

ASHBURTON WATER MANAGEMENT ZONE COMMITTEE AGENDA

A **Meeting** of the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee will be held as follows:

DATE: Tuesday 29 March 2016

TIME: 1:00 pm

VENUE: Council Meeting Room
2 Baring Square East
Ashburton

MEETING CALLED BY: A Dalziel, Chief Executive, Ashburton District Council
B Bayfield, Chief Executive, Environment Canterbury

ATTENDEES: Mrs Donna Field (Chair)
Mr Chris Allen
Mr Ben Curry
Mr Craig Fowles
Mr Gordon Guthrie
Mr Bill Thomas
Mrs Jackie Wright
Mr John Henry (Te Runanga o Arowhenua)
Mr Arapata Reuben (Te Ngai Tuahuriri Runanga)
Cr Stuart Wilson (Ashburton District Council)
Commissioner David Caygill (Environment Canterbury)

Zone Facilitator

Olivia Smith

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Environment Canterbury

Committee Advisor

Jo Naylor

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Tangata Whenua Facilitator

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Environment Canterbury



5 Register of Interests

Representative's Name and Interest	
Chris Allen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm owner of sheep, beef, lambs ,crop • Water resource consents to take water from tributary of Ashburton River and shallow wells • National board member Federated Farmers of New Zealand • Member of Ashburton River Liaison Group
David Caygill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputy Chair – Environment Canterbury Commissioners • Chair - Business NZ's Energy Council
Ben Curry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Executive Officer – Rangitata Diversion Race Management Limited
Donna Field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair – Whitcombe Landcare Group • Director–Cleardale Station Ltd • Member of Ashburton Biodiversity Working Group • Member of Forest and Bird • Member of Federated Farmers High Country Division
Craig Fowles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Manager at ANZCO Foods Canterbury Ltd • Director of freshwater consultancy Biosortid Ltd
Gordon Guthrie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEO Electricity Ashburton Limited (t/a EA Networks) • Director – Barrhill Chertsey Irrigation (incl. Water Utilities Limited) • Farming partnership – Winchmore (Ashburton North branch)
John Henry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairman of Arowhenua Runanga • Chairman Tangata Tiaki-Kai Tiaki Committee • South Canterbury representative on Mahinga Kai Hi Ika Komiti • Member of Arowhenua Company Ltd • Ngai Tahu representative on Central South Island Fish and Game • Governance member of South Canterbury Trap and Transfer program • Member of Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee
Arapata Reuben	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trustee – Tuahiwi Marae • Trustee – Tuhono Trust • Trustee – Matapopore Charitable Trust • Trustee – Mana Waitaha Charitable Trust • Member - National Kiwi Recovery Group • Rūnanga Rep and Chair – Christchurch – West Melton Water Zone Committee
Bill Thomas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm owner of Longbeach Estate Ltd (sheep, beef, lambs, arable, dairy) • Member of Eiffelton Irrigation Scheme
Stuart Wilson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashburton District Councillor and Chair of Service Delivery Committee • A son who is a Director of Mayfield Hinds Irrigation Co and RDR
Jackie Wright	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employed by Canterbury District Health Board • Married to Ashburton District Councillor, Russell Ellis • Committee member South Rakaia Bach Owner's Association • Shallow Bore user • Dry land owner breeding Dexter cattle (Wakanui area, low acreage)

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Unconfirmed Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of the **Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee** held in the Council Meeting Room, 2 Baring Square East, on Tuesday 23 February 2016, commencing at 2.00 pm.

Present

Donna Field (Chair), Chris Allen, Craig Fowles, Gordon Guthrie, John Henry, Arapata Reuben, Bill Thomas, Stuart Wilson and Jackie Wright.

In attendance

Environment Canterbury: Lesley Woudberg (Facilitator), Peter Ramsden (Tangata Whenua Facilitator), Donna Lill (Ashburton Zone Manager).

Ashburton District Council: Jo Naylor (Business Support Officer - minutes).

Approximately 8 members of the public attended the meeting.

1 Welcome and Karakia

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and the opening karakia was offered by Peter Ramsden.

2 Apologies

Ben Curry.

Sustained

3 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

4 Register of Interests

It was noted that OOPs should now be OTOPs.

5 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee meeting held on Tuesday 26 January 2016, be taken as read and confirmed.

Allen/Caygill

Carried

5.1 Matters Arising

Consents updates – discussion on frequency of consent updates. It was noted that much of this information is available on the Environment Canterbury website.

It was proposed that a list of consents for the month be documented in the agenda with the consent staff attending meetings every two or three months to discuss trends and issues.

6 Correspondence

6.1 Bill Southward

The Chair received correspondence and dvd's from Mr Bill Southward about the Rakaia River. This will be scanned and distributed to the committee.

The committee will watch the dvd's prior to the next meeting.

That the correspondence be received.

Allen/Henry

Carried

7 Election of Officers

The Business Support Officer took the Chair.

The Zone Committee Terms of Reference require that an election is held each year to appoint the Chair and Deputy chair from the membership by simple majority. The committee should also appoint a representative to the Regional Committee. There is no limit on how long a person can hold one of these positions.

Mr Ben Curry lodged an apology for this meeting but advised that he would continue in the role of Regional Committee representative if required.

Nominations were called for the position of Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee.

That Donna Field be Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee.

Wright/Henry

Carried

There being no further nominations, Donna Field was duly declared Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee.

Nominations were called for the position of Deputy Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee.

That Bill Thomas be Deputy Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee.

Allen/Fowles

Carried

That Jackie Wright be Deputy Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee.

Field/Caygill

Carried

With two nominations on the table, a written vote was held. This resulted in a tie.

That the election of Deputy Chair be tabled until the March meeting.

Wilson/Caygill

Carried

Nominations were called for the position of Regional Committee representative.

That Ben Curry be the Ashburton Zone Committee representative on the Regional Committee.

Allen/Guthrie

Carried

With the agreement of the committee, the Chair proposed that item 9 on the agenda be taken next.

9 Hinds Plan and proposed region wide nutrient provisions

Recap on morning's Dairy NZ presentation and Variation 2:

- Some concern that there is in-equal treatment of BCI and RDR
- Clawback on intensification
- Lots of work done and the framework is still essentially intact to what the ZC recommended in the Hinds ZIPA.

8 Forest and Bird

Edith Smith presented a selection of photos to the committee. Forest and Bird have an interest in braided rivers and the declining bird habitat in the river over time. Forest and Bird focuses include advocating for wildings control, Harris Reserve, native plant nursery, bird monitoring. The group has been encouraged to write a proposal to develop management plan for weed control in the Ashburton River.

John Henry reiterated that Arowhenua do not support spraying of river beds as this removes protection for native species. He believes that the best action is to increase water levels in the rivers for natural freshes to clear weed species in the river bed. Need to work together to solve the entire puzzle, not just one part.

10 Updates

10.1 Regional Committee

Commissioners have asked the Regional Committee for advice on an aspect of funding water infrastructure which has environmental or social or cultural benefits

10.2 Hinds Drains Working Party

HDWP have met since Variation 2 and have also met with Arowhenua and had a field trip to the Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) site. Arowhenua is supportive of the MAR project. Also looked at a couple of proposed mahinga kai sites. Could be flagship sites for Canterbury.

Recommendations – report is being pulled together for the March Zone Committee meeting.

10.3 Other

Freshwater discussion document has been put out by Government with a significant amount of funding put aside for environmental restoration <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/fresh-water/next-steps-fresh-water-consultation-document>

ECan will be responding to this. A public meeting is to be held in Christchurch 17 March.

Trustpower have advised that they are awaiting one more contact and then will be able to proceed with inaugural trust meeting of the Rakaia Enhancement Fund.

Ecoli tracking study is underway and it is hoped that the results will be .available soon.

10.5 Zone team recruitment

Recruitment for the Ashburton zone team is underway with some positions filled and some yet to be filled.

Dave Ashby has been working on part time basis and a number of things are reaching conclusions especially in the sensitive lakes zones.

Quite costly for each farm to get consents, FEP's etc.

Want to organise hui in conjunction with Arowhenua for farmers in that area.

Would like Zone Committee to organise industry liaison meeting to talk about overseer and other issues.

A workshop is proposed to be held prior to the April Zone Committee meeting.

Donna Lill met with ADC to discuss the stockwater strategy to meet river flow plan. Andrew Guthrie will attend the March meeting to discuss this.

11 Annual Report

The committee discussed the draft annual report and amendments were proposed.

12 Five year outcomes

Barbara Nicholas and Donna Lill led the committee in an exercise to prioritise the five year outcomes.

13 Ashburton River monitoring results

The committee questioned what may have contributed to the spike in June 2014.

14 Summary/Actions

Monthly consents lists

Search programs

Community meeting, Wednesday 24 February at 7pm at Mayfield On the Hinds decision (Plan Change 2).

Proposed primary sector meeting

Water use Report – Ross Glubb ECan

15 Next meeting

The next meeting of the Ashburton Water Zone Committee will be held on 29 March 2016.

A committee workshop will be held prior to the meeting to address priorities.

The meeting concluded with a karakia by Arapata Reuben at 4.33pm.

Ashburton Zone Committee Report

Date 29 March 2016
Report to Ashburton Water Zone Committee
From Olivia Smith, CWMS Facilitator, Environment Canterbury
Subject Election of Deputy Chair

7 Election of Deputy Chair

Purpose

To inform the Committee of the need to elect a Deputy Chair.

Background

The Ashburton Zone Committee is established under the auspices of the Local Government Act 2002 in accordance with the Canterbury Water Management Strategy 2009.

The Committee is a joint Committee of Environment Canterbury and Ashburton District Council.

The role of the committee Chair is to: chair zone committee meetings, liaise with the facilitator on zone committee work planning, speak for the zone committee outside of the committee meeting and liaise with the media. The role of the Deputy Chair is to fill the above roles when the Chair is absent.

The committee's Terms of Reference state that each year, the committee shall appoint the Deputy Chair from the membership by a simple majority. There is no limit on how long a person can be in this position.

There were two nominations for the position of Deputy Chair at the Zone Committee meeting held on 23 February 2016. Both nominations received equal votes therefore there is a need to hold a reelection.

Recommendation

That the committee elect a Deputy Chair.

Ashburton Zone Committee Report

Date 29 February 2016
Report to Ashburton Water Zone Committee
From Lesley Woudberg, CWMS Facilitator, Environment Canterbury
Subject Hinds Drains Working Party recommendations

9 Hinds Drains Working Party recommendations

Purpose

- 1 To provide an update on the work of the Hinds Drains Working Party (HDWP) since it last reported to the committee 24 November 2015.
- 2 To present the final recommendations of the HDWP.

Recommendation

That the Committee

- 1 Notes with appreciation the substantial work and contribution of the HDWP to the Canterbury Water Management Strategy in the lower Hinds catchment; and
- 2 Recognises the time and effort all HDWP members have invested to find common ground and agreement on this set of recommendations and in particular recognise the leadership of Peter Lowe as the Chair; and
- 3 Receives the final recommendations of the HDWP; and
- 4 Resolves to make a decision on adoption of the HDWP recommendations on 26 April after the committee has had time to read the final package of HDWP recommendations and supporting technical information.

Report

The HDWP was established in May 2014 by the Ashburton Zone Committee to work with the community and various stakeholders to develop a water body by water body management regime to deliver the Canterbury Water Management Strategy for the main water bodies of the Lower Plains.

The HDWP reported on progress to the zone committee 24 November 2015 and requested an extension to finalise their recommendations to allow an opportunity to respond to decisions on the Hinds Plains Plan Change (Plan Change 2) and to discuss the draft recommendations with the Arowhenua.

At the November meeting the HDWP provided the committee with a copy of their draft recommendations. This report provides a brief overview of work since November. A final copy of the HDWP recommendations will be tabled on 29 March 2016.

Progress made since last report

21 February 2016 meeting with Arowhenua

The HDWP discussed draft recommendations with Arowhenua Mataitai Committee at Arowhenua marae. Later in the day the Mataitai Committee met members of the HDWP at the Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) site and the proposed mahinga kai sites.

Further work on minimum flow regime

Ongoing discussions within the HDWP has resulted in the development of a new generic adaptive minimum flow approach, and a trial of this approach for Boundary Drain.

In summary the approach is;

- Existing minimum flows until 2025
- Work toward a new adaptive minimum flow approach that;
 - enhances habitats and the opportunity for fish to migrate to and from the sea during high flows
 - provides for fluctuations in flow
 - manages the ability to harvest water to storage during winter
 - provides for agriculture in the months when needed
- Drains south of the Hinds River
 - Apply existing minimum flows
 - Trial the new adaptive minimum flow approach on Boundary Drain
 - If successful, begin the process to review all minimum flows south of the Hinds River by 2023 and where appropriate introduce a new adaptive minimum flow approach.
- Drains north of the Hinds River
 - Step 1. Consistently meet existing minimum flows throughout the year
 - Step 2. Assess the effectiveness of the MAR trial
 - Step 3. Once existing minimum flows are met look to review and if proven and appropriate introduce a new adaptive minimum flow approach. Begin this process in 2023.

Adopting of the HDWP recommendations

Given the complexity of the package of recommendations and wealth of technical information that supports them it is proposed that the zone committee agrees to a three stage process for adopting the recommendations. This will give the zone committee time to read the recommendations, supporting information and ask questions of the HDWP.

The proposed adoption process is for the zone committee to:

- 1 Receive the final recommendations on 29 March, including a briefing from the HDWP and opportunity for the zone committee to ask questions.
- 2 Workshop before the zone committee meeting on 26 April and a question and answer session with the HDWP.
- 3 Adopt the final recommendations of the HDWP on 26 April 2016.

Ashburton Zone Committee Report

Date 29 March 2016
Report to Ashburton Water Zone Committee
From Olivia Smith, Facilitator, Environment Canterbury
Subject Zone Delivery Update: Summary of report findings for the Ashburton River/Hakatere to Rakaia River area

10 Zone Delivery Update: Summary of report findings for the Ashburton River/Hakatere to Rakaia River area

Purpose

To provide the Zone Committee with a summary of the key findings of a report completed by Dave Ashby for Environment Canterbury in 2015.

Background

The report focuses on the areas of the Ashburton District between the Ashburton River/Hakatere and the Rakaia River.

The report documents the work that has occurred in this area to assist with achieving the outcomes identified in the Zone Implementation Plan (ZIP).

This work includes that undertaken to assist landowners with complying with the various consent requirements of the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan.

The report also provides useful context and seeks to identify opportunities and priority areas for future work.

A presentation of the key findings of the report will be provided at the Zone Committee meeting.

Ashburton Zone Committee Report

Date 29 March 2016
Report to Ashburton Water Zone Committee
From Jason Holland and Don Vattala, Planning, Environment Canterbury
Subject Plan Change 2 update on appeals

11 Plan Change 2 update on appeals

Purpose

To inform the Zone Committee of appeals received in relation to Plan Change 2 and to consider the implications of this for the implementation of Plan Change 2.

Plan Change 2 Appeals

Plan Change 2 (Hinds/Hekeao Plains area) to the Canterbury Land & Water Regional Plan is the planning framework that manages the use of land and water resources in the Hinds/Hekeao Plains Area. Environment Canterbury appointed independent hearing commissioners to hear submissions and evidence, and make recommendations on Plan Change 2. On 4 February 2016, Council adopted the Hearing Commissioners' recommendations and the decision was publicly notified on 13 February 2016.

The Council's decision can be appealed to the High Court only on a point of law as per Environment Canterbury (Temporary Commissioners and Improved Water Management) Act 2010. Three appeals were received:

1. Barrhill Chertsey Irrigation Limited (BCI);
2. Combined Canterbury Provinces Federated Farmers (Federated Farmers);
3. Rangitata Diversion Race Management (RDR).

Implications for Plan Change 2 implementation

Plan Change 2 cannot be made operative until appeals are resolved. However, the "implementation phase" of Plan Change 2 can begin now with communication of the following simple messages to farmers:

1. All farming activities should aim to comply with industry-agreed Good Management Practices (GMP);
2. Farmers should initiate the preparation of Farm Environment Plans;
3. Farmers should also keep all OVERSEER input files and relevant farm input information.

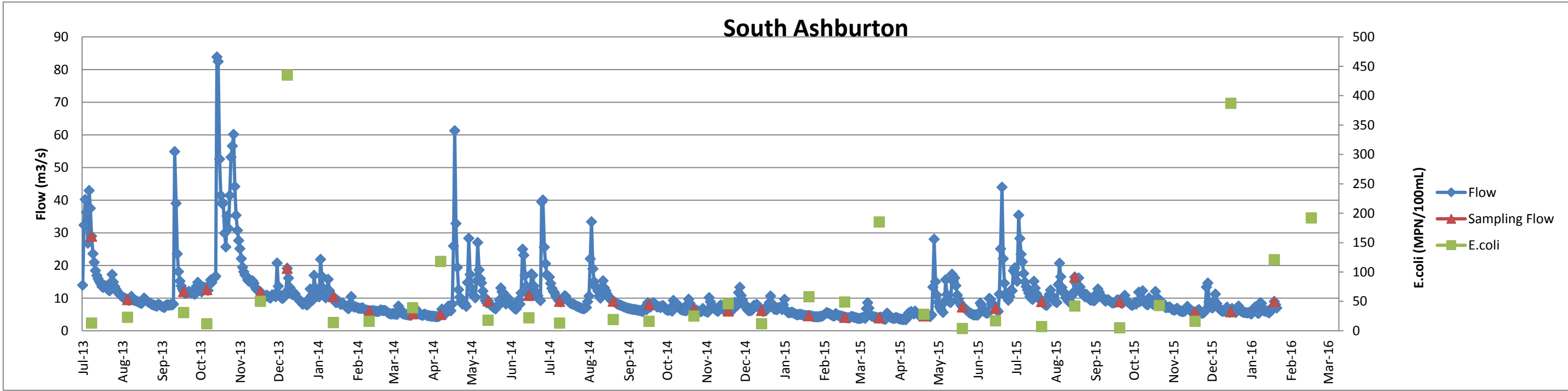
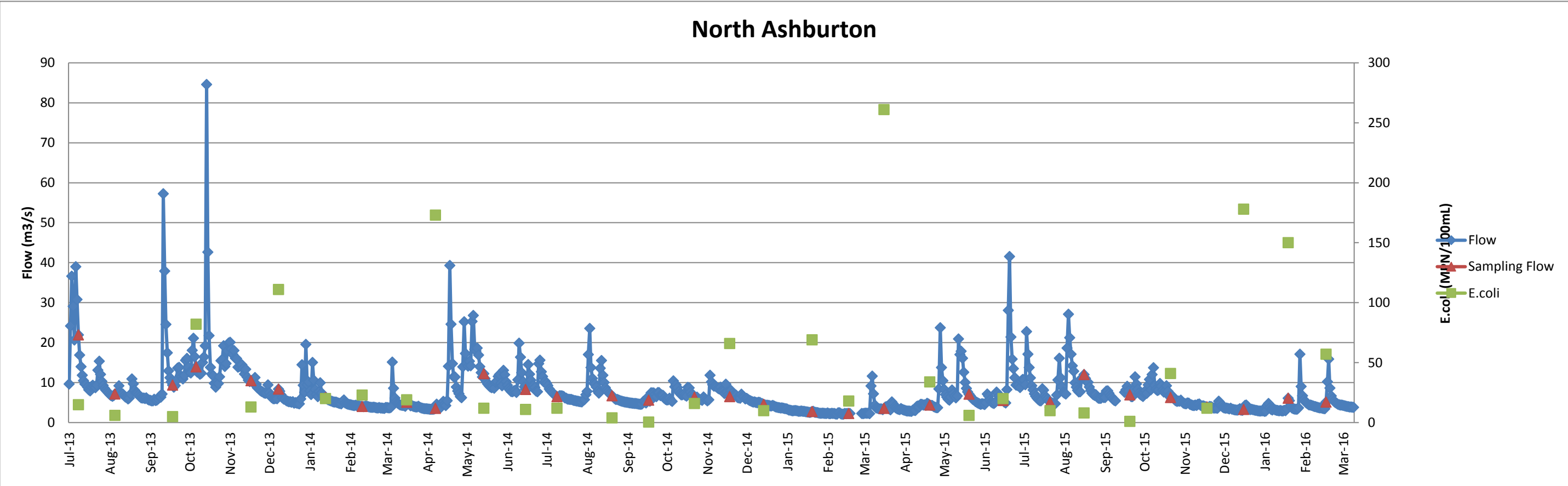
More detailed implementation of Plan Change 2 is likely to occur after appeals are resolved and a decision is made by Council to make Plan Change 2 operative. At that point, Council is likely to develop additional material to aid understanding of the plan's requirements, hold public workshops, etc. Staff will speak in more detail about this at a future Zone Committee meeting.

Recommendation

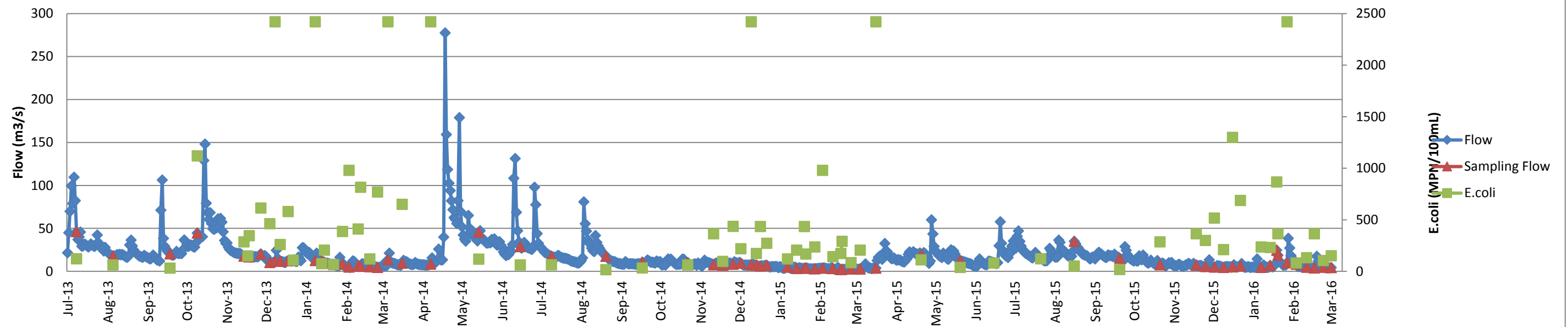
That the Zone Committee receive the update and support the communication of the key messages.

13 Reports for Committee Information

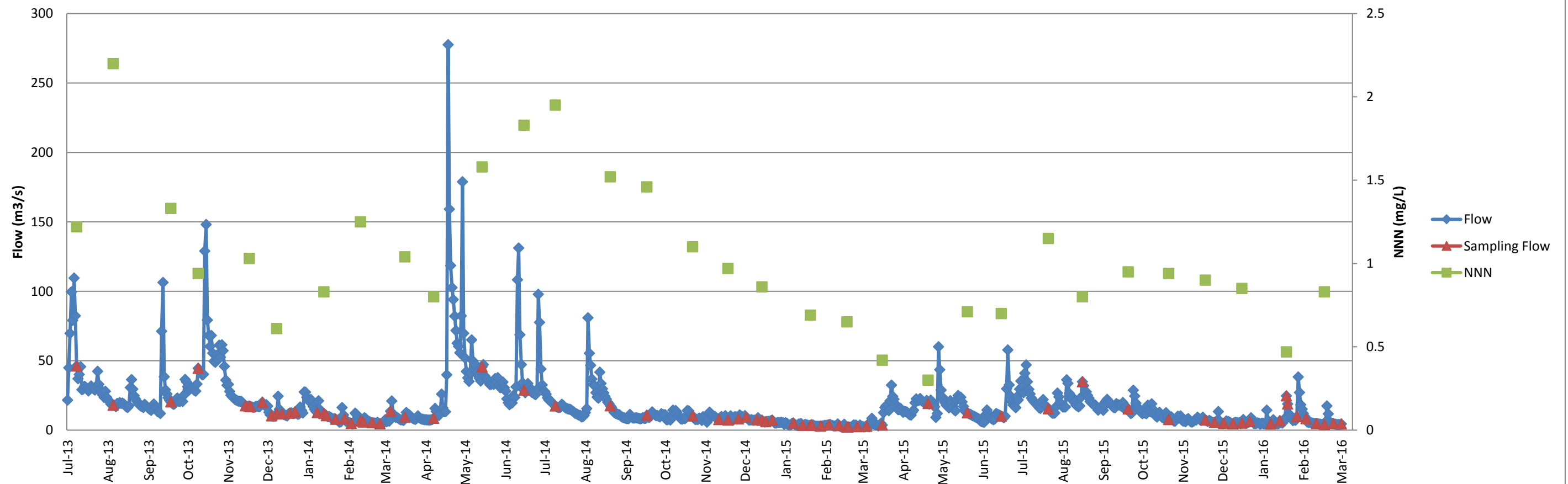
13.1 Ashburton River monitoring results

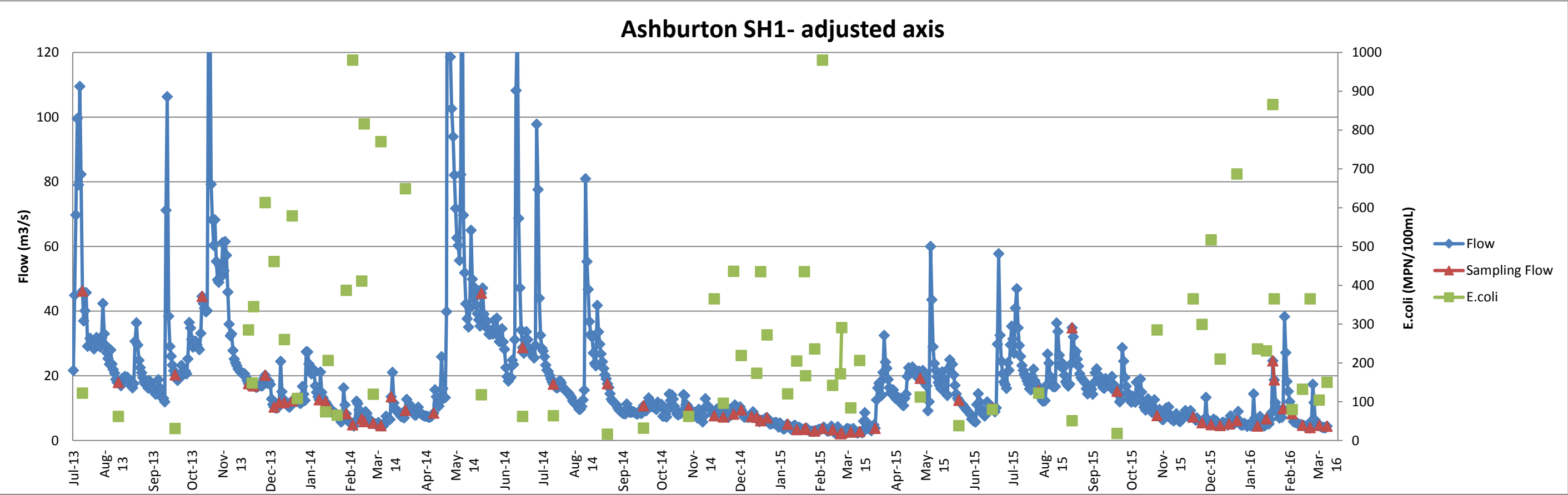


Ashburton SH1



Ashburton SH1





Ashburton Zone Committee Meeting

Tuesday 29 March 2016

Timetable

Time	Item
1:00 pm	Meeting Commences
2:30 pm	Afternoon Tea

Order of Business

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