIES**

**REGISTER OF INTEREST**

5-6

*Conflicts of interest (if any) to be reported for minuting.*

**2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Minutes of a meeting of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy - Waimakariri Zone Committee held on Monday 2 November 2015**

7-14

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee

- (a) **Confirms** as a true and correct record the minutes of a meeting of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy – Waimakariri Zone Committee held on Monday 2 November 2015.

**MATTERS ARISING**

**3 OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK**

- 4 **WORKING GROUP AND REGIONAL COMMITTEE – UPDATES** – C McKay / Zone Committee / A Veltman 15-17
- 4.1 **COMMITTEE UPDATES – 1 FEBRUARY 2016** – M Griffin (Facilitator) 18-20
- 4.2 **REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT – DECEMBER MEETING** – C McKay (Chairperson)  
*RECOMMENDATION*
- THAT** the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee
- (a) **Receives** the updates for its information and with regard to the Committee's 2015/16 work programme and 5 Year Outcomes.
- 5 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME – FEBRUARY TO MAY 2016** – M Griffin / Zone Committee 21
- RECOMMENDATION*
- THAT** the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee
- (a) **Considers and confirms** its work programme priorities from February to March 2016, with reference to the Committee's Five Year Outcomes, meeting schedule and community engagement for 2016.
- 6 **IMMEDIATE STEPS FUNDING – APPLICATION UPDATE** – J Hill and J Tompkins (Biodiversity Officers, Environment Canterbury) 22-29
- RECOMMENDATION*
- THAT** the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee
- (a) **Approves** \$8,000 to Te Kohaka o Tuhaitara Trust – Tutaepatu Lagoon Stage 6 as a new Immediate Steps project.
- (b) **Approves** \$10,000 to Pines Beach Wetland Stage 2 as a new Immediate Steps project.
- (c) **Approves** \$9,887 to Ashley-Rakahuri River Care Group – River Bird Protection Project as a new Immediate Steps project.
- (d) **Notes** that the Committee supported, in principle, grant applications (a), (b) and (c) at the fieldtrip held 7 December 2015 and requested further information on the Coopers Creek Wetland Restoration.
- (e) **Approves** \$7,155 to Coopers Creek Wetland Restoration as a new Immediate Steps project.
- OR**
- (f) **Declines** the funding application for the Coopers Creek Wetland Restoration as a new Immediate Steps project.

- 7 **ECAN CONSENTS – UPDATE AND OVERVIEW** – V Loughman (Team Leader Consents Planning and Consents Processing, ECan) and D Just (Consents Planner, ECan) 30

*RECOMMENDATION*

**THAT** the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee

- (a) **Receives** this briefing for their information and with reference to the committee's Five Year Outcomes and Community Engagement in 2016.

- 8 **GENERAL BUSINESS** – Chairperson and Zone Committee Members

---ooo0ooo---

**WORKSHOP**

At the conclusion of the meeting there will be a workshop to discuss the following items:

- 9 **Overseer 101** – R Hyde (South Island Team Leader, Balance Nutrient Budgeting) and A Veltman (Waimakariri Land Management Advisor, ECan) 31

- 10 **Community Meetings Review and Feedback** – M Griffin (Facillitator) 32

# WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE

## Register of Interests – February 2016

Name	Committee Member Interests
<b>David Ashby</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Director/shareholder: Pineleigh Farm Limited</li> <li>- Director/shareholder: Dave Ashby Rural Consultants Limited</li> <li>- Shareholder: Waimakariri Irrigation Limited</li> <li>- Member: Cust Main Drain Water User Group</li> </ul>
<b>Grant Edge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Director: Edge Landscape Projects Ltd, Edge Plants Ltd, and Edge Products Ltd</li> <li>- Member: NZ Institute of Landscape Architects</li> <li>- Member: Urban Design Forum</li> <li>- Member: QEII National Trust</li> <li>- Member: NZ Forest &amp; Bird</li> <li>- Member: Heritage NZ</li> <li>- 1ha property Fernside (shallow bore user)</li> </ul>
<b>Kevin Felstead</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Deputy Mayor, Waimakariri District</li> <li>- Utilities and Roading Committee, Waimakariri District Council</li> <li>- Audit Committee, Waimakariri District Council</li> <li>- Sole Trader: Resource Consent Services</li> </ul>
<b>Nick Haley</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Project Manager and Shareholder Fulton Hogan</li> </ul>
<b>Carolyn Latham</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Farmer: Sheep, beef and racehorse agistment</li> <li>- Project Manager/Pastoral Consultant for Rural Value/LINZ</li> <li>- Shareholder: Silver Fern Farms, Farmlands</li> <li>- Registered Member: New Zealand Institute of Primary Industry Management</li> <li>- Member: Canterbury Ice Hockey Association</li> </ul>
<b>Claire McKay</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dairy Farmer</li> <li>- Irrigator and shareholder: Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd</li> <li>- Holder of Groundwater take and use consents in Cust groundwater allocation zone</li> <li>- Holder of Effluent discharge consents</li> <li>- Member: Federated Farmers</li> <li>- Member: DairyNZ Dairy Environmental Leaders forum</li> <li>- Member: P21 Canterbury Industry Advisory Group</li> </ul>
<b>Judith Roper-Lindsay</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Director/ecologist: JR-L Consulting Ltd.</li> <li>- Land-owner/small-scale sheep farmer, Ashley downs</li> <li>- Member and local committee member: Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ)</li> <li>- Member: Forest and Bird</li> </ul>
<b>Gary Walton</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Director, Walton Farm Consulting Ltd</li> <li>- Shareholder, Loburn Irrigation Co</li> <li>- Trustee, Rugby World Heritage Trust</li> <li>- Ashley Rugby Football Club (Inc.)</li> <li>- Farmer, sheep &amp; cattle, Loburn</li> </ul>

<b>Cherie Williams</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Member: Mana Whenua Working Party</li> <li>- Tangatiaki / Kaitiaki</li> <li>- NZTA Northern and Southern Bypass Rūnanga Representative</li> </ul>
<b>Clare Williams</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chair, Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga Inc.</li> <li>- Selwyn/Waihora Zone Committee – Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga representative</li> <li>- Member: Mana Whenua Working Party</li> <li>- Trustee: Central Plains Water Trust</li> <li>- Member: Te Waihora Management Board</li> </ul>
<b>Rex Williams</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Commissioner: Environment Canterbury</li> <li>- Director: HWRichardson Group Ltd., Invercargill</li> </ul>

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CANTERBURY WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:  
WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA AT 3.32PM ON  
MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2015**

**PRESENT**

Claire McKay (Chairperson), David Ashby, Grant Edge, WDC Councillor Kevin Felstead, J Roper-Lindsay, Carolyn Latham, Gary Walton, Clare Williams (Te Ngai Tūāhuriri Rūnanga), Cherie Williams (Te Ngai Tūāhuriri Rūnanga), Rex Williams (Environment Canterbury Commissioner)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Murray Griffin (Zone Facilitator, ECan), Jill Atkinson (Director Strategy and Programmes, ECan), Anna Veltman (Land Management Advisor, ECan), Matt Dodson (Hydrogeologist, ECan), Geoff Meadows (Policy Manager, WDC), Mary Sparrow (Independent Consultant), Virginia Loughnan (Team Leader Consents Planning, ECan), Jessica Hill (Biodiversity Officer, ECan), Adrian Meredith (Principal Water Quality Scientist, ECan) Tammy McMahon (ECan), David Just (ECan) and Emma Stubbs (Minutes Secretary, WDC)

**OBSERVERS**

Sandra Stewart (Kaiapoi Advocate, Cam River Rehabilitation Committee), Michael Bates (Kaiapoi), James Ensor (Woodend Ashley Community Board).

**1 KARAKIA**

Nil.

**APOLOGIES**

Moved J Roper-Lindsay Seconded K Felstead

Apologies were received and sustained from Nicholas Haley for absence and Rex Williams for late arrival.

**CARRIED**

**REGISTER OF INTEREST**

As per agenda.

**2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Minutes of a meeting of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy - Waimakariri Zone Committee held on Monday 5 October 2015**

Moved G Edge Seconded G Walton

**THAT** the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee

- (a) **Confirms** as a true and correct record the minutes of a meeting of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy – Waimakariri Zone Committee held on Monday 5 October 2015.

**CARRIED**

### **MATTERS ARISING**

C McKay advised she had attended the Enviroschools mock Zone Committee forum and commented that the students had taken up the debate very well.

### **3 OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK**

M Bates addressed the committee regarding his concerns around the presence of Avian Botulism in Waimakariri and Christchurch sewerage ponds and wetlands. He believed the issue was not being addressed as it was too expensive. He noted that Avian Botulism could affect birds, cattle, horses and poultry, and spores were being dropped over countryside by birds. He requested assistance from the Committee to seek funding from central government to assist with the problem.

C McKay noted that M Bates had tabled a lot of information and suggested the committee needed time to take away the information and digest it.

J Roper-Lindsay queried how long the botulism had been present and M Bates advised it had been two years in Waimakariri and three years in Christchurch. It had been present in the North Island for many years.

C Williams noted from the Runanga point of view the ponds should be called sewage ponds not wetlands. She questioned the adequacy of the whole sewerage system to deal with the load. C Williams was concerned with birds flying between different ponds and farmland and believed there needed to be investigation into the spread rate of the disease. C Williams queried how long the Avian Botulism was an issue and M Bates advised it was prevalent for three months over summer and for the other eight months birds were spreading the disease.

G Edge suggested that a report be requested from WDC and/or ECan to the Committee on what was occurring and what was the plan to address. K Felstead noted that WDC were aware of the issue and that a report back to the Committee was a good idea.

J Roper-Lindsay concurred with the request for a report and noted that the human factor needed to be addressed as well as the science behind the poison and spread.

D Ashby commented that there could be concerns of a health risk to recreational users especially if there was another dry summer with low flows. M Griffin noted that Community Public Health (CDHB) may also be able to provide information and background of the scale and science behind the problem.

M Bates updated the committee on his observations of the health of streams around Kaiapoi noting that there was some vegetation growth and the silt had gone green. The number of bullies had increased in the water. C McKay commented that the following month the committee had a field trip to visit some of the sites and it would be good for M Bates to attend and show the committee sites he thought were indicative of the Kaiapoi's current state.

### **4 WORKING GROUP & REGIONAL COMMITTEE – UPDATES** – C McKay / Zone Committee / A Veltman

M Griffin spoke to the table of Action Points from Previous Meetings. He advised that they were now looking at having the Overseer Workshop early next year.

M Griffin noted in response to Action Point 9 regarding 'land use consents – lease holders verse land owners responsibility for information provision', Virginia Loughnan (Team Leader Consents Planning, ECan) advised that;

'There are really two situations that can arise in regards to land use consents.



- The landowner applies for a land use consent; therefore in terms of compliance the answer lies in the contract between the land holder and the lease holder. The lease holder can submit the information to comply with the consent but responsibility and compliance ultimately lies with the land owner as they are the consent holder.
- The leaseholder applies for a land use consent; entitled to do so-we would probably ask for written approval from the land owner as the activity is being undertaken on their land but in terms of compliance that falls to the lease holder (consent holder). Important to note though that a land use consent is tied to that specific piece of land and therefore if the leaseholder was to end his lease he could not take the consent with him as it is tied to that specific property.

In terms of submitting information for compliance purposes, it doesn't really matter who submits the information as long as it is the correct information; but where a consent is concerned liability always falls back to the consent holder.'

C McKay questioned M Griffin on the work that was to be done around the Ashley/Rakahuri river catchment. M Griffin advised that there would be underway prior to the end of year to pick up next year.

#### 4.1 **Regional Committee Report – C McKay**

C McKay noted she would take the report as read. There were two topics in the report – Longfin Eels and Plan Change 5 that would be addressed later in the afternoon.

G Edge noted that 'MPI had agreed to cease promoting Lupins as a crop, until proper management structures are in place'. He sought clarification as to whether MPI had gone as far as saying NO to Russell Lupins use as a crop. C McKay advised that she understood there was ongoing discussion and could not comment on MPIs position. J Hill advised she was not aware of the detail of discussions.

J Roper-Lindsay requested a link to the jet-boating report referred to in Item 4 be provided in the minutes. J Atkinson advised that the status of that report was still a draft.

#### 4.2 **Nutrient Management and Water Efficiency Working Group – D Ashby**

D Ashby advised that since the last committee meeting there had been a teleconference for pre-meeting planning and the all Zone Committee Working Group meeting. The result of that had been to confirm the community engagement at the end of the month as well as the content of that engagement.

A Veltman tabled a document containing the planned dates and locations for engagement. C McKay noted that there were four-five members who were very able to do the presentations and expressed desire that it would be spread between members.

D Ashby suggested leaving the dates as they were as farmers would be getting busier pre-Christmas. He commented that the engagement should not be as detailed as round one and be more succinct with a 1.5 hour meeting concentrating on where the committee was now and achievements since the last engagement.

J Roper-Lindsay commented that the Pegasus and Rangiora meetings may have a larger draw of urban attendees and queried whether there should be different aspects to the presentation to reflect that.

Following discussion A Veltman confirmed the dates and locations would remain as tabled. The presentation was nearly complete and with the addition of J Roper-Lindsay's suggestions regarding urban engagement, would be circulated for comment. Presenters would be confirmed via email. If required the committee could catch-up to run through the presentation prior to the first meeting.

D Ashby thanked A Veltman for all her work over the last month.

G Meadows advised that the Committee had been invited to a WDC Council meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> November. They had been provided with a one hour time slot to provide a briefing to the Council. It would be an opportunity to introduce new committee members and update the council on where the Zone Committee was at.

#### 4.3 **Lowland Waterways, Braided Rivers and Biodiversity Working Group**

G Edge tabled a report summarising the material provided by Michael Bates at the October meeting including correspondence with ECan and WDC. Also attached was a summary of current actions from Janet Fraser (WDC). It was requested that these be provided in the minutes.

C Williams noted that engagement was required with G Tipa regarding the study on the lower Waimakariri and Matt Dodson advised he was waiting to hear back from her.

#### 4.4 **ZIP Delivery / Five Year Outcomes – Quarterly Progress Report** – Waimakariri Zone Team

A Veltman noted that this was the first quarterly report on 5-year Outcomes and Milestones which covered July – September 2015. She highlighted a number of happenings including

- Community Monitoring Initiative – Silverstream monitoring was just starting, with new interest, as a result of the September Clarkville meeting.
- Small holding 'Riparian Checklist' – trialled LBMP template in September as precursor and developed 'package' of supporting info which was available at Rangiora A and P Show and now on-line.
- Nutrient management and water use efficiency – progress included the industry agreed Good Management Practice booklet. Supported FEP workshops run by Beef and Lamb and the Waimakariri Irrigation Field day.
- Community Interest Groups met in Lower Saltwater Creek Estuary, Clarkville and Loburn areas. Community engagement at Rangiora A and P Show.
- Instigated regular monthly newsletter which is sent to a database of 350 people and three versions in the last quarter.
- The first meeting of the Biodiversity Working Group was held on 31 August 2015.

A Veltman requested feedback on the A and P Show. It was felt that the show was worthwhile as a starting point in terms of awareness and engagement. It was noted that overall the attendance was down and it was suggested that Oxford A and P Show in April 2016 may be a better venue. D Ashby felt it was critical to make the extra effort to engage with people. Suggestions included using simple messaging, such as 'Have you got an FEP'? The pin board idea being successful in getting people to stop and start a conversation. Size and clarity of the site is important.

#### 4.5 **SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LONGFIN EEL IN CANTERBURY** – Ellie McNae (Senior Strategy Advisor, CWMS, Environment Canterbury)

C McKay spoke to the agenda item noting that it was self-explanatory. M Griffin advised that it was a report circulated to all zone committees to keep them informed.

C Latham referred to the comment that representatives from the commercial eel fisheries did not support a ban on commercial fishing and queried if they had suggested anything instead. M Griffin advised he would follow-up. C McKay commented that the important thing was that there was engagement between the different parties on the issue.

Moved D Ashby      Seconded K Felstead

**THAT** the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee

- (a) **Receive** these updates for its information and with regard to the committee's 2015/16 work programme and 5 Year Outcomes.

**CARRIED**

**5    IMMEDIATE STEPS FUNDING - UPDATE** – Jessica Hill (Biodiversity Officer, Environment Canterbury)

J Hill advised that it would be her last presentation to the WWZC as with the creation of the new zone teams she was moving to Hurunui Waiau. She provided an update on the current projects noting:

- Ashley/Rakahuri River predator trapping – a number of predators had been trapped.
- Sladdens Bush Road Mudfish – the Working Waters Trust annual report was available.
- Tutaepatu Lagoon – Stage 5 was completed and final report was available.
- Pines Beach Wetland – Stage 1 was completed and final report was available.
- Waimakariri corridor – generally only maintenance remained a progress report was available.

C McKay queried if there was a water source available to protect the mudfish habitat at Sladdens Road, from drying out due to drought conditions. J Hill advised that the mudfish could survive in damp conditions and a number of logs had been placed in the habitat which would remain damp underneath to improve survival.

J Hill advised that \$60,644 remained to be allocated from the Immediate Steps program, and a number of potential projects were currently under development, to bring to the WWZC for consideration and approval.

There was some discussion around the proposed approach for the committee to confirm their decisions on funding allocations prior to February meeting. C McKay queried the necessity to have the projects confirmed prior to Christmas and J Hill noted that there were both administration and ecological reasons.

G Walton suggested that it was the role of the sub-committee to act as a filter of information and make a recommendation to the full committee to ratify. J Atkinson reiterated that the working group just made the recommendation not the decision.

M Griffin advised the full committee could be provided all information via email rather than meeting and that the decision on a recommendation could also be made by email rather than a meeting. K Felstead suggested there could be a short meeting on the fieldtrip to address the recommendation. J Atkinson noted that the two urgent projects combined had a value of around \$16,000. If the committee were not comfortable with ratifying a recommendation by the sub-committee then it could be addressed later.

The suggested approach was to circulate all the information via email to all committee members, for the sub-committee to make a recommendation and for a meeting to be held on the committee fieldtrip to review the applications and decide on funding.

Moved G Edge      Seconded G Walton

**THAT** the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee

- (a) **Receives** this Immediate Steps Funding update.
- (b) **Meet** to discuss the recommendations of the Lowlands Waterways, Braided Rivers and Biodiversity Working Group on Monday 5 December 2015 regarding Immediate Steps

Funding allocation on the proviso that everyone has had enough time to review the supporting information.

**CARRIED**

C McKay thanked J Hill for her work with the WWZC.

**6 SMALL BLOCK 'FEPS' – BRIEFING – Anna Veltman (Land Management Advisory, Environment Canterbury)**

Tammy McMahon (ECan) had developed the management plan for Lifestyle Block owner's template which was developed for use region-wide and met the requirements of Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan (LWRP) Schedule 7 and the Hurunui Waiau River Regional Plan (HWRRP). A Veltman noted that whilst few landowners were required to have a Lifestyle Block Management Plan (LBMP) in the Waimakariri at present, WIL shareholders were some that were. G Walton queried if it would apply to all irrigation schemes and A Veltman advised that it would depend on the discharge consent.

A Veltman outlined the follow-up that had already been completed since trialling the LBMP template in September. A 'package' of supporting information had been developed which had been available at the Rangiora A and P Show and is now on-line.

Planned follow-up work, liaising with WIL and the assistance of a summer student is to trial the LBMP template with WIL shareholders and some Silverstream small block holders. The template would be modified if necessary and a riparian check list or equivalent would be developed. When a useful 'package' was developed the idea is to roll it out in priority catchments.

G Edge suggested that as part of engagement with the community the documents could be sent out with rates to all small block holders.

A Veltman explained the difference in terminology between a 'Farm Management Plan (FMP)' and 'Farm Environment Plan (FEP)'. The term FEP was currently in statutory use in the LWRP and HWRRP plans. The FEP was required for a resource consent and would be auditable. Plan Change 5 proposed new terminology where Management Plan means – 'all permitted farming activities on properties greater than 10 hectares preparing and implementing a Management Plan in accordance with Schedule Y' with no audit requirement.

A Veltman addressed the question of the cumulative effect of small blocks, noting that the assessment of the effect was part of the sub-regional planning process. A Veltman tabulated data provided by Waimakariri District council, which showed the number of blocks and total area covered by land parcels of certain sizes. This information was also displayed visually on a map of the district.

G Edge observed the map highlighted the necessity of managing the cumulative effect of small blocks in the sub-regional planning process as small blocks were prevalent in the lowland areas and covered 1/3 of the district. C Latham queried how that proportion of small blocks compared to other districts and G Meadows advised that there were more small block holders in Waimakariri than most other districts

*C Williams and C Williams left at 5.30pm during item 6.*

**7 KAIAPOI RIVER REHABILITATION – INVESTIGATIONS UPDATE – Adrian Meredith (Principal Water Quality Scientist, Environment Canterbury)**

Adrian Meredith led a PowerPoint presentation to the Committee regarding the Kaiapoi River Rehabilitation Programme. A Meredith commented that he broadly supported the proposed

rehabilitation, however, there were a number of issues that had been identified through public complaints about the river and the Kaiapoi River walk on 22 September 2015 needed addressing. A Meredith described the issues and monitoring proposed.

A Meredith had raised concerns regarding the appropriateness of the two stage channel model in tidal river reaches with the rehabilitation programme authors and had been reassured that it would work.

A Meredith expressed concern regarding the presence of Yellow Flag Iris. This plant is recognised nationally as a pest plant but is not specified as a pest species by Environment Canterbury. The Yellow Flag Iris could grow right out into the river and could dominate a riverbank environment. A number of spots where Yellow Flag Iris were growing in the Kaiapoi River had been identified. He recommended control before it got well established and noted there needed to be some discussion over whose responsibility it was to remove – ECan or WDC.

A Meredith commented that Algal growth appeared to be dominating in the river and was affecting most plants. Noting that there had been a loss of submerged plants which were important habitat for 'food species', helping consolidate sediments and aerate the water, he recommended a survey of prevalence of algal growth and extent of aquatic plants.

A Meredith advised that since the earthquakes the 'salt wedge' or extent of saline water had moved further up the Kaiapoi River and recommended surveying the upstream limit of saline water.

Sediment characteristics such as oxygen status, and the toxicity of sediments, to growth could be approached via two ways. The first was completing numerous expensive chemical analyses and the second, which A Meredith recommended, was testing if the medium was viable for growth by attempting to grow seed in samples.

A Meredith concluded that there were a range of issues and monitoring required to resolve the current state, and understand more about the Kaiapoi River. A number of issues could impede the rehabilitation of the river.

G Edge referred to his earlier summary of the issues M Bates had raised in correspondence and queried whether A Meredith would be addressing some of the questions raised by Bob Loudon. A Meredith advised that the observations were relevant to scoping the issues.

M Bates commented that he had noticed that there had been recent increase in weed and bulrush in the Courtenay Stream/Maori Dam area and A Meredith commented that they were hoping to survey vegetation all along the river.

Moved J Roper-Lindsay Seconded G Walton

**THAT** the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee

- (a) **Receive** this briefing for its information and with regard to its 2015/16 community engagement priorities and 5 year outcomes and milestones.

**CARRIED**

## **8 GENERAL BUSINESS – Chairperson and Zone Committee Members**

C McKay noted that there had been reference to the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee (WWZC) rather than Waimakariri Zone Committee in recent agendas and questioned if the members were comfortable with that title. G Walton believed it was very important as it was descriptive and informed people what the committee was about. It was agreed to insert "water" into the Zone Committee name.

There was discussion around the fieldtrip to be held on Monday 5 December 2015.

C McKay queried the status of the report on a survey of stock water races and issues. G Meadows advised that it had been compiled and was undergoing finishing touches. M Sparrow advised there had been a relatively high response rate (40%) to the survey. The survey had provided useful information on what was happening on small blocks in the area.

C Latham noted that there had been a number of drain issues raised at previous meetings and queried where the committee was at in terms of drain maintenance. G Edge advised that the LWBRBWG was looking at the issue but had not completely scoped it yet. M Griffin advised that waterway typology was on the Action List. C Latham questioned how the Waimakariri district compared to other zones in terms of drains and D Ashby commented that there were a number of districts with a large number of drains. He provided an explanation of attenuation of nitrate in Waimakariri compared to other districts.

*Commissioner R Williams arrived at 5.52pm during item 8.*

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.00pm.

CONFIRMED

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

---ooo0ooo---

## **WORKSHOP**

At the conclusion of the meeting there will be a workshop to discuss the following items:

- 9 **Statutory Planning Framework - Briefing** – Jason Holland (Principal Planning Advisor, Environment Canterbury)
- 10 **Plan Change 5 - Briefing** – Devon Christensen (Senior Planner, Environment Canterbury)

<b>AGENDA ITEM NO: 4</b>	<b>SUBJECT: Committee Updates</b>
<b>REPORT TO:</b> Waimakariri Water Zone Committee	<b>MEETING DATE:</b> 2 February 2016
<b>REPORT BY:</b> Murray Griffin, Facilitator	

### PROPOSAL

This agenda item provides the committee with an overview of updates as tabled.

	<b>ACTION POINTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING/S</b>	<b>By Who</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Progress / Outcome</b>
1	Briefing – Small Block FEPs	M Griffin	Nov	Done	Briefing was provided at the November meeting.
2	Shellfish testing in Saltwater Creek estuary	C Williams	TBC	Ongoing	Results will be tabled when available.
3	Investigation and monitoring of the Kaiapoi River	ECan Science	Nov	Done / Ongoing	Initial briefing arranged for the November meeting with investigations ongoing.
4	Publication – waterway care	ECan Comms	Feb '16	Ongoing	Proposal for a waterway care publication for landowners.
5	Waterway typology review	M Griffin	Nov	Ongoing	References suggested to the committee to be reviewed.
6	An Overseer workshop	M Griffin	Feb '16	Done	Workshop arranged for the February meeting.
7	An update on Plan Change 5	M Griffin	Nov	Done	Briefing was provided at the November meeting.
8	Field trip to Kaiapoi/Eyre drains & waterways	M Griffin	Dec	Done	A field trip arranged for 5 December, with Michael attending
9	Longfin Eel report	M Griffin	Feb '16	Ongoing	Follow up on commercial eel options for management
10	Avian Botulism risk	M Griffin	Mar '16	Ongoing	A report to the committee on this issue to be prepared
11	Kaiapoi River Rehabilitation Project	M Griffin	Feb '16	Done	Summary of current actions included below.

### COMMITTEE UPDATES

The following updates are tabled for the committee:

- **Resignation of Nick Haley from the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee**

It was with regret the Selection Working Group for the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee 2015 refreshment accepted the resignation of Nick Haley on 23 November 2015. In confirming his resignation, Nick clarified recent changes in his works commitments meant he had increased project management responsibilities outside of Canterbury and this was the key factor in his decision to resign, noting that his work commitments meant he could not to the committee role justice.

In receiving Nick's resignation the Selection Working Group agreed that no additional refreshment for the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee was required given the current balance and experience on the committee.

- **Regional Committee Meeting – 15 December 2015**

Please refer to the attached Regional Committee meeting update (attached as agenda item 4-1).

To review the December 2015 Regional Committee agenda papers, please follow the following link: <http://ecan.govt.nz/publications/Council/reg-cttee-agenda-20151215.pdf>

- **Nutrient Management & Water Efficiency Working Group**

David Ashby has put in an apology for this meeting and with no working group meeting scheduled over the Christmas/New Year period there is no report to table for this meeting.

- **Lowlands Waterways, Braided Rivers and Biodiversity Working Group**

Grant Edge has put in an apology for this meeting and with no working group meeting scheduled over the Christmas/New Year period there is no report to table for this meeting.

### **Kaiapoi River Rehabilitation Project – Summary of Actions**

As per the November minutes please see the summary table below with ecological investigation now underway in the upper Kaiapoi River as part of the Kaiapoi River Rehabilitation Project.

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Observation</b>	<b>Proposed Action/s</b>
Noxious weeds	Potential spread of yellow flag iris throughout the river reaches of Kaiapoi (previously mistaken for new raupo growth). The extent of new distributions of flag iris in the tidal Kaiapoi and Cam Rivers will need to be determined.	Requires collection and confirmation of plant samples (referred to ECan biosecurity team)
Mat and filamentous algae	The observed algae may be covering, shading and smothering the submerged and emergent vegetation (e.g. on-site observations that waterweed and emergent raupo are currently being impacted by excessive unseasonal algal growth).	Identify the extent and abundance of algal growths across the river bed at low tide in several reaches including potential planting trial locations
Dissolved oxygen content of river sediment	It will be necessary to determine the depth of river bed sediment to anoxic material (i.e. determine the level of dissolved oxygen present in river bed sediment to support plant growth)	Conduct coring of fine river bed sediments across the low tide river profile to describe and photograph the sediment characteristics (particularly depth to the anoxic layer).
Salt wedge intrusion	The extent of the salt wedge intrusion into the upper river channel will need to be understood to determine suitability of particular species for a planting trial	Conduct surveys of salinity depth profiles at high tide periods to confirm the current extent of saline intrusion up the river through Kaiapoi
Invertebrates and saline indicator	Survey of invertebrates and mud crabs to indicate habitat values and saline intrusion	Identify the upstream limits of distribution of saline indicator organisms (i.e. mud



organisms		crabs <i>Austrohelice crassa</i>  Identify prevalence of pollution sensitive/tolerant species
Verify extent of aquatic macrophytes	Determine extent of existing aquatic plant life on the river bed	Identify the presence of aquatic macrophytes across the bed of the river at low tide by visual and ponar grab sampler methods
Seed germination trials	Determine the growing conditions and germination potential of river sediment in comparison with other non-river soil samples	Determine the successful germination of standard sensitive botanical test species (i.e. cucumber seeds etc.)

- **Waimakariri Zone Team – Update**

Andrew Arps, the Waimakariri Zone Team Manager, will provide a short update on current Zone Team priorities for discussion with the committee. This will include:

- Zone 100 Day Action Plan and Work Programme
- Explaining CWMS, ZIP and how you can play your part

- **Zone Committee Engagement & Communications**

#### Engagements

- Waimakariri Water Zone Committee public meetings on:
  - 23 November – Oxford
  - 24 November – West Eyreton
  - 26 November – Ohoka
  - 9 December – Rangiora
  - 10 December – Pegasus
- Waimakariri District Councillors briefing – 24 November
- Science Stakeholder Advisory Group meeting – 26 November
- Local Water Management Group meetings on:
  - 14 December – Oxford
  - 16 December – West Eyreton
  - 17 December – Ohoka

#### Communications

- Monthly E Newsletters – Sent on 18 November and 18 December.

#### RECOMMENDATION

The Zone Committee are asked to receive these updates for its information and with regard to the committee's 2016 work programme and 5 Year Outcomes.

## **Regional Committee Report – Dec meeting**

The Regional Committee received progress updates from the Working groups:

1) Regional Infrastructure working group had been briefed on the South Canterbury computer Modelling Framework, which informs CWMS and interested parties of potential infrastructure concepts (alongside existing- such as Lake Opuha), aimed at meeting CWMS and Zone targets. This model considers water sources, conveyance, and demand. It is envisaged a local group of interested parties will take a leadership role in progressing the concept, and decide which parts may be feasible or not and how the financial burden and benefits are shared if any proceed.

2) The Biodiversity and Ecosystem working group (BEWG) received a briefing on achievements which had occurred through implementing the Biodiversity Strategy and CWMS targets. These included: Commissioners taking a lead; improved cooperation between agencies; and acknowledgement of much more work to be done.

Closer examination of one of the flagship projects, Rangitata and Rakaia braided rivers, saw three main themes emerge: Cooperation was deemed to be successful by Environment Canterbury, LINZ, DOC and volunteer groups; funding had been a consistent, which allowed interested parties to focus on their work; and there was a need for a regular review. It was noted once the projects are up and running, continued review and maintenance would be needed, as the job is never 'over'.

BEWG tabled its submission on the Fisheries Management Review 2015, and was thanked for its excellent submission. This submission provides information gathered by the working group, with regard to management of longfin eel in Canterbury.

3) The Land Use and Water Quality Working Group (LUWQ) had a high level briefing of the proposed nutrient management plan change (PC5). There was some discussion by the full committee about how the plan would work in practice. It is envisaged that notification will occur in mid- February.

The full committee received the following briefings:

1) A paper from ECan outlining aspects of the Resource Legislation Amendment Bill, which could be relevant to CWMS. Amongst the aspects the Bill introduces, is a new streamlined planning process and a collaborative process. The collaborative process is slightly different to that of the CWMS, and if the new RMA collaborative process was used in Sub-regional processes, it would require terms of reference specific to that process. Submissions are due by 14<sup>th</sup> March. ECan will make a joint submission with other TA's, and RC will discuss at next meeting whether they wish to make independent submission.

2) An overview of current vs proposed rules (in PC5), and tools relating to Farm Environment Planning, being FEPs & GMPs , The Portal, and Audit processes, which aim to allow farmers to progress towards Good Management Practice (GMP).

3) On the draft river bed lines of braided rivers on maps. ECan River Engineers plotted the extent of braided rivers as defined by the Resource Management act (RMA), in Canterbury using Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) in 2012. These lines were drafted because of issues of land development on the margins of rivers, specifically braided rivers, which has seen 12000ha converted to agricultural use since 1990. It was noted that these lines are not driven by ECan policy or plans but defined by the RMA. It was found that the definition of a riverbed as applied to braided rivers, may include areas of land that might be covered during periods of high flows.

The issue is, therefore, not one of ownership but rather consents for permitted activities. The lines are an attempt to show people what area is legal riverbed, and what parts of a river bed they may need consents for.

As there is some confusion and concern in the community regarding the definition and the use of draft lines, ECan staff sought feedback from the Committee as to a suggested communication approach. Following discussion it was proposed a three-pronged approach be used, which started with the Hurunui-Waiau Zone and then rolling out to wider Canterbury, also ensuring on-site support from LMA or Biodiversity staff, as well as developing a working relationship with LINZ.

The key messages to be communicated were discussed at length and include:

- ❖ “River Bed” is legally defined by RMA
- ❖ Draft lines are ECan’s best estimate of the legal definition
- ❖ Activities within a river bed require consent, given that they are not expressly allowed by a rule.
- ❖ They are a starting point for a discussion with community on how to refine.
- ❖ Some issues with the definition of riverbed have already been identified and in the process of being changed in PC4
- ❖ Intention is to provide land users with certainty about what they can do in or near braided rivers
- ❖ Outline CWMS targets relating to maintain braided river characteristics.

4) A discussion paper regarding the need for additional funding for financing environmental infrastructure (=public good infrastructure). The Committee was asked to consider establishing a Funding Working Group to assess options to finance environmental infrastructure and restoration. It was noted a number of infrastructure projects would have an environmental benefit, including some that would be established purely for environmental reasons e.g. the construction of a sediment retention basin and wetland on Wairewa, Hunter Downs flow augmentation and targeted stream augmentation in Selwyn-Te Waihora.

The Working Group would be tasked to look at different options to raise funds and explore criteria against which projects would be assessed to enable the achievement of the CWMS targets.

The Regional Committee agreed to establish a small working group, which will report back with recommendations in February 2016. The RC will also consider changing the term environmental infrastructure to public good infrastructure.

5) A discussion paper, developed from the October meeting workshop, outlined key areas identified as important work streams for the RCs work programme for 2016.

The Committee agreed that:

1) LUWQ consider and co-ordinate any necessary action on urban water quality issues, and receive quarterly updates from Ecan on drinking water quality work.

2) BEWG develop a strategy to increase the scale and impact of regional level Biodiversity restoration and protection initiatives, with

- ❖ consider more specific ideas and initiatives for implementation,
- ❖ continue work on eels and lupins
- ❖ increase linkage between the working group and the zone committees for information purposes
- ❖ seek further funding for the flagship projects

3) Consider re-introducing the Recreation and Amenity Working Group, after joint presentation from recreation groups in early 2016.

4) The Funding Working Group, provide advice to commissioners on financing the public good components of infrastructure

5) The RIWG

- ❖ liaise with the new Funding Working Group;
- ❖ Continue its work on infrastructure projects in south Canterbury.

6) Commission a report on swimming in Canterbury, similar to the recent jet boating report. Through this process, and the current mapping project, document the location of swimming holes in each zone.

7) Climate change should be considered by all Working Groups in all the work they do, and the Regional Committee should be informed of relevant research e.g. inviting NIWA to present to the Committee in the New Year; and

8) Invite someone from Land Research to present on soil loss.

All zone committee representatives presented an update.

Claire McKay

<b>AGENDA ITEM NO: 5</b>	<b>SUBJECT: Committee Work Programme – Feb to May 2016</b>	
<b>REPORT TO:</b> Waimakariri Zone Committee		<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b> 2 February 2016
<b>REPORT BY:</b> Murray Griffin, Facilitator		

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the agenda item is to provide the committee with an opportunity to review its work programme for the coming four months.

### **UPDATE**

The committee are asked to consider the following work programme priorities over the coming four months:

- Working Group meeting schedule
- Briefings for zone committee meetings
- Communications and community engagement priorities and opportunities
- Additional workshop sessions – topics and timing
- A combined Hurunui Waiau and Waimakariri Zones meeting at Tuahiwi Marae in May

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Zone Committee is asked to consider and confirm its work programme priorities from February through to March, with reference to the committee's 5 Year Outcomes, meeting schedule and community engagement for 2016.

<b>AGENDA ITEM NO: 6</b>	<b>SUBJECT: Immediate Steps – Update</b>
<b>REPORT TO:</b> Waimakariri Water Zone Committee	<b>MEETING DATE:</b> 2 February 2016
<b>REPORT BY:</b> Jess Hill & Jean-Marie Tompkins, ECan Biodiversity Officers	

## PURPOSE

The following update provides an overview of the discussion and decisions made by the zone committee at the 7 December field trip where the following Immediate Steps projects were presented.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

J Hill led a discussion regarding the committee supporting grant applications in principle to ratify at the first water zone committee meeting of 2016. This would allow applicants to begin work in confidence over the holiday period.

Attached, as agenda item 6-1, is the agenda paper profiling the Immediate Steps applications as presented to the committee in December 2015. A summary of the committee's decisions for these 4 applications is provided below.

### 1. Tutaepatu Lagoon – Stage 6 weed control

The first project was Tutaepatu Lagoon – Stage 6 weed control.

**Decision:** There was a consensus from the Committee that there was support in principle for the grant.

### 2. Pines Beach Wetland – Stage 2

The next project considered was Pines Beach – Stage 2 which focuses on weed control.

**Decision:** There was a consensus from the Committee that there was support in principle for the grant.

### 3. Ashley Rakahuri Predator Control project

The Ashley Rakahuri Rivercare Group had a grant application for predator control. The work applied for was signage, excavator work to create large holes to stop 4wheel drive access and creating islands for nesting birds

G Walton requested a breakdown on the cost of the different aspects of the project. J Hill advised it was \$1575 for the excavator work and \$2400 for the concrete blocks and signs. The biodiversity group had received the full report and the breakdown was discussed with the committee members.

G Edge believed it was a worthwhile project that had a lot of media attention.

J Hill advised that the creation of islands had been shown to be successful for predator control. C Latham noted that some islands could get washed away and J Hill commented that the work was essential due to the seriously threatened nature of the river beds. G Edge commented that there was also the threat of avian predation.

**Decision:** There was a consensus from the Committee that there was support in principle for the grant.

#### **4. Coopers Creek Wetland project**

J Hill outlined the Coopers Creek Wetland project. It was a small area but an important spring fed wetland with partial native vegetation. It flowed into Coopers Creek and was an ideal site for mudfish translocation. The grant was requested was for \$7155 and would be used for earthworks to make the wetland slightly deeper, revegetation and fencing. It would be good to carry out the earthworks in the upcoming dry summer so as not to disturb the water. Revegetation could be started in the damp conditions.

C McKay commented that as it was a private site she was concerned with the landowner contribution of one third and she would like to see their contribution increased to two thirds. J Hill was uncertain if the landowners could contribute more to the project but would enquire about this. She advised she was confident they could maintain the wetland.

G Edge commented that it was one of the Committee's priority outcomes to support biodiversity work in the Oxford foothills. The current rules were for one third applicant input and this should apply to all applicants whether private or a community project.

J Hill advised there was the option to simply fence the wetland and not proceed with earthworks.

**Decision:** C McKay noted that there was not a unanimous decision and more information should be brought to the committee for further consideration in early 2016, including aerial photographs and clarification of the relationship of the site to nearby QEII sites.

#### **ACTION**

Following on from the committee's request above for further information on the Coopers Creek Wetland project, Jean Tompkins will represent the project at the 1 February committee meeting.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the committee ratify the three grants approved as outlined above.

That the committee consider the revised Coopers Creek Wetland project application for funding.

<b>AGENDA ITEM NO: 6-1</b>	<b>SUBJECT: Immediate Steps Fund – Applications</b>	
<b>REPORT TO:</b> Waimakariri Water Zone Committee		<b>DATE:</b> 7 December 2016
<b>REPORT BY:</b> Jess Hill, ECan Biodiversity Officer		

## PROJECT UPDATES

To date twenty-seven projects have been approved by the Waimakariri zone committee (see Table 1). Twelve of these projects have been completed while the remainder are either underway or await contract completion.

The funding allocation and spend to date for these projects may be viewed in Table 2. Taking into account the current status of all approved projects and their final expenditures, **\$439,356** has been allocated and of that **\$345,186** has been spent on works or paid up front. Given a confirmed five year Immediate Steps program, a total of **\$60,644** remains to be allocated.

## APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

The Zone Committee has received four new applications for funding for approval at this meeting. The total funding requested is \$35,042.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Funds Requested from the Zone Committee</b>	<b>Funds Provided by Other Sources</b>	<b>Total Fund</b>
Te Kohaka o Tuhaitara Trust – Tutaepatu Lagoon Stage 6	\$8,000	\$4,000	\$12,000



Image 1: Picture of Tutaepatu Lagoon.

**Project Aim:**



Restoration of the areas indigenous flora and fauna

### **Project Summary:**

Tūtaepatu Lagoon is the largest area of natural open water in a series of wetlands and lagoons that run parallel to the coast between the Waimakariri and Ashley Rakahuri Rivers. The lagoon is a spring fed shallow lagoon currently surrounded by a wide fringe of willows.

The area supports a diverse range of indigenous species including, but not limited to: mudfish, eel (tuna), ruru, bellbird, swamp nettle, raupo and matagouri.

The current project is a continuation of the restoration works from previous IMS funding (the past final reports from previous funding years are available on request). Key objects for the current project are to progress weed control measures throughout the lagoon and continue on the success of previous years. No native plantings will be established this year, instead the focus will be on maintaining the works which have already been completed.

The project has received a HIGH ecological score of 31/39 (79%) and is within the coastal priority area for Immediate Steps funding.

### **Proposed activities:**

- Site wide weed control (~49 ha) (includes: Female Grey Willow, Crack Willow, Old Man's Beard, Japanese Honeysuckle and Blackberry)

### **Outcomes sought:**

- High quality wetland habitat (increased water quality and flow)
- Protection and restoration enhancement of wetland habitat diversity
- Provision and enhancement of habitat for mahinga kai species (e.g. eel (tuna), whitebait (inanga) and bird species).

### **Education:**

- On-going education continues by the trust

**Ecological score:** High (79%)

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Funds Requested from the Zone Committee</b>	<b>Funds Provided by Other Sources</b>	<b>Total Fund</b>
Pines Beach Wetland Stage 2	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$15,000

### **Project Aim:**

Restoration of the wetlands indigenous flora and fauna



Image 2: Pictures from Pines Beach Wetland

### **Project Summary:**

The Pines Beach Wetland area is a relatively large (37 ha) representative example of freshwater wetland habitat, behind dunes on Pegasus Bay coast. The wetland habitat is part of the larger sequence of estuarine and freshwater wetland habitats along the Pegasus Bay coast. The site is distinctive due to the presence of locally rare wetland plants (*Baumea rubiginosa* and *Lepidosperma australe*) and habitat for the nationally endangered bittern. Engineering works and dune stabilization plantings have historically modified the original dune slack wetland hydrology. Native plants are present, but these areas have been reduced to small isolated patches due to the encroachment of exotic weeds.

The project has received a HIGH ecological score of 29/39 (74%) and is within the coastal priority area for Immediate Steps Funding.

Stage one of the project received \$27,518 of Immediate Steps funding, with a total project cost of \$42,176. These works have been completed to an extremely high standard and a final report is available upon request.

The works completed to date include:

- Beggars Tick control across the site
- Site wide control of willow and pine
- Native plantings at cleared areas including future canopy species and
- Buffer planting between the wetland and neighbouring properties

As was stated with the stage 1 application from, this project forms part of the 200-year management plan adopted by Te Kohaka O Tuhaitara Trust, which includes a five stage restoration project at Pines Beach Wetland. Due to the success of stage one and the dry weather predicted for the upcoming summer, no restoration planting is required for the 2015/2016 season. Instead the focus is on maintaining the plants which have already been planted and utilising a dry summer to further the weed control works throughout the wetland. This project is a natural extension of other restoration projects along the Pegasus Bay coast.

### **Proposed activities:**

- Weed control works throughout the wetland, including: female grey willow, beggars tick and wilding pines.

**Outcomes sought:**

- Increased water quality within the wetland area
- Healthy and thriving populations of native fish, birds and invertebrates
- Protected, healthy, regenerating areas of native vegetation

**Ecological score:** High (74%)

Project Name	Funds Requested from the Zone Committee	Funds Provided by Other Sources	Total Fund
Coopers Creek Wetland Restoration	\$7,155	\$3,640	\$10,795



Image 3: Pictures of the current wetland area.

**Project Aim:**

To protect and enhance the wetland area

**Project Summary:**

This project seeks \$7,155 of Immediate Steps funding towards restoring a spring-fed wetland, which flows into Coopers Creek, in the Oxford-foothills priority area. This wetland currently has limited native vegetation (only a few species) and in-stream habitat diversity. As a result, the project has received a moderate ecological score of 16/39 (41%). The proposed project aims to restore this wetland area through permanent stock-proof fencing along the margins, native ecosourced planting and earthworks along the wetland margins. The site is fortunate in that it contains a steep drop before entering Coopers Creek, this acts as a natural barrier and means that once the site is restored it may be a possible site for Canterbury mudfish translocation in the future. This project site has great potential to be

easily restored due to the native vegetation already present and to be a key refuge for birds, invertebrates and fish species.

**Proposed activities:**

- Native ecosourced planting
- Strategic weed control through native planting
- Stock proof fencing to exclude stock
- Earthworks to increase in stream habitat diversity (primarily depth)

**Outcomes sought:**

- Increased habitat diversity for native fish
- Restoration of wetland margins

**Ecological score:** Moderate (41%)

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Funds Requested from the Zone Committee</b>	<b>Funds Provided by Other Sources</b>	<b>Total Fund</b>
Ashley-Rakahuri River Care Group – River Bird Protection Project	\$9,887	\$9,630	\$19,517

**Project Aim:**

To protect and assist the breeding habitat of wrybills, black-billed gulls, black-fronted terns, banded dotterels, pied stilt and South Island pied oystercatchers in the lower reaches of the Ashley-Rakahuri River

**Project Summary:**

This project will assist with the protection of braided river nesting birds on the Ashely/Rakahuri River from the confluence with the Okuku River to the State Highway One bridge. The project area is an extensive 18km in length and will involve ongoing predator trapping throughout the whole area, with an increase in trapping intensity during the nesting season (October – March). The project will also involve the creation of nesting islands in the middle of the river. These islands will provide a safe, predator and weed free refuge for nesting birds. The project will also limit 4wd drive disturbance along this section of the river during the nesting season through advocacy, customised signage and large blocks/holes to prevent vehicle access at sensitive nesting areas. By reducing predator numbers, human disturbance and creating safe nesting islands, the project will increase the adult and chick survival rate of several key braided river bird species, such as, black fronted terns (nationally endangered), black billed gulls (nationally critical), wrybills (nationally vulnerable), banded dotterel, pied stilt and the South Island Oystercatcher. The project has received a high ecological score of 27/39 (69%).



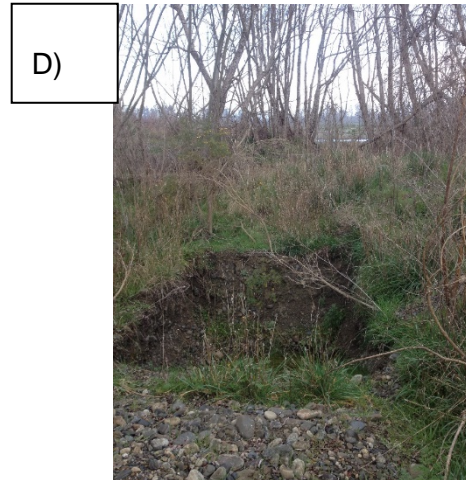
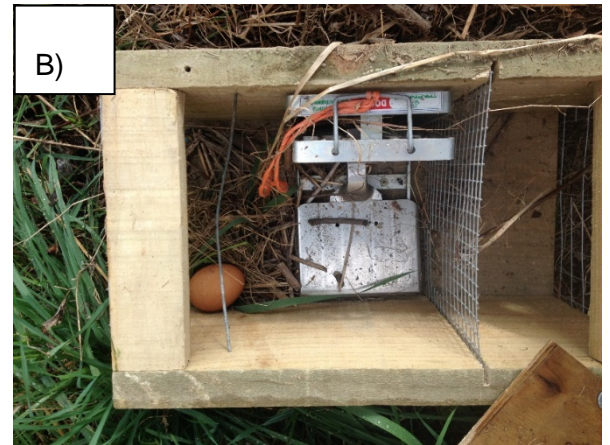


Image 4: Photos of the project site. A) TIMS trap set amongst the vegetation. B) view from the top of a DOC 200 trap. C) customised signs along the river margins. D) large holes from previous years to prevent 4wd access to significant nesting sites.

#### Proposed activities:

- Trapping
- Monitoring
- Earthworks

#### Outcomes sought:

- Creation of nesting habitat (islands)
- Reduced predator numbers around the nesting habitat
- Increased river bird and chick survival during the nesting season
- Decreased anthropogenic disturbance during the nesting season

**Ecological score:** High (69%)

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the zone committee support funding these four new Immediate Steps projects

<b>AGENDA ITEM NO: 7</b>	<b>SUBJECT: ECan Consents – Update &amp; Overview</b>	
<b>REPORT TO:</b> Waimakariri Water Zone Committee		<b>MEETING DATE:</b> 2 February 2016
<b>REPORT BY:</b> Virginia Loughnan, Team Leader Consents Planning & Consent Processing		

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the agenda item is to provide the committee with a briefing on Environment Canterbury's consents process and any relevant applications currently within the Waimakariri Zone.

### UPDATE

This briefing will be provided by:

**Virginia Loughnan** – North Canterbury Team Leader, Consents Planning and Processing, and **David Just** – Consents Planner, Environment Canterbury

**Consents Overview – Including the general consenting process and what is required**

### Current Significant/Interesting Applications

<b>Waimakariri Zone</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
TW Transport Ltd (CRC163501&CRC163502)	Discharge to air, use of land for composting and discharges of contaminants to land associated with 10 ha composting facility Parish Road, Bexley	In process
Kiwirail	Application to take 166 l/s water from Bealey River for washing of Otira tunnel	Returned (inadequate information)
WDC	Application to replace current earthquake recovery activity consents to extend duration by another 3 years	In process

This briefing will also include an overview of the ECan consents process for the zone committee.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The Zone Committee is asked to receive this briefing for their information, and with reference to the committee's 5 Year Outcomes and community engagement in 2016.

<b>AGENDA ITEM NO: 9</b>	<b>SUBJECT: Overseer 101 – Briefing</b>	
<b>REPORT TO:</b> Waimakariri Water Zone Committee		<b>MEETING DATE:</b> 2 February 2016
<b>REPORT BY:</b> Murray Griffin, Facilitator		

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the agenda item is to provide the committee with a briefing on Overseer.

**UPDATE**

This briefing will be provided by:

**Anna Veltman** – Waimakariri Land Management Advisor, Environment Canterbury and

**Rebecca Hyde** – Ballance Nutrient Budgeting South Island Team Leader

This briefing will provide the committee with an overview of the Overseer platform and to ask questions or raise issues with two experienced practitioners.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Zone Committee is asked to receive this briefing for their information, and with reference to the committee's 5 Year Outcomes and community engagement in 2016.

<b>AGENDA ITEM NO: 10</b>	<b>SUBJECT: Community Meetings Review – Workshop</b>	
<b>REPORT TO:</b> Waimakariri Water Zone Committee		<b>MEETING DATE:</b> 2 February 2016
<b>REPORT BY:</b> Murray Griffin, Facilitator		

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the agenda item is to provide the committee with an opportunity to review the community meetings held in November and December 2015.

**UPDATE**

The committee will be provided with:

- A summary of the feedback from these meetings, and
- The meeting notes from the committee meeting held in late December to reflect on how these community meetings had been presented and received.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Zone Committee is asked to review the community feedback from these meetings and consider options for further community engagement and information with reference to the committee's 5 Year Outcomes and community engagement in 2016.