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**Waitaki**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL  
TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI

## To the members of the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee

### MEMBERSHIP

Barry Shepherd (Chairman)	Peter Skelton
Mathew Bayliss	John Wilkie
Jay Graybill	Murray Cox
Lisa Anderson	Gary Kircher
Simon Cameron	Richard Subtil
Sandra Hampstead Tipene	
Moeraki Representative (vacant)	

***Notice is given of the Meeting of the Upper Waitaki Water Zone Management Committee to be held on Friday 15 July, 2016, at 9.30am***

**VENUE:** Mackenzie Country Inn, Twizel

**BUSINESS:** As per agenda attached

**WAYNE BARNETT**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**MICHAEL ROSS**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, WAITAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL**

	<p align="center"><b>Upper Waitaki Zone Committee Meeting</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Friday 15 July 2016</b></p> <p align="center"><b>9:30am</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Mackenzie Country Inn, Twizel</b></p>	
<b>9:00 am</b>	Arrive / Cup of tea	
<b>9:30</b>	<b>Standing Items:</b> Karakia, Apologies, Confirmation of Minutes, Correspondence, Regional Committee update,	<b>3</b> <b>7</b>
<b>10:00</b>	<b>Zone Team:</b> ‘What’s Hot?’ Work Programme Development	Michael Hide  <b>9</b>
<b>10:40</b>	<b>Latest Lake Water Quality:</b> Presentation of Results	Shirley Hayward
<b>11:00</b>	<i>Morning Tea</i>	
<b>11:15</b>	<b>Plan Change 5:</b> Officers’ recommendations on the Nutrient Management and Waitaki Plan Change	Jason Holland  <b>10</b>
<b>12:00</b>	<b>Regional Initiatives:</b> Recreation and Biodiversity	Ellie McNae  <b>14</b>
<b>12:20</b>	<b>Strategic Threads – Facilitator Update</b>	Nic Newman
<b>12:40</b>	<b>General Business</b> <i>General Public</i>	
<b>1:00PM</b>	<i>Meeting Close and Lunch</i>	

**ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY  
MACKENZIE AND WAITAKI DISTRICT COUNCILS**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE UPPER WAITAKI ZONE WATER  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, HELD AT THE MACKENZIE COUNTRY INN,  
TWIZEL, ON JUNE 21, 2016 AT 9.35AM**

**PRESENT:**

Barry Shepherd (Chair)  
Simon Cameron  
Mathew Bayliss  
Sandra Hampstead-Tipene  
Peter Skelton  
John Wilkie  
Lisa Anderson  
Richard Subtil

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Nic Newman, Zone Committee Facilitator  
Keri-Ann Little, Committee Secretary, MDC  
Ian Lyttle, Environment Canterbury  
Michael Hide, Environment Canterbury  
John Benn, Department of Conservation  
Robert Carson-Iles, Environment Canterbury  
Peter Ramsden, Environment Canterbury  
Rachel Blackburn, Environment Canterbury  
Graham Sutherland, Otematata Residents Association

**APOLOGIES:**

Resolved that an apology be received from Murray Cox, Jay Graybill, Gary Kircher and Miriam Morton.

**Chair/ Sandra Hampstead - Tipene**

**KARAKIA:**

Peter Ramsden opened the meeting with a karakia.

**MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING:**

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2016, be confirmed and adopted as a correct record.

**Peter Skelton/ John Wilkie**

*Changes to the previous minutes:*

Page 4 paragraph 2 amend to read:

Mr Skelton added that the public funding could be ratepayer funded. Mr Skelton said he believes the Government should take a directional role of funding discussions regarding the involvement of equity as well as loan funding and the overall environmental benefit.

Page 4 paragraph 7 amend read:

Mr Skelton responded stating the booklet represents agreed good management practices not just in Canterbury but around Canterbury and is quite an achievement.

Page 5 paragraph 3 amend to read:

Mr Cameron reminded the Committee funding will be sought from the South Waitaki Wilding and Tree Trust expressing the importance of communication between Ecan and the Mackenzie Country Trust.

Page 5 paragraph 7 amend to read:

Mr Skelton reported that the Ecan Transitional Arrangements Bill has now been passed. Any plans being processed will continue and be completed under the old legislation. An election will be held for 7 Councillors.

## **REGIONAL COMMITTEE UPDATE:**

The Chair referred to the summary of the Regional Water Management Committee minutes from the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2016, which were included in the agenda on 10. He said he will distribute a copy of a report from Niwa on climate change.

John Wilkie reported that after long discussions with the Ministry of Primary Industries the total allowable catch quota for the Long Fin Tuna and Short Fin Tuna will now be split in two in the South Island. He said the Biodiversity team are continuing to draft the working 5 year strategy programme. Mr Willkie said he will forward the report on to the Zone Facilitator for distribution and thanked the Zone Committee for their assistance. He noted he has withdrawn his name from the Regional Committee.

The Chair thanked Mr Wilkie for all his input.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Mr Newman distributed a recent letter regarding the Freedom Camping Bylaw review which was sent to Chief Executive's, Wayne Barnett, Mackenzie District Council and Michael Ross, Waitaki District Council, outlining the Zone Committee's support for the Council's initiatives to improve environmental outcomes associated with large visitor increases in the Zone. The letter also asked Council's to consider some of the potential solutions the Zone has discussed regarding the impact on the recreational experience associated with the lakes and rivers of the Upper Waitaki. Included in the letter were the key issues and tensions the Zone Committee has identified and the potential solutions.

The Chair reported that he has received a letter of information from Jeff Page, Waitaki Lakeshore Committee notifying the Zone Committee that the Meridian Energy Benmore Visitor Centre building will be removed and the scenic landscape will be updated. There will be information available for visitors at the site and the new plans for the site will be available for the Otematata Community.

Resolved: that the Upper Waitaki Zone Committee receive and note all correspondence.

**Chair/ Richard Subtil**

**WHAT'S HOT:****Zone Update:**

Michael Hide, Zone Team Manager reported there is presently water in Lake Wardell. He added this is a positive sign.

Mr Hide introduced Rachel Blackburn, Resource Management Officer to the Zone Committee. He reported Water Metering Monitoring is underway with Ecan currently collating a spreadsheet highlighting consents with no meters and consents with meters but no verification. He noted the process has been tightened considerably.

Mr Hide stated in the Upper Waitaki region there is 7 consents not currently metered, 14 metered but with no logger and 43 with no verification.

The Zone Committee suggested site visits from Ecan to all 7 properties that are not currently metered.

*Other Business:*

Richard Subtil reported that in conjunction with Niwa and Lincoln University a lysimeter has been recently installed at Omarama Station. He said resourcing for this and other sites is critical.

The Zone Committee agreed that support should be given to this project by the Zone Committee itself.

Mr Newman suggested he speaks with Ian Brown to express the Zone Committee's support and investigate if the Zone Committee can provide assistance in some form regarding extension of awareness.

Mrs Anderson informed the Committee members that Bog Roy Station has been confirmed as an Environmental Focus Farm for the next 3-4 years. She also added that Bog Roy has also been approved as the Canterbury and Otago demonstration farm for Ravensdown Aerial Fertilisation monitoring which is a 4-5 year project.

The Chair on behalf of the Zone Committee congratulated Mrs Anderson.

**FACILITATOR REPORT:**

Mr Newman reported work on the recreation and amenity targets is ongoing around the Canterbury region and the committee would receive an update on this in July. He said that Council are currently preparing the Section 42A report for Plan Change 5. Mr Skelton added that the section 42A report would be available to view on the Ecan website from 1 July 2016.

Jason Holland will update the committee on the section 42a report at the July meeting.

Mr Skelton updated the committee on plan change 3 to the Waitaki Allocation Plan regarding Hydro re-consenting and the lowering of Lake Pukaki in emergency situations.

Plan Change 3 will become legally effective on 24 June 2016, a period of 15 working days for appeals to the High Court, for questions of law only, will be available, and if no appeals are received the plan will be made operative.

## **BIODIVERSITY: PROJECT DECISION:**

Robert Carson-Iles spoke to his report regarding the Otematata Wetlands Walkway. He said the proposed activity of erecting 300 metres of stock fence and planting 1,250 plants to increase species diversity is to protect and enhance the wetlands by excluding stock and carrying out riparian planting. He welcomed Graham Sutherland from the Otematata Residents Association to the meeting.

At the invitation of the Chair Mr Sutherland spoke to the Committee highlighting that DOC had previously looked after the ground, but then the area was left derelict for many years before LINZ became the overseers and granted a 25 year lease with renewal for a further 25 years available. Mr Sutherland acknowledge several funding sources and added a lot of work has already been carried out including the marking of the track.

Mrs Anderson congratulated Mr Sutherland and the Association for their brilliant work. She said the walk is a credit to the District and invited committee members to note the hard work themselves by visiting the area.

Resolved: that the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee approve the Otematata Wetlands Walkway project.

**Lisa Anderson/ Sandy Hampstead - Tipene**

## **LAND MANAGEMENT: UPDATE AND FIELD TRIP LOGISTICS:**

Ian Lyttle took his report as read and asked for the Committee's questions.

Mr Bayliss asked if the willow removal will affect flood protection. Mr Lyttle replied that the willow removal will require input from River Engineers, Land Owners and DOC with an onsite meeting to discuss issues being arranged.

Mr Skelton asked if there were any problems regarding the Sensitive Lakes Zone Consents. Mr Lyttle replied that there are no real problems currently however, at present he is continuing work with two other landowners and assisting Farmers with pre-meetings before consents are submitted.

Mr Lyttle supplied information regarding the planned field day trip to Ribbonwood Station and tour and discussion with Rob Glover Station Manager.

## **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be on Friday 15 July 2017 at the Mackenzie Country Inn in Twizel.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Peter Ramsden shared a Karakia

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS  
THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 11:15AM**

**CHAIRMAN:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Summary of the CWMS Regional Water Management Committee: 14 June 2016

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### Climate change

Brett Mullan and Daniel Collins of NIWA presented on the latest understanding of climate change, with an emphasis on what it will mean for Canterbury. The committee's advice to ECan is that managing for climate change be woven into all future planning considerations.

### Stormwater management

Gerard Cleary (Waimakariri District Council) spoke to the report from the Stormwater Forum on current work on cost and affordability, technical and design best practice, and regulation and process.

He noted the concern of district councils that they will in future be required to consent high risk discharges that they may not have the expertise to assess. He also noted that there is an option being discussed for a 'shared services' model between district and regional councils to address stormwater compliance.

### Ecosystem health and biodiversity

The working group reported on progress towards a five-year regional work programme and the progress already underway to protect and enhance the future of eels. The committee welcomed the decision of MPI to separate the long and short fin eel populations for the purposes of managing their take through the quota system. A decision on the size of the quota is expected very soon.

### CWMS Targets

The committee were updated on work to ensure there are appropriate and reportable measures in place to assess success in delivering the Targets by 2020. The committee is asked to advise on particular measures/indicators and agreed to progress that work before the next meeting in August.

### Recreational and amenity

The Recreational and Amenity working group reported on their first meeting. Two initiatives are being developed:

1. A workshop to bring together recreational interest groups as a first step to addressing gaps in information and understanding of values
2. Workshops with zone committees to identify possible flagship recreation projects in each zone. (These will happen in August/September.)

### Regional infrastructure

An update on progress across the zone was presented, noting that infrastructure is a long term investment that is taking into account our knowledge about climate change.

### Changing membership

John Wilkie (southern rūnanga representative) has resigned from the committee. He was farewelled and thanked for his sustained contribution to the work of the committee from its establishment.

The next meeting will be the final one for the current community representatives – expressions of interest are now being called for, with new appointments starting in October.



<b>AGENDA ITEM NO:</b>	<b>SUBJECT MATTER:</b> Work Programme Development
<b>REPORT BY:</b> Michael Hide, Zone Manager	
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b> July 15 2016	

### Purpose

To update the committee on progress against development of the work programme and how this is best reported to the Zone Committee.

### Action Required

Receive the update.

### Update

The development of the work programme for the zone needs to consider a range of factors:

- Zone Committees priority outcomes
- Zone Implementation Plan recommendations
- Compliance and enforcement guideline for the zone
- The level of internal and external resourcing available
- Councils statutory obligations.

This work is progressing well and has led to the amendment of existing work programmes and planning is underway for some new areas of work.

The development of the programme has focused on ensuring that all the activities are aligned to the Zone Committees priority outcomes, the actions specified in the Zone Implementation Plan and the Zip Addendum.

This approach is useful for the purposes of developing work programmes, however reporting against the various outcomes and projects specified in these documents is not an ideal way to show progress as many of the projects identified will deliver against multiple outcomes.

For this reason it is suggested that progress reporting is based on the achievement of project milestones across 4 key workstreams.

Keystone Projects	Farmer Change	Science	Biodiversity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One or more focus projects</li> <li>• Target external funding/resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All activities targeting farmer change, from uptake of GMP to RMA compliance and enforcement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All science investigations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immediate steps</li> <li>• Other zone specific initiatives</li> </ul>

## Purpose

This paper:

- provides a summary of the report outlining officers' recommendations on the Nutrient Management and Waitaki Plan Change (Plan Change 5 to the Land and Water Regional Plan)
- reminds Upper Waitaki Zone Committee members of upcoming key dates in the hearing process.

## Action

For information only. Staff will speak to the report at the meeting.

## Background

In the previous briefing on the Nutrient Management and Waitaki Plan Change, you received advice on:

- submissions lodged on the notified plan change
- direction from the Hearings Panel on the hearing process to be followed, including key dates for Council and submitters (Minute 1).<sup>1</sup>

In accordance with Minute 1, Council officers have prepared and made available a report called the "Section 42A report" ("the report").<sup>2</sup> The report includes:

- discussion on matters raised in submissions (including further submissions)
- non-binding recommendations to the Hearings Panel (either to add to or amend the provisions, or it is to retain provisions without amendment)
- additional information prepared by Council officers in response to matters raised in submissions (referred to in the discussion and attached as appendices to the report).

This is not the final set of recommendations from Council officers on this plan change. Following consideration of evidence presented at the hearing by submitters, Council officers will prepare a further report often known as the "reply report". Based on that evidence it is possible that the reply report may provide different (and again non-binding) recommendations to the Hearing Panel.

## How to read the report

The full report is lengthy at over 400 pages plus appendices. To assist the reader to navigate their way through the report, pages six and seven of the report describe its format and structure. In summary:

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<sup>1</sup> Minute 1 is available from the Environment Canterbury website at:  
<http://ecan.govt.nz/publications/general/Hearing-Commissioners-Minute-1.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> The Section 42A report is available from the Environment Canterbury website at:  
[http://ecan.govt.nz/publications/general/Plan\\_Change\\_5\\_LWRP-S42a\\_Report.pdf](http://ecan.govt.nz/publications/general/Plan_Change_5_LWRP-S42a_Report.pdf)

- Part A of the report relates to the region-wide provisions of this plan change (sections 4 – 10 of the report)
- Part B of the report relates to the Waitaki-specific provisions of this plan change (sections 11 – 24 of the report). Note that given the interconnected nature of the plan change, Part B often refers back to discussion in Part A to minimise duplication.

Some readers will begin with Appendix I, which demonstrates what the whole plan change would look like with the officers' recommended amendments. However, it is important submitters understand the reasons behind the recommendations (including where the officer has recommended retaining the provisions without amendment). In addition to pages six and seven of the report, this briefing includes page references intended to help you locate discussion on specific topics. If all else fails, please contact Environment Canterbury and we can assist you to locate the information you are seeking.

### **Highlights of the report**

The following is a selective summary of parts of the report, with personal judgement applied as to which matters may be of most interest to your Zone Committee. It is important that submitters read the report and do not rely on this summary to inform the preparation of their evidence.

#### Incorporating Good Management Practice (GMP) into the Plan (section 6, pages 30 – 63)

This section of the report addresses submissions on use of the Farm Portal and GMP Loss Rate requirements. While generally about the region-wide provisions, the discussion is very relevant to the Waitaki-specific provisions which use the same concepts to incorporate GMP into the Plan.

Recommendations are generally to retain the provisions that incorporate GMP into the Plan. Reasons include that:

- these aspects of the plan change are based on industry input into GMPs and the proxies
- submissions have not put forward an alternative option to the Farm Portal which provides for fair and equitable generation of loss rates
- an alternative consenting pathway (as sought by some submitters) would enable an increase in nitrogen loss in over-allocated catchments.

This section also includes discussion about an alternative fertiliser proxy put forward by some submitters. Officers remain "open" to the Hearing Panel adopting an alternative fertiliser proxy, based on additional technical work (Appendix D) which shows it makes little difference to nitrogen losses.

This section also clarifies Council's current practice of including nitrogen loss limits in Farm Environment Plans, rather than as a specific condition of consent.

#### Nutrient Allocation Zones (section 7, pp.64 – 122)

This section addresses submissions on region-wide nutrient management provisions, including consenting thresholds (e.g., 20 hectares of winter grazing). This section is relevant to the Waitaki because the same approach has been taken to matters such as consenting

thresholds in both the region-wide and Waitaki provisions. Also, some of the region-wide rules are applied in the Waitaki.

No firm recommendations are made on the winter grazing and irrigation consenting thresholds. The officers' cite additional technical work (Appendix C) which models a range of possible consenting thresholds. Having considered this work, some support is expressed for a possible change to either of those thresholds in the plan change. However, the officers are very conscious of statutory direction to maintain or improve water quality and have asked to hear evidence of submitters before making a recommendation.

#### Outcomes and Limits (section 15, pp.224 - 257)

This section addresses submissions on the tables setting out the plan's freshwater outcomes and limits, and on related provisions including Schedule 27 (which sets out a method to recalculate loads using different versions of OVERSEER®).

With reference to additional technical information (Appendix G), officers have recommended amending some Upper Waitaki outcomes and limits. Amendments are typically minor improvements in the desired environmental state, such as to decrease the Trophic Level Index outcome for Kellands Pond from 4.0 down to 3.7. The officers give various reasons for these changes, including that they are considered to be achievable; and that the amendment would better reflect current state and the intent of no further degradation.

#### Tangata Whenua (section 16, pp.258 – 266)

This section addresses submissions on the Waitaki-specific tangata whenua provisions, including on tangata whenua policies guiding decision-making on consents; conditions of some rules controlling land use activities relating to mahinga kai, wāhi tapu and wāhi taonga; and an addition to Schedule 7 relating to mahinga kai.

Officers' recommendations are generally to retain the notified provisions, but some minor wording changes are recommended to policies to better reflect statutory direction.

#### Community wastewater (section 17, pp.267 – 268)

This section addresses submissions on Waitaki-specific discharge limits for community wastewater systems.

Officers recommend retaining the notified provisions, except that in response to a submission from Mackenzie DC, an amendment is recommended regarding how the limit for community systems in the Haldon Zone is expressed (not to the limit itself). The reason for the amendment is to provide greater certainty for existing community schemes in the Tekapo, Twizel and Aoraki/Mount Cook townships.

#### Aquaculture (section 19, pp.272 – 278)

This section addresses submissions on all of the Waitaki-specific aquaculture provisions.

Officers have recommended an amendment to a policy to further clarify the intent of adaptive management provisions, which includes to link water quality effects with the operations that have caused them. Otherwise, recommendations are to retain the notified provisions.

#### Freshwater Management Units (FMUs) (section 22, pp.299 – 407)

This section addresses most of the submissions on the Waitaki-specific provisions in this plan change.

Provisions to protect dryland biodiversity are discussed on p.301 - 308. Officers conclude it is within Council's functions under the Resource Management Act (the Act) to include provisions addressing biodiversity in this plan change; that the approach taken gives effect to objectives and policies in the Regional Policy Statement; and that the proposed controls are appropriate having regard to Part 2 of the Act. Recommendations are to substantially retain the notified provisions, except for some amendments to improve effectiveness and to achieve better consistency with higher order documents.

Submissions on rules relating to the Ahuriri and Upper Waitaki Zones and the Haldon and Mid Catchment Zones are assessed respectively in pp.334 – 343 and pp.343 – 353. Officers have generally recommended retaining the rules for these zones as notified. Informing that recommendation is an earlier discussion on a condition of rules providing for, for as a permitted activity in these zones (subject to other requirements being met), the use of land that is subject to a water permit granted before 13 February 2016 (see discussion on pp.310 – 313 and additional technical work in Appendix G). For the reason that the wording of those conditions reflects the modelling undertaken to set limits, officers have recommended retaining those conditions as notified.

#### **Upcoming key dates in the hearing process**

Dates set out below represent key events scheduled to occur before the next Upper Waitaki Zone Committee meeting on 19 August:

22 July            Submitters to confirm their intention and availability to be heard at the hearing. This is also when all evidence is to be received by Council.

5 August        All rebuttal evidence to be received by Council.

The hearing begins shortly after the next Upper Waitaki Zone Committee meeting, on 22 August starting at 9:30am in Christchurch at the Lincoln Events Centre.

## Regional Recreational and Amenity and Regional Biodiversity Initiatives

Date	15 July 2016
Report to	Upper Waitaki Zone Committee
From	Ellie McNae, Senior Strategy Advisor, Barbara Nicholas, Regional Committee Facilitator
Subject	Informing regional work programmes: recreational and amenity initiatives and regional biodiversity

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### Purpose

To inform the Zone Committee of work underway to

- address recreation and amenity information gaps, and
- develop a 5 year work programme in regional biodiversity

To request their support to identify

- potential recreation and amenity flagship projects in their zone
- opportunities for a regional work programme to support biodiversity in the zones

### Recommendations:

**That the Upper Waitaki Zone Committee;**

1. **Note** the scope of the swimming research,
2. **Receive** the background reports on recreation and amenity topics,
3. **Agree** to discuss and identify at a workshop in August/September;
  - potential flagship recreation and amenity locations and projects, and
  - opportunities for step-change in biodiversity protection and enhancement

### Background

The Regional Committee has agreed to advance two priority work programmes from 2016 – recreational and amenity opportunities, and regional biodiversity. The intent for both these work streams is to support and amplify initiatives at zone scale, and to identify and remedy any gaps across the region.

They have now asked Environment Canterbury staff to begin conversations with the zone committees to ensure their work aligns with and supports local initiatives. This is with a particular focus on recreation and amenity, and biodiversity.

### Recreation and amenity opportunities

Since the inception of the CWMS a range of work has been underway to deliver the recreation and amenity targets. This includes a number of recommendations in Zone Implementation Plans, publication of research reports into kayaking and jet-boating values, and the establishment of joint work programmes and projects with partner organisations. Despite this work, there is a general acknowledgement that insufficient progress has been made in

delivering on the recreational and amenity targets. This includes the presence of significant information gaps, with a key one being around swimming in freshwater. To address this the CWMS Regional Committee has commissioned a piece of research into swimming values in Canterbury.

The Regional Committee has also reconvened the Recreation and Amenity Working Group (RAWG), who have now begun work towards developing a set of 5 year outcomes and a work programme. This includes a proposal to work with the Zone Committees to identify and establish Recreation and Amenity Flagship projects.

### **Scope of the Swimming Research**

Ken Hughey (Lincoln University) has been contracted to deliver a research report that assesses the full range of values associated with freshwater swimming in the Canterbury region. This will include assessment of the following factors:

1. Locations where people swim, and the relative popularity/value of these sites at both a local and regional scale
2. Values that are key to a 'good' swimming spot, e.g. presence of amenities, flow rates/water depths, water quality, presence of a pool, scenic values
3. Barriers to people swimming in freshwater, e.g., accessibility, perceived water quality, knowledge of sites
4. Appropriateness of current locations for recreational water quality monitoring
5. Value of current indicators used for recreational water quality monitoring
6. Value of the current methods for reporting recreational water quality

The 'broad' approach to be used is to work with Environment Canterbury and other relevant organisations to establish an Expert Panel to guide and then moderate the data collection and analysis process. Environment Canterbury's Youth Engagement Team (and others as appropriate) will engage with schools and youth groups, electronically and face-to-face as appropriate, to gather raw data. Staff also plan to work with the various CWMS Zone Committees and their Rūnanga representatives.

Data will be collected and compiled from June – August, with an expert panel workshop to examine the results scheduled for September. The draft report will be delivered in early October, in time to inform the selection of monitoring sites at the pre-season recreation meeting. The final report is due in November.

### **Identifying Recreation and Amenity Flagship projects**

The CWMS Recreation and Amenity Targets state the requirement that there be a positive trend in the availability or quality of recreational opportunities in each zone by 2020. By 2040 the targets state that at least one major recreational opportunity in each zone be restored that did not exist in 2010. To drive work towards this goal, the Regional Committee recommended in 2014 the establishment of at least one multi-party flagship project for recreation and amenity. In the spirit of the CWMS, the flagship projects could look to achieve outcomes for multiple targets, not just recreation and amenity.

The Recreation and Amenity Working Group (RAWG) discussed this proposal at their May 2016 meeting and determined that, rather than the Regional Committee selecting flagship projects, each Zone Committee should nominate their own potential flagship projects.

They acknowledged that current information gaps around the location and nature of some recreation opportunities may limit the Zone Committees ability to identify potential flagship projects. To remedy this, Environment Canterbury staff will be convening an information-gathering workshop with a wide range of recreational interest groups in the coming months. We then propose coming to each of the Zone Committees with that additional information in August/September, and working with the Zone Facilitators to identify some potential flagship projects in each of the zones.

In advance of that workshop, we wanted to present the proposal to Zone Committees, while also bringing their attention to the currently available information on recreation and amenity values. This includes the report into kayaking values, jetboating values and a range of maps showing access points and some recreational sites along Canterbury rivers. Copies of these will be provided at the meeting.

## **Regional biodiversity**

The Regional Committee has agreed the need to expand and accelerate work to protect and enhance biodiversity across the region. Five years of the immediate steps funding has enabled zones and the regional committee to support a range of initiatives, but the risks to biodiversity remain.

In parallel with *zone* implementation programmes the regional committee is now advising and supporting a 5 year *regional* work programme in biodiversity. They have agreed ten priority outcomes:

1. The protection, maintenance and enhancement of Canterbury's braided rivers
2. The protection, maintenance and enhancement of wetlands is supported
3. Mahinga kai: longfin eel/tuna is managed in a sustainable way
4. Mahinga kai: improved fish passage is supported regionally
5. Management plans for ecologically significant habitats, key sites and corridors are in place
6. Support the protection, maintenance and restoration of local lagoons, river mouths and spring fed coastal streams
7. Support is provided to the management of invasive weeds and pests in areas of biodiversity value
8. Biodiversity management is co-ordinated and aligned through a joined up regional approach
9. Community-based organisation are supported to be more effective
10. Biodiversity is woven into the landscape with catchment group support, expertise, tools and farm environment plans



A stocktake is underway of biodiversity- related actions across the region (including review of zone committee implementation priority work programmes). This will inform an assessment of where there are 'gaps', and opportunities for synergies and partnerships with CWMS partners, and the subsequent development of the 5-year work programme.

The regional committee is mindful that zone committees know their local communities and environment and will be aware of the places of greatest need of protection, and where there are opportunities to make a difference if additional resources and/or expertise is available. The regional committee is also aware that there may be synergies between biodiversity, mahinga kai and recreational values.

Their suggestion is that the workshop in August/September not only identifies possible recreation and amenity flagship projects but also explores opportunities for a step-change in biodiversity protection and enhancement.