



WAIMAKARIRI
DISTRICT COUNCIL



**Environment
Canterbury**
Regional Council
Kaunihera Taiao ki Waitaha

Agenda

Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting

**at 3.30pm
on Monday 7 March 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
Carolyne 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 7 MARCH 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

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

4-5

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy - Waimakariri Zone Committee held on Monday 1 February 2016

6-13

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 1 February 2016.

MATTERS ARISING

3 OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK

- 4 **WORKING GROUP AND REGIONAL COMMITTEE – UPDATES** – C McKay / Zone Committee / A Veltman 14
- RECOMMENDATION*
- THAT** the CWMS *Waimakariri* Zone Committee:
- (a) **Receives** these updates for its information and with regard to the committee's 2016 work programme and 5 Year Outcomes.
- 4.1 **APPOINTMENTS OF CHAIRPERSON AND DEPUTY FOR 2016** – M Griffin (Facilitator) 15
- RECOMMENDATION*
- THAT** the CWMS *Waimakariri* Zone Committee:
- (a) **Appoints** a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson for 2016.
- 4.2 **REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT – 9 FEBRUARY 2016** – C McKay (Chairperson) 16-18
- RECOMMENDATION*
- THAT** the CWMS *Waimakariri* Zone Committee:
- (a) **Receives** the updates for its information.
- 5 **IMMEDIATE STEPS FUND** – J Tompkins (Biodiversity Officer, ECan) / Owen Davies (Drainage Asset Manager, WDC). 19-24
- RECOMMENDATION*
- THAT** the CWMS *Waimakariri* Zone Committee:
- (a) **Approves** \$5,318 to the Kaiapoi River Rehabilitation Working Party for the Kaiapoi River Enhancement Trial as a new Immediate Steps project.
- 6 **GENERAL BUSINESS** – C McKay and Zone Committee Members

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BRIEFING

- 7 **TECHNICAL BRIEFING – SURFACE WATER QUALITY AND ECOLOGY** – M Greer (Ecology Scientist, ECan) / M Dodson (Hydrogeologist & *Waimakariri* Science Technical Lead) 25

WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE

Register of Interests – February 2016

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

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

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CANTERBURY WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY:
WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE HELD IN THE FUNCTION ROOM, RANGIORA
TOWN HALL, 303 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA AT 3.32PM ON MONDAY 1 FEBRUARY
2016**

PRESENT

Claire McKay (Chairperson), WDC Councillor Kevin Felstead, J Roper-Lindsay, Carolyne 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), J Tompkins (Biodiversity Officer, 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), Andrew Arps (Waimakariri Zone Team Leader, ECan), David Just (Consents Planner, ECan), Craig Fagan, Renay Weir (ECan), and Emma Stubbs (Minutes Secretary, WDC)

OBSERVERS

Nick Ledgard (Ashley/Rakahuri Rivercare Group), Michael Bates (Kaiapoi), James Ensor (Woodend Ashley Community Board), R Loughnan (Ohoka), Brent Walton (WIL).

1 KARAKIA

S Bragg conducted the karakia.

APOLOGIES

Moved G Walton Seconded K Felstead

Apologies were received and sustained from David Ashby and Grant Edge for absence.

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 2 November 2015

Moved K Felstead 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 2 November 2015.

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING

R Williams queried whether it was necessary or appropriate to have the names of observers recorded in the minutes. K Felstead noted that observers were not recorded in WDC minutes. G Walton suggested that if they were to be recorded then they could be included in the 'In Attendance' record and this was generally supported by the committee for future meetings.

J Roper-Lindsay questioned whether the Jet Boating report referred to in the Regional Committee Report was completed and available. C McKay advised that she would follow-up.

In response to J Roper-Lindsay, Matt Dodson confirmed the engagement of G Tipa to study the lower Waimakariri. C McKay noted that matters raised by M Bates were included as action points in Item 4.

3 OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK

Nick Ledgard (Chair, Ashley/Rakahuri Rivercare Group Inc and BRaid Inc.) tabled a written update to the Committee which he spoke to. Points to note were:

Ashley/Rakahuri Rivercare Group Inc.

- Results of the bird population survey showed that populations were maintaining significant improvement.
- Breeding success was down on previous years.
- Previous IMS grant money had been spent on signage, restricting vehicle access and clearing weeds.
- Future challenges included weed control as since there had not been a major flood since May 2014 there was strong weed invasion. Another challenge was the increase in rabbit numbers which in turn increased predator numbers.

BRaid

- Funding had been obtained to employ a part time manager for BRaid.
- Funding had also been obtained for the Braided River Partnership Project. This 3-year project aims to 'bring on board' all braided river stakeholders, increase awareness of the unique environment and to increase involvement in monitoring and management.

J Roper-Lindsay asked if a comparison between the Ashley/Rakahuri and other Rivers in the BRaid project could be made. N Ledgard replied that there was currently insufficient length of data on the other rivers to make a comparison.

In response to a question from R Williams, N Ledgard replied that had 70 members on the email list who assisted with surveys, they had nine trappers. Annual expenditure for ongoing survey monitoring was \$5000-6000, of which IMS funding was a large part.

M Bates tabled a written update to the committee regarding his concerns around the Kaiapoi and Cam Rivers and Avian Botulism. It included a letter from G Cleary which provided an update on some of the steps undertaken by WDC on the issues. M Bates commented that in the last 6 months the Kaiapoi River was looking well with good weed growth in general. He commented that he recently walked the Cust River and noted that there were many issues that needed attending to such as cattle in drains. He also believed that the recent algae bloom in the lower Kaiapoi had killed a population of mussels.

M Bates tabled photographs of sludge on the beach and commented that there had been no notices advising people against swimming or collecting shellfish. He believed it was a result of the Kaiapoi sewer system not being treated properly. He said there were currently 600 birds present at the ponds and had been advised that 60 ducks had died as a result of botulism. He believed more of these birds were likely to die and requested assistance from the committee to address the botulism.

C McKay noted she had been advised that there was no issue to public health through avian botulism unless poisoned ducks were consumed. An action point had been raised to request a report on the issue of avian botulism risk.

Brent Walton provided an update to the committee relating to WIL. He advised that there had been good progress with regard to storage pond. In addition the Nutrient discharge consent was close to being signed off.

C Latham asked for an update on the work of the summer student. B Walton advised that they had been completing FEPs following the ECan small run holder's template. WIL aimed to have all FEPs completed by September 2016 however they were taking longer than expected. Paul Reese had completed 10-15 large farms and had generally found good practices, however, he observed that irrigators could be better maintained and there could be more effort in telemetry to achieve best practice for irrigating.

In response to a question, B Walton advised that the small run holder template was for under 20 hectares, unless there was intensification.

With regard to the material presented by M Bates, R Williams requested that WDC provide a seasonal response to the issues of the Kaiapoi and Cam Rivers and avian botulism similar to that provided by Gerard Cleary to M Bates on the 20 August 2015 to advise what had happened over summer. M Griffin confirmed that a request for an update would be added to the action list.

4 WORKING GROUP AND REGIONAL COMMITTEE – UPDATES – C McKay / Zone Committee / A Veltman

4.1 COMMITTEE UPDATES – 1 FEBRUARY 2016 – M Griffin (Facilitator)

M Griffin advised that instead of the December WWZC meeting there had been a fieldtrip visiting the Kaiapoi and Eyre drains which were part of ongoing work and were areas of sensitivity and interest to the WWZC and the wider community.

M Griffin advised that a Summary of Actions of the Kaiapoi River Rehabilitation Project had been provided in the Agenda. J Roper-Lindsay noted that there was no time frame provided for completion or reporting on the action points and requested that this be provided even if it was only an interim report. M Griffin advised he would follow up with Adrian and Janet.

4.2 REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT – DECEMBER MEETING – C McKay (Chairperson)

S Bragg provided an update on the issue regarding longfin eel management in Canterbury. In Canterbury the longfin eel is a threatened species and as a consequence the Regional Committee wanted to investigate if there was anything that could be done to assist. There had been consultation with interested parties including DOC and commercial eelers. Most parties were aligned in a desire to immediately stop harvest however commercial eelers wished to maintain the practice. MPI was currently running a Fisheries Management Review and there had been a submission from the Biodiversity and Ecosystem working Group (BEWG) to that. A suggestion was to split the longfin out from the shortfin eel to provide more options with management of the species.

C McKay advised that she would take the Regional Committee report as read and asked if there were any questions.

C Latham queried if there was any further information available regarding draft river bed lines of braided rivers on maps. V Loughnan advised that they were draft lines and not available for public view. C Latham queried whether there was freehold land included within the riverbed and V Loughnan explained that in the RMA the definition described the fullest extent to the banks of the river and that they were currently bound by the RMA

definition. In a resource consent application an applicant could provide an assessment of whether the land was riverbed. R Williams highlighted that it was a complex topic that had been around for many years and suggested a full explanation could be provided to the WWZC in future.

J Roper-Lindsay noted that previous Regional Committee reports had referred to urban water quality in other centres such as Christchurch and Timaru. However, Waimakariri towns had not been mentioned in relation to urban water quality. C McKay noted that Item 1 on important work streams for the Regional Committee's work programme was urban water quality issues.

Clare Williams and Cherie Williams arrived at 4.20 during Item 4.2.

4.3 **LOWLANDS WATERWAYS, BRAIDED RIVERS AND BIODIVERSITY WORKING GROUP**

M Griffin advised that the working group had not met. J Roper-Lindsay and G Edge had met with ECan staff to provide an update and scope ideas of what was required this year.

4.4 **NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT AND WATER EFFICIENCY WORKING GROUP**

C McKay advised that the working group had not met.

4.5 **WAIMAKARIRI ZONE TEAM - UPDATE**

Andrew Arps, the Waimakariri Zone Team Manager provided an update on current Zone Team priorities. Points to note were

- The need to identify stakeholder groups.
- The need for clear messages to make something that is complex, simple and compelling.
- One team- so not doubling up work effort.
- Consider the sub-regional planning process.
- In the interim there was a 100 Day Action Plan and Work Programme
- Continue working on 5 year outcomes
- The need to engage with wider community and use of a 'sales tool' to help explain where the individuals part comes into play in terms of bigger picture.

4.6 **ZONE COMMITTEE ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

A Veltman noted that the engagement as included in agenda had all gone ahead and M Griffin acknowledged that November and December had been busy with the community engagement.

M Griffin advised that Nick Haley had resigned from the WWZC due to work commitments. N Haley wished to acknowledge the support he had received during his time with WWZC.

Moved C McKay Seconded J Roper-Lindsay

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.

CARRIED

5 COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME – FEBRUARY TO MAY 2016 – M Griffin / Zone Committee

M Griffin tabled a calendar of WWZC meetings and briefings for the beginning of the year. M Dodson advised he was happy to order briefings to best suit WWZC. He suggested holding science stakeholder briefings for the committee before the Science Stakeholder Advisory Group meetings in order to give the committee an opportunity to provide input. C McKay noted that sub-regional planning process was beginning in July which would require more time commitment from committee members. For time efficiency she suggested that workshops and briefings be held on the same day.

There was some discussion around dates and times with general consensus for a WWZC briefings/workshop afternoon to occur once a month, a fortnight after the formal meeting. This time could also be used for a more dedicated session around looking at sub-regional planning.

C McKay requested input from WWZC members regarding topics for the work programme, more information on:

- Water quality testing data especially with regard to cyanobacteria and toxic blooms, and criteria for testing including historical comparisons.
- Weed control in the braided river system
- Information on support for riparian mitigations
- Information on how the sub regional planning process can/will be integrated with the coastal and other relevant plans
- Briefing on the RMA process and legal procedure including reference to other zones, such as Selwyn Waihora and Hinds.
- Water quality/quantity current state
- Recreation and Mahinga Kai values testing sites, e.g. estuary monitoring.

There was some discussion around community engagement which was referred to the later workshop item – Community Meetings Review and Feedback.

There was some discussion around a suitable forum for members to discuss the vision and way forward for the zone prior to the sub-regional planning process. C Williams commented that the Selwyn Waihora Hinds focus groups had been a good way of getting a large no of groups and individuals around a table to discuss the issues and C McKay advised that the WWZC would be starting that process in July.

Moved Seconded

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)

Moved R Williams Seconded C Williams

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.

CARRIED

C McKay referred to Note D regarding the discussion held at the fieldtrip on support of the Coopers Creek Wetland Restoration and queried if further information had been provided. G Walton advised he had received further information and C Latham noted she had viewed a map of the project area and felt the wetland linked well to Coopers Creek.

In addition, J Tompkins advised that it was in the vicinity of QEII covenanted Taylors Bush, has a key value as a mudfish habitat, and was in the Oxford Foothills which was a priority area for the zone. The resources of the Regional Fish Habitat remediation project would be applied, creating added value.

C Latham queried whether the seep dried up. J Tompkins noted the proposed earthworks were to assist with fish habitat during dry periods.

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

V Loughnan and D Just spoke to a PowerPoint presentation and provided the committee with a briefing on Environment Canterbury's consent process including the general consenting process and what is required. They highlighted that the RMA was the overarching legislation. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation was to be provided to the WWZC as a reference.

C Williams asked for clarification regarding a resource consent issued for a bore in an aquifer hydraulically connected to the lower reaches of the Ashley/Rakahuri River. She questioned how it could be non-notified and asked who would have considered the cultural impact in the Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE). V Loughnan advised that there was a number of limitations in the consenting process such as if the plan had an existing allocation. In terms of the cultural impact assessment the Rūnanga was advised of resource consent applications as an interested party and Mahaanui Kurataiao Ltd (MKT) was given an opportunity to comment on the cultural impact assessment.

V Loughnan noted that the issue referred to was more appropriate to be dealt with in the planning process than consenting, as consenting had to follow the rules. For example the sub-regional plan could look at allocation. C Williams questioned what could be done in the immediate term and it was suggested it could be through a review condition however the onus was on the Council to prove an adverse effect and there was not the capacity or funds to do this for every consent.

C Latham questioned Farm Environment Plan (FEP) requirements for resource consent applications. V Loughnan replied that if the activity did not trigger a land use consent then a FEP was not required, however, staff could request Overseer data and they could impose a condition that a FEP be completed by a certain date. FEPs were required for orange zone consents and over time all farms would be completing FEPs. C Latham queried how ECan was preparing to manage all the FEPs submitted. V Loughnan referred to the current orange zone consent process where FEPs had been submitted in accordance with Schedule 7 of the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan (LWRP). She advised the FEPs were attached to the consent. However it could be requested that they remain confidential. An accredited person was required to audit the FEP.

C McKay referred to the issuing of new land use consents in the orange zone and queried how that would tie in with the sub-regional plan, and if the sub-regional would supersede them. V Loughnan advised that staff had to refer to what was operational now. They were aware the sub-regional was coming and could look at limiting the duration of the consent. GMP was a tool to anticipate what could result in the sub-regional plan. C McKay questioned the timeframe given on consents and V Loughnan said it was 5 years.

A Veltman noted ECan’s attempt to make application forms and templates as user friendly as possible, to assist farmers adhere to the regulations. J Roper-Lindsay noted that not only was a farm consultant required but cultural and biodiversity advice.

C Latham queried who was policing the system to ensure farmers complied with rules and requirements and A Veltman replied that at the moment requirements were focused on the orange zone. There were other triggers for compliance, for example, a land sale where due diligence had to be completed.

C Williams observed that although there were a lot of rules she was not aware that the compliance of those rules was monitored. Even when complaints were made by the public they did not appear to be followed up.

A Veltman commented that the WWZC was in an influential position to promote compliance.

Moved J Roper-Lindsay Seconded K Felstead

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.

CARRIED

8 GENERAL BUSINESS – Chairperson and Zone Committee Members

C Williams noted that while a 4wheel drive group had completed a rubbish clean-up day at the Ashley/Rakahuri River, they had created disturbance and sedimentation in the river with their vehicles. M Griffin would contact the group to provide feedback.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.18pm.

CONFIRMED

Chairman

Date

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WORKSHOP

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

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

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

PROPOSAL

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

ACTION POINTS

An updated list of action points from previous meeting will be tabled with the committee.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

The following updates are tabled for the committee:

- **Appointment of Chair and Deputy Chair**

With the 2015 committee refreshment now completed the committee will elect/confirm its Chair and Deputy Chair for 2016, please refer to agenda item 4-1.

- **Regional Committee Meeting – 9 February 2016**

Please refer to the attached Regional Committee meeting update attached as agenda item 4-2.

To review the February 2016 Regional Committee agenda papers, please follow the following link: <http://ecan.govt.nz/publications/Council/reg-cttee-20160209.pdf>

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

David Ashby will provide an update at this meeting on recent progress across the Zone by industry partners, such as DairyNZ.

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

Grant Edge will provide an update at this meeting on the Biodiversity Working Group and other lowland waterway projects.

- **Waimakariri Zone Committee Annual Report – Update**

A draft of the inaugural annual report will be tabled with the committee for re

- **Waimakariri Zone Team – Update**

Andrew Arps, the Waimakariri Zone Team Manager, will provide a short update on current Zone Team priorities.

- The Zone Team will present its quarterly update at the 4 April committee meeting

- **Zone Committee Engagement & Communications**

Engagements

- DairyNZ meeting in Cust on Plan Change 5 – 22 February
- Science Stakeholder Advisory Group – next meeting on 16 March
- Local Water Management Group meetings on:

Communications

- Monthly E Newsletters – Sent on 2 February.

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.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 4-1	SUBJECT MATTER: Appointments of Chairperson & Deputy for 2016	
REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee	DATE OF MEETING: 7 March 2016	
REPORT BY: Murray Griffin, Zone Facilitator		

PURPOSE

The purpose of the agenda item is to assist the Zone Committee in the process of appointing a Chairperson and deputy Chairperson for 2016.

These appointments are in accord with the Zone Committee's Terms of Reference, which state that the committee make these appointments each year as part of the committee's refreshment process.

Both the current Chairperson (Claire McKay) and the Deputy Chairperson (Grant Edge) are happy to continue in these roles for 2016 should the committee be agreeable to this and there are no other nominees for these positions.

Should there be more than one nominee for either of these positions the appointment process shall be undertaken by a simple ballot vote.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Zone Committee appoints a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson for 2016.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 4-2	SUBJECT: Regional Committee Report – 9 Feb 2016
REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee	DATE OF MEETING: 7 March 2016
REPORT BY: Claire McKay, Regional Committee representative	

Updates received from:

1) Biodiversity and Ecosystem Working Group (BEWG)

BEWG had met recently and

- Agreed to hold a workshop with key funders to explore what they are doing and why, and identify options to develop framework and outcomes to work collaboratively towards CWMS biodiversity 5 year outcomes.
- Agreed to support the inclusion of Russell Lupins as a new pest in the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Review discussion document, and thus providing a means to control their spread. RC supports BEWG chair write in support of Russell Lupins being included as a pest.
- Discussed the opportunities for biodiversity to be included in farm environment plans, and potential for collaboration with primary sector over plantings to provide shade and shelter. RC discussion highlighted the need for land owners to see Biodiversity or protected areas, as an asset and not a liability, so they were voluntary and not regulatory set asides.
- Agreed to recommend to the RC, that it submit on MPI's options in support of separating long and short fin eel stocks in the South Island for purposes of fish management. This is consistent with the submission made to MPI in late 2015. The RC supported this. It is also noted that the CWMS rūnanga reps have a meeting on the 26 of Feb, and it is envisaged that the splitting of eel stocks option will also be discussed at this hui.
- BEWG has also requested staff to progress further development towards improving eel habitat in Canterbury.

2) Temporary Working Group

The group was set up at the last RC meeting to consider ECan commissioner's request to provide advice on the establishment of a regional funding mechanism for environmental infrastructure reported they had:

- Agreed on the term 'environmentally beneficial infrastructure'. The new term was introduced to address previous concerns around the use of the term 'environmental infrastructure' and to remove some of the perceived ambiguity around the term 'public good infrastructure'.
- Determined that a key test for suitability for public funding would be assessing who the beneficiaries of a project might be, and the nature and scale of those benefits from providing environmentally beneficial infrastructure.

The RC discussion centred on ensuring that only those elements of a project that provided a clear public/environmental benefit were funded, rather than elements that a project proponent was required to do through their duty to avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of a project. There was a tension around how to manage this risk, while still ensuring that projects that would benefit the greater good can proceed. The WG will consider adding this as a further criteria for clarity and report back next meeting.

It was resolved the RC note the Working Group's conclusions that:

While public funding should be a last resort, there could be a case for Environment Canterbury to provide public funding (through a rate) to the environmentally beneficial elements of an infrastructure project if the following criteria were satisfied.

The project:

- 1. Delivers significant, demonstrable ecological, social and cultural benefits over and above the alternatives, including doing nothing*
- 2. Requires only a one-off capital investment (not recurring)*
- 3. Is a cost-effective way to achieve goals*
- 4. Benefits a group wider than the immediate users (clear test of beneficiaries required in the assessment project)*
- 5. Contributes to achieving other governmental policies or strategies (if relevant)*
- 6. Addresses a legacy issue (if relevant)*

And that:

Good investment principles should be followed when assessing the projects (including a risk assessment and cost-benefit analysis). In addition, an assessment of the scale of the benefits and the affordability of the project, including the ability of a local community to meet the costs, would help to determine the mix of funding and how to rate (targeted or regional).

RC briefed on:

i) An ECan Long Term Plan requirement is that all CWMS committees prepare an annual report to Councils with interests in their work. The RC broke into their Working Groups to discuss what they thought were the key messages. The areas reviewed were achievements to date; current and emerging strategic issues; and future work programme, as well as kaitiakitanga. This information will be used in a report for feedback at a future meeting prior to submission to respective Councils.

ii) ECan has commissioned a research report into freshwater swimming in Canterbury. The aim is to quantify the extent and state of recreational use of freshwater as part of CWMS targets around recreation and amenity values. Previous research was commissioned on jet-boating, kayaking and angling, however, swimming in freshwater still presented an information gap.

The scope of the report seeks to assess a wide range of values associated with freshwater swimming, such as:

- Identification of locations where people swim, and the relative popularity/value of these sites at both a local (CWMS zone) and regional scale,
- Values that are key to a 'good' swimming spot e.g. presence of amenities, flow rates, presence of a pool, scenic values
- The barriers to people swimming in freshwater e.g. accessibility, parking, perceived water quality, knowledge of sites
- The appropriateness of current locations for recreational water quality monitoring
- The value of the current indicators, and current methods, used for recreational water quality monitoring

In a brief discussion the following points were also raised: to include testing for cyanobacteria; where swimming areas are remote consider public toilets, camping facilities and accessibility; and the physical creation of swimming holes where possible. That the RC noted ECan's intention to commission this report.

3) The Regional Pest Management Review Plan,

The RC were directed to the full discussion document on line. Note earlier comment that BEWG supports the proposal to include Russell Lupins as a new pest, and was supported by RC.

4) ECan's preparation to submit on the Resource Legislation Amendment Bill

The Committee requested that a link to the submission be provided at their next meeting.

5) CWMS Targets review underway

The aim of the review is to ensure measures and indicators are appropriate and reportable- not a revision or rewrite of the CWMS targets themselves ; identify data and knowledge gaps; and encourage partner organisations to review their programmes and projects so that appropriate data will be available by 2020.

The project will involve a desktop review. Focus groups and a final report which will be shared with stakeholder groups, the Regional Committee as well as the Canterbury Mayoral Forum. The project is due to be completed by 22 April 2016

Claire McKay

AGENDA ITEM NO: 5	SUBJECT MATTER: WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE IMMEDIATE STEPS FUND
REPORT TO: Waimakariri Zone Committee	DATE OF MEETING: 7 th March 2016
REPORT BY: Jean Tompkins, Biodiversity Officer	ACTION: FOR DECISION (IMS FUNDING ALLOCATION)
PRESENTED BY: Biodiversity Subgroup	

PROJECT UPDATES

To date thirty projects have been approved by the Waimakariri zone committee (see Attachment 1: 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 Attachment Table 2. Taking into account the current status of all approved projects and their final expenditures, **\$464,511** 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 **\$35,489** remains to be allocated.

APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

The Zone Committee has received one new application for funding for approval at this meeting. The total funding requested is \$5,318.

Project Name	Funds Requested from the Zone Committee	Funds Provided by Other Sources	Total Fund*
Kaiapoi River Enhancement Trial	\$5,318	\$5,318	\$10,636

*Approximately 70% of costs cover planting establishment

Project Aim:

Riparian margin enhancement within a reach of the Kaiapoi River

Project Summary:

- Waimakariri District council staff will project manage the project (this includes, contractor management, plant ordering and reporting)
- This application is seeking \$5,318 of Immediate Steps funding for: weed control (crack willow and yellow flag iris), site preparation, plant purchase, planting labour, plant protection and maintenance.
- Planting will occur on the 'wet-margins' already present along the stream bank.
- The project may require selected willow removal as requested by WaiOra Landscapes (an initial estimate suggests that up to 15 willows may need to be

removed to facilitate the planting trial, to be confirmed through on-site investigation and public consultation)

- If the need to remove willows is confirmed during on-site planting preparation, then flexibility in the proportion of funding spent on planting is requested to allow for willow removal.
- The future removal of additional crack willows (up to 15 willows) if required, would be funded by a separate budget (to be determined).
- No earthworks (dredging or physical channel works) will occur at this stage

Proposed activities:

Strategic native planting
Weed control where required
Option of removal of 3 willows

Outcomes sought:

Establishment of indigenous riparian margin vegetation within a reach of the Kaiapoi River by September 2016

Ecological score: Low (28%)

See Map 1 & 2 below for location of proposed planting works

Map 1: Proposed Planting Locations (Downstream of Cam River Confluence)



Map 2 – Proposed Planting Locations (Upstream of Mandeville Bridge)



Attachment 1: Table 1: Overview and status of approved Waimakariri IMS projects

Project Name	Objective(s)	Current status
Tūtaepatu Lagoon –Round 1	Removal of willow. Removal of oldmans beard. Native plant planting and establishment. Erection of fence. Establish and maintain a trap line.	Completed– continued via Round 2
Eyrewell Scientific Reserve	Restore fence to exclude rabbits and hare. Continued regeneration of remnant dryland veg.	Completed
Dagnum Dryland Plains Vegetation Restoration	Protect/restore regenerating area of native dryland veg. through gorse and grass control	Completed
Baynons Wetland Restoration	Green corridor link. Regeneration of native plants (esp. for birds). Vehicle exclusion. Weed control.	Completed
Poynters Wetlands Nature Reserve	Re-establish riparian margins. Pest and weed control. Removal of silt	Completed
Tūtaepatu Lagoon - Round 2	Removal of willow. Removal of old man's beard. Native plant planting and establishment.	Completed– continued via Round 3
Ashley/Rakahuri River Predator Trapping	Funding to purchase traps for the Ashley/Rakahuri river care group to reduce predator numbers on the river, indirectly benefiting native bird species.	Completed – Ongoing group reports available upon request
Tutaepatu Lagoon –Round 3	Continuation of the restoration works at this significant coastal wetland.	Completed – continued via Round 4
Birch Hill Wetland	A 4ha spring-fed wetland near oxford foothills requiring fencing and weed control. Connected to the Ashley-Rakahuri River. Additional planting supported by QEII and CBS funding.	Completed works – additional planting continues Awaiting audit
Sladdens Farm Road Spring	Highly modified spring head which would regain some of its ecological value through restoration planting. Addressing the priority to protect springs.	Completed – maintenance continues
Ashley Inanga Enhancement Works	Near to Taranaki floodgates, known inanga spawning site. Working with river engineers and interest groups.	Underway.
Waikuku Beach Wetland	Connects coastal wetland areas at Waikuku Beach road. Landowner is supportive of the wetland's restoration and its use for educational purposes. Project activities: Planting, fencing and retirement of areas from stock use.	Underway – maintenance continues.
Sandhill Lakes Enhancement	Two 50+years old man-made ponds (3ha and 0.6ha) in the back dunes SW of Tūtaepatu lagoon which provide open water fowl habitat. Project activities: Female grey willow control & planting	Some setbacks. Implementation delayed until Summer 2015.
Sladdens Bush Road	Oxford foothills seeps with native riparian vegetation (broadleaf assemblages and mature Beech sp.) Project activities: Fencing (1.3km) and restoration planting (funding of fencing)	Completed
Okuku Springs	Spring head and reach of lowland stream north of the Ashley Rakahuri River shortly after its confluence with the Gary River. Project activities: Fencing and riparian planting.	Underway – baseline monitoring completed

Table 1 continued:

Project Name	Objective(s)	Current status
Waikuku Rivercare Group Trapping	The trapping site is the surrounds of the Ashley Estuary, including the berm on the north bank (Raupo Berm), and the berm areas on the south bank between the Ashley Reserve and SH1.	Underway
Silverstream Riparian Planting	Restoration of riparian edges of four sites along Silverstream - a priority pilot lowland stream for the Waimakariri Zone Committee	Plantings completed. Maintenance underway.
Tutaepatu Lagoon – Stage 6	Site wide weed control (~49 ha) (includes: Female Grey Willow, Crack Willow, Old Man’s Beard, Japanese Honeysuckle and Blackberry)	Agreement with Recipient (January’16)
Pines Beach Wetland Stage 2	Weed control works throughout the wetland, including: female grey willow, beggars tick and wilding pines	Agreement with Recipient (January’16)
Coopers Creek Wetland Restoration	Restoring a spring-fed wetland in the Oxford-foothills priority area - fencing, native ecosourced planting and earthworks.	Agreement document under development

Table 2: Overview of funding allocation and spend to date for Waimakariri IMS projects

Project Name	Allocated	Spent*
Tutaepatu Lagoon – Stage 1	\$40,000	\$40,000
Baynons Wetland	\$11,500	\$9,048
Plains Kanuka Remnant	\$7,447	\$0
Dagnum Drylands	\$7,580	\$12,733
Poynters Wetland	\$8,000	\$8,000
Eyrewell Drylands	\$12,000	\$5,655
Tutaepatu Lagoon – Stage 2	\$40,000	\$40,000
Ashley Rakahuri River Care Group	\$1,350	\$1,350
Tutaepatu Lagoon – Stage 3	\$40,000	\$40,000
Birch Hill Wetland	\$8,220	\$8,220
Sladdens Farm Road Spring	\$3,448	\$3,448
Ashley Inanga Enhancement Works	\$2,333	\$2,333
Waikuku Beach Wetland	\$8,700	\$4,816.5
Sandhill Lakes Enhancement	\$3,595	\$0
Sladdens Bush Road	\$10,000	\$10,000
Okuku Springs	\$13,670	\$7,333.50
Waikuku Rivercare Group Trapping	\$605	\$460
Silverstream Riparian Planting	\$11,375	\$7,230.52
Waimakariri Corridor	\$45,852	\$8,000
Tutaepatu Lagoon – Stage 4	\$40,000	\$40,000
Mounseys Stream	\$21,383	\$10,692
Sladdens Bush Road Mudfish	\$13,105	\$11,026.25
Sladdens Farm Road Mudfish	\$10,062	\$5,911.83
<i>Astelia grandis</i> Ohoka	\$2,580	\$1,410
Tutaepatu Lagoon – Stage 5	\$40,000	\$40,000
Pines Beach Wetland	\$27,518	\$27,518
Bridgewater Swamp Ohoka	\$6,480	\$0
Silverstream Reserve Planting	\$10,000	\$0
Tutaepatu Lagoon – Stage 6	\$8,000	\$0
Pines Beach Wetland - Stage 2	\$10,000	\$0
Coopers Creek Wetland	\$7,155	\$0
Totals: (Adjusted for actual spend at project completion (\$3,644 underspend of allocations))	\$464,511	\$345,186

*Spent also includes funds which have been paid up-front.

Notes:

Total remaining to be allocated: \$35,489.

Allocated and spent figures differ due to projects coming under budget. This gap has, where appropriate, covered those projects which have gone over budget.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7	SUBJECT: Technical briefing – Surface water quality and ecology	
REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee	MEETING DATE: 2 February 2016	
REPORT BY: Matt Dodson, Hydrogeologist & Waimakariri Science Technical Lead		

Background:

The Waimakariri Water Zone Committee over the next few years will be considering how best to manage water and land within the Waimakariri District as part of the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan. In order to do this the committee, and the wider community, will require information about the environmental, economic, social, cultural, recreational attributes of the District. They will also require information on the current land & water management regimes. Environment Canterbury has formed a project team which will provide information to the water zone committee, iwi and the wider community.

Other water zone committees have already been through this process and lessons have been learnt. One lesson learnt is to start talking to water zone committees, iwi, communities and stakeholders early about the technical work being produced to support the process. To achieve this aim, for the first time, a Science Stakeholder Advisory Group (SSAG) and a Technical Lead Advisory Group (TLAG) have been established. The TLAG is composed of non-Environment Canterbury technical experts and their role is to provide independent advice on how the science undertaken and delivered. The SSAG is composed of representatives of a number of stakeholders (Waimakariri Irrigation Limited, Canterbury District Health Board, Waimakariri District Council, etc.). Their roles, amongst others, are to a) nominate and select the TLAG (with a number of stakeholders also providing funding for the TLAG), b) build stakeholder involvement and confidence in the science carried for this process. One of the goals for the SSAG is that stakeholders will endorse the science provided during this process.

The Waimakariri sub regional planning process is scheduled to begin mid-2016. At about the same time Environment Canterbury's technical team are aiming on reporting on the environmental, social, cultural and economic 'current state'.

Technical briefing structure and purpose

Over the next five or six months the intention is to have Environment Canterbury technical experts provide briefings to both the committee and the SSAG. The briefings will be first presented to the water zone committee and then to the SSAG workshop. Both briefings will be very similar and are intended to provide the committee and SSAG with an opportunity to see what technical work is being prepared before the current state reporting is finalised.

Please be mindful that this is work in progress and things may change as new information is analysed, or as a result of technical reviews.

Briefing – Surface Water Quality and Ecology

Today's briefing will focus on the water quality and ecological work that is still in progress and which we will be reported on mid-year.

The Briefing will be provided by:

Michael Greer – Ecology Scientist at Environment Canterbury

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.