

ASHBURTON WATER MANAGEMENT ZONE COMMITTEE AGENDA

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

DATE: Tuesday 25 October 2016

TIME: 1:00 pm

VENUE: Council Chamber
2 Baring Square East
Ashburton

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

ATTENDEES: Mr Chris Allen
Mr Ben Curry
Mr Gordon Guthrie
Mr Bill Thomas
Mrs Jackie Wright
Mr John Waugh
Mr John Henry (Te Runanga o Arowhenua)
Mr Arapata Reuben (Te Ngai Tuahuriri Runanga)
Cr Stuart Wilson (Ashburton District Council)
Environment Canterbury Representative – vacant

Zone Facilitator

Olivia Smith

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Environment Canterbury

Committee Advisor

Louise Glennon

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Ashburton District Council

Tangata Whenua Facilitator

Peter Te Rangihiroa Ramsden

Tel: 027 553 3140

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Environment Canterbury



4 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 with responsibility for RMA, water and biodiversity • Member of Ashburton River Liaison Group
Ben Curry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Executive Officer – Rangitata Diversion Race Management Limited • Chair of Recreational and Amenities Working Group Committee
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 – 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"> • 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)
John Waugh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Minutes of a meeting of the **Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee** held on Tuesday 27 September 2016, commencing at 1.05pm in the Council Chamber, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton.

Present

Commissioner David Caygill, Bill Thomas (Chair), Ben Curry, Cr Stuart Wilson, Gordon Guthrie, Chris Allen (1.12pm), Jackie Wright and John Henry (Arowhenua Runanga)

In attendance

Environment Canterbury: Olivia Smith (Facilitator)
Louise Glennon (Business Support Officer – minutes)

Approximately 9 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 John Henry.

2 Apologies

John Waugh, Chris Allen (lateness), Arapata Reuben (Te Ngai Tuahuriri Runanga)

3 Extraordinary Business

None

4 Register of Interests

Jackie is no longer employed by Canterbury District Health Board

5 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee meeting held on 26 July 2016, be taken as read and confirmed with the following amendment.

The August meeting was cancelled due to the unavailability of staff for the proposed dates.
Wilson/Guthrie Carried

6 Correspondence

None

7 Facilitator's Update

It had previously been discussed having a session specifically on the Ashburton River, however there was not adequate time to have it this month. It was agreed to go ahead with this at the immediately before the next meeting. The workshop will focus on the 5 year outcome for the Ashburton River.

Stuart asked for further information on nitrate levels for the MAR site and data in graph format would be useful. Bob will provide an update on this at the next meeting. There has been an uplift of around 18m of ground water and a reduction from 6 to 2 in nitrate levels. Ben advised that it is currently moving at around 75m a day.

In addition, the MAR group would like to come along to provide an update at the next meeting.

Olivia informed the Committee that there is a full day field trip to the Upper Rangitata on Monday 7 November and the Committee is welcome to attend. Olivia to circulate further details to the group.

8 Plan Change 2 Update

Federated Farmers appeal on Plan Change 2 relating to the depth of deep groundwater has been resolved. The agreed depth is now 80 m instead of 103m.

Other appeals from BCI and RDR are still under appeal.

It was discussed what are the most effective ways to communicate that the swap provisions are now operative and Stuart suggested putting details in the Courier. In addition it was agreed to send letters to the people who will be effected by this.

That the Committee would communicate this change to the wider public through the Courier and by sending correspondence directly to those affected by the change.

Thomas/Allen

Carried

David advised Gordon that Ecan has agreed to draft what it thinks might be a reasonable compromise or alternative position on the outstanding appeals. The next step is to hopefully get to an agreed outcome with the other parties. The two parties have agreed to put their appeals on hold for the time being to see if this can be resolved, however this is unlikely to be before Christmas.

David Just confirmed to the group that water swaps are only available to those who are looking to swap from surface water or hydrologically connected groundwater takes to deep groundwater on the same property.

9 Update on Ashburton Groundwater Levels

Patrick provided an update on this.

Patrick advised that 1,070+ wells drilled in the Hinds area alone, however some of these well are not in use – just bores drilled. John asked for a breakdown of wells to include only wells that are active and in use, rather than every well.

Overall ground water catchment levels are low, with very little recharge in both deep and shallow groundwater levels. There are about 100 groundwater consents that have adaptive management conditions.

Jackie wanted clarification of how the aquifers work and Patrick advised that some recharge is from rivers and from the RDR and district drainage, with the rest from rainfall recharge. Jackie requested further information on groundwater hydrology and specifically on the aquifer. Olivia to follow this up with Donna/David.

10 Zone Delivery: Actions to support efficient water using during upcoming irrigation season

• **Actively Promote Irrigation**

Two workshops to promote irrigation efficiency are being run by Irrigation New Zealand in Dorie and Hinds on 11 and 19 October respectively. Ecan also plan to have two summer students employed to support farmers doing bucket tests. The aim is to review 150 properties with the students and hopefully get some case studies to look at from this. There is also an app which tells you how to do the bucket test and once you have put all this information into the app it provides you with a report which will also go to Irrigation New Zealand. This project is to support farmers with good practice. David noted his concern that we need to careful not to send the signal that the drought can be resolved by efficiency savings alone. Chris stated that it isn't all about irrigation efficiency, rather getting the best out of the system people have and to manage expectations.

• **Public communication around opportunities for Water User Groups**

Chris suggested that it needs to be about local farmers in particular areas sharing the amount of water available in an informal manner, for crops etc. that need water at different times of the year.

Ben asked whether it would be appropriate to do a mail out from Donna and her team regarding the Water User Group as few people had expressed interest in joining after the last workshop. This would be a good opportunity for them to get involved in Ashburton Water User Group. Chris also suggested it would be worthwhile for the groups to speak to their compliance officer to get a better understanding of the processes, their responsibilities as consent holders and who contact when issues arise.

Stuart asked about supplementing the Hinds River using targeted stream augmentation. Highbank has had a refurbishment of its generator and water from here could be made available for near river recharge at Hinds. Ben advised that there would be a requirement for additional equipment to enable the recharge from the RDR. Further discussion to take place with Arowhenua Runanga.

John advised that they are apprehensive about the number of consents being given out by Ecan. John has a concern that far too much water is being abstracted now and farmers need to understand that there is an issue with taking too much water. He feels that farming can adapt to the conditions but this isn't happening at the moment. David advised that part of the problem is that consents given out for 20 years or so allows the user to take what they have been authorised to, and unfortunately Ecan are unable to now turn around and ask them to take less as they are entitled to by law. David said the only changes that can happen going forward will be by making changes to the rules and this takes time; however they are currently being worked on. David advised that there are some areas which are no longer being issued consents due to recent changes.

- **Undertake communication on Swap to Groundwater**

Donna advised that people need to speak to their compliance or consents team about this. A consents planner will be based in Ashburton one day a month initially and then on demand in the future. Donna suggested that people need to be as proactive as possible.

Smart metering was discussed and Chris asked whether anything was happening in the urban area. Stuart advised that efficient use of water is promoted around the town and turf management found no overwatering of lawns in the town last year.

11 Zone Delivery: Update

Donna advised that the next date for the consents planner to come to Ashburton is 17 October. People can just ring and make an appointment if they wish, however drop in sessions are available from 9am – 12pm at the Ashburton office.

The Hinds Drains Working Party community monitoring project is continuing for the next 5 years.

The consent for the variable flow trial on Boundary Drain was submitted yesterday and funding is just being firmed up now. Landowners have begun the trial already although 1 December is the date when the consent is required in order to continue with the trial.

There will be signs going up shortly regarding the Mahinga Kai sites. Currently there is a little bit of water in the upper one and a small amount is now starting to come through into the lower one.

Ecan via their biodiversity strategy had funded a consultant to look at the Ashburton Braided River bird population following concern raised by a delegation from Forest & Bird. They were looking at priorities to see what else could be done. Some limited consultation took place due to budget and time available, with some recommendations having come out of that. The final version should be out next week, with the next step being to look at priorities from the recommendations and how to implement them. Recently there has been a bulldozer in the river to remove dead vegetation within islands to enhance breeding habitats for black billed gulls. Signs will also go up to advise people to stay away during nesting season. Jackie asked for copies of the report and Donna will provide copies of the recommendations for the next meeting. David suggested that this work be talked about with someone from South Canterbury Fish & Game.

Donna advised that there is no ongoing contract with the management group following on from the report they did on the birds. Once the final report is complete, it is likely that they will sit down and discuss with the group on how best to proceed.

The Committee adjourned for afternoon tea at 2.31pm until 2.52pm.

12 Immediate Steps Fund New Projects for Consideration

Donna advised that the amount of available funding should read \$111,220 not \$101,220.

Donna's introduced a project for approval and state that it is understood is that there are mudfish in these project area however a query was raised as to whether they are in the project area or the pond above it. Donna will investigate this and report back.

The Limestone Creek project has been approved by Donna as this sits within her \$5k delegation. Ben asked why there is higher % allocated to two of the three projects and Donna confirmed that with the Limestone project the landowners and QEII are paying the additional funding required.

That Donna Lill approve all required projects up to her delegated limit of \$5k without a requirement to discuss with the Committee first.

Caygill/Allen

Carried

13 Groundwater Quality Update and Communications

Marta Scott, Senior Groundwater Quality Scientist with Ecan presented her report. Olivia advised that following the Havelock North issue, she thought it would be worthwhile having Marta along to provide an update on nitrate and E.coli levels as they are the key indicators which can pose a human health risk in drinking water. Every year Ecan does a groundwater survey and samples groundwater wells across the region. The testing runs from September to December each year. Out of the 67 wells sampled, 15 had high nitrate reading, 34 were within range and 18 were low, with 22% exceeding MAV. These figures show the highest concentrations found over the years of testing and weren't just for individuals years. Chris suggested it would be useful to show the depth of the wells (shallow or deep) and Jackie suggested that directional arrows representing groundwater flow direction also be added to the maps.

E.coli behaves slightly differently to nitrate and is easier to filter out and it also dies off over time. 9% of wells in the Ashburton area that were tested last time showed signs of E.coli. Most of detections are in shallow wells.

Chris suggested that having a concrete apron which extends above ground is key to well head protection. Ecan has previously issued a letter advising of drinking water risks to consent holders with private wells in South Canterbury however it is not confirmed that this happened in Ashburton District. It was thought that it would be useful to communicate the potential risk and advise people of how to get their water tested and actions they can do to prevent risk. Jackie noted that it's also important to communicate that old well heads need to be properly sealed if not in use.

14 Rakaia Enhancement Fund Update

Jackie was unable to attend the last meeting and no decisions were made as they didn't have a quorum. They are aiming for November to have application forms ready for circulation and are currently finalising assessment criteria and scoring. They have a CWMS staff member review the criteria on an ongoing basis. Prior to this meeting, Jackie had discussed with John Waugh about him being the alternate member for the group and he is happy to do this.

That John Waugh be nominated as an alternate to Jackie on the Rakaia Enhancement Fund.

Wilson/Caygill

Confirmed

15 Regional Committee Update

Ben advised that it had been a while since the last meeting which took place on 9 August. There was some discussion around who would joining and who would be leaving so not much business was discussed. In addition, there was a meeting of the chairs of the Zone Committees on 11 August which was useful for the sharing of information on processes etc.

Brett Painter has done a lot of work on the demand model and has spent considerable time on Aoraki/Temuka. In line to have an increase in minimum flow.

David advised that an interim decision had been made in Waimakariri on a request to put a storage pond in, with the final decision is still to be made. This is an appeal against a resource consent issued. There are no other planning issues and the report details what information is still outstanding from the applicant. This is a very careful examination of the issues that arise from these storage ponds.

Ben advised that the RDR application is currently open for submissions, closing on Friday 30 September at 5pm. A regional hearings committee will then decide who will run the hearing and at that time a date will be set, most likely post-Christmas, for the hearing.

16 Update on changes to Eel quota management in Canterbury

Report received and noted.

17 Zone Committee Communications

Olivia reminded the Committee of the propose visit to the Ashburton River to see the summer contact monitoring in action and asked if there was still interest in going along to this. It was suggested holding an educational public open day at the Ashburton River and Jackie agreed that this would be a good idea. Stuart stated his concern that the river is marked as unswimmable all year round, while the reality is that it is only a few times a year that the levels spike and is actually unsuitable for swimming. He feels it is unfair that the river has to be clear for 5 years before a change can be made. The Committee decided that it would be a worthwhile and Olivia will arrange to get some further details for the next meeting.

Following a request from a member of the public, it was noted that the Committee would be willing to encourage a group to do an open day in support of the birds at the Ashburton River.

Olivia suggested putting together a newsletter for urban and rural audiences to profile action underway in the zone. This could include Hinds Drains Working Party actions, , PC2 and an update on MAR trial.

18 Reports for Committee Information

18.1 Consents Update

Seven of the consents have now gone to hearing. Following the Federated Farmers appeal the hearing commissioners were able to place more weight on the rules. Malloy consent has been granted and well interference has been dealt with. The Yollom Farm application has been refused.

The Regional Council Reporting Officer has recommended that two consents, one each for KB & RA Townshend and Bellwin Farms are granted. Currently all four are outstanding as they have requested a right of reply following the hearing, and a decision is due in the next few weeks. Mirrabook Holdings has also been granted and the applications from Wilson & Moore are likely to be issued.

David suggested that David Just could look into how many swap consents have been granted and see if this is working as intended. David Just also suggested looking at Ashburton River for review.

19 General

Chris questioned what good management practice is for the management of roading runoff. He has noticed a section on SH77 where vegetation was cleared on the road verge and a gradient created that allowed unimpeded flow into a surface water body. David suggested writing to Ecan who will then take it up with NZTA and to also copy in Council.

David gave thanks to the committee for their hard work and patience and he is very pleased with everything that has been achieved to date.

Bill acknowledged David's contribution to the Committee and thanked him for his time and hard work.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Ashburton Water Zone Committee will be held on Tuesday 25 October 2016, commencing at 1pm.

The meeting concluded at 4.09pm.

Dated this 25 day of October 2016 _____ (Chair)

Ashburton Zone Committee Report

Date 25 October 2016
Report to Ashburton Water Zone Committee
From Peter Lowe, Bob Bower and Brett Painter
Subject Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) Pilot Project: Update

8 Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) Pilot Project: Update

Purpose

To update the zone committee on the Hinds/Hekeao MAR Pilot Project progress and discuss the formation of a Mid Canterbury MAR Governance Group.

Recommendation

The committee:

- **consider** the Hinds/Hekeao MAR Pilot Project presentation at the zone committee meeting.
- **support** the formation of a Mid Canterbury MAR Governance Group and provide feedback on group membership and terms of reference.

Background

The MAR Pilot Project is an integral part of the solutions package for improving water quality and quantity in the Hinds / Hekeao Plains area. The 31 May 2016 meeting of the Ashburton Water Zone Committee confirmed Ben Curry as the committee representative on the MAR Pilot Working Group and supported the consideration of forming a MAR Pilot Governance Group in Spring 2016 once initial technical results had been received.

MAR Pilot Project Update

As requested, initial technical results from MAR Pilot Project operations will be presented at the 25 October 2016 Ashburton Water Zone Committee meeting. Project summaries and copies of the presentation will be available at the meeting (and following the meeting in electronic form). The presentation cannot be pre-circulated as it requires confirmation by the MAR Pilot Working Group at their 20 October 2016 meeting.

MAR Pilot Governance Group

The 31 May 2016 meeting of the Ashburton Water Zone Committee confirmed the Hinds Drains Working Party recommendation that a MAR Governance Group be formed to provide strategic oversight during the MAR Pilot Project and consider how future MAR applications could be best utilised in other parts of the catchment to realise the community aspirations. It was proposed that the governance group would include wider stakeholder and community representation and would report on a regular basis back to the zone committee. At the 25 October 2016 Ashburton Water Zone Committee workshop and meeting, it is proposed to discuss potential membership of and terms of reference for the Mid Canterbury MAR Governance Group.

Ashburton Zone Committee Report

Date 25 October 2016
Report to Ashburton Water Zone Committee
From Ashburton Zone Delivery Team (prepared by Donna Lill)
Subject 5 Year Outcomes & Milestones Delivery quarterly update

9 5 Year Outcomes & Milestones Delivery quarterly update

Purpose

To update the committee on the progress towards delivering their 5 Year Outcomes & Milestones in the July to September 2016 quarter.

Summary

This is a quarterly report on progress towards the Ashburton Zone Committee 5 year outcomes for period July to September 2016. This is the first quarterly report on these milestones and feedback is welcomed on the format and content to ensure that future reports are useful and informative for zone committee members. The table below gives key actions against each milestone in the previous quarter, as well as proposed priority actions for the current quarter. The intention of this report is to include actions of all partners, not just Environment Canterbury, who contribute to the milestones as a coordinated way to keep the committee up to date on delivery towards their Outcomes.

Key Projects

Water metering

The Ashburton Zone Team Resource Management Officers (Sam Aramoana, Nick Vernon & Stephen Howard) have been dedicated to the Canterbury water metering project during this quarter (Jul-Sep). 100% of water consent holders in Canterbury are now fully compliant or have abatement notices in place to become fully compliant with the Water Measuring National Regulations. Of the 1720 of water take consents in the Ashburton Zone 71 were found to have no meters, and enforcement action has been taken against 7 of these consents.

Alongside the \$50 million dollars farmers have spent on installation of water meters in Canterbury over the last four years a sophisticated service industry has developed. Receiving accurate water data is an important step in ensuring water is managed efficiently to meet the community's environmental, economic and cultural expectations. 3800 consent holders across Canterbury have also installed telemetry equipment which allows daily monitoring of water takes, with the data being useful for both farmers and environmental monitoring. Innovative tools developed by the service industry are allowing real time processing of data with automated messages being sent to farmers with their current use, notification of how this is tracking against consent conditions and any potential breaches of these conditions. Messages will alert farmers to system failures and help reduce the occurrence of technical non-compliance. Early intervention may reduce the occurrence of significant non-compliance due to water being taken over the allocated amount or being taken on restriction.

Hinds Community Monitoring - Understanding our environment and the effectiveness of our actions

As part of the HDWP the community began intensive flow and water quality monitoring at 27 sites on 8 drains in the Hinds Plains area in August 2014. In addition extensive ecological studies were carried out with the support of Fish & Game, DairyNZ and Environment Canterbury. This data has been valuable not only for what it has added to the scientific understanding of water quality and flows but most importantly for the sense of ownership and trust in the data that the community has taken.

This monitoring was a catalyst for local landowner buy-in to water quality data and the planning process. The HDWP recommended to continue this monitoring monthly at 12 sites for five years to 2021. This data will be used alongside the data collected at Environment Canterbury's long term state of the environment monitoring sites. The objective of this monitoring is to provide the Hinds Plains community with the best possible knowledge of nutrient concentrations and flow conditions in the lowland drains and streams leading up to the Hinds Plan review expected in 2021.

Over the last three months HDWP (Peter Lowe) and Environment Canterbury (Donna Lill) have worked together to secure commitment from partners to ensure that this recommendation is implemented. Ongoing commitment has been given from Fish & Game, DairyNZ and Environment Canterbury. FAR, Beef & Lamb and DoC have also agreed to become partners in the programme.

This ongoing monitoring is vital and valuable in understanding the effectiveness of our actions and to inform future planning processes. The key to success of this monitoring programme is that it is a joint programme where there is joint ownership of the data and agreement on the results presented to the local community. This will enable us all to look forward and focus on solutions that will make positive changes for the water bodies in the Lower Hinds Plains area.

Recommendation

The committee

- **note** the update
- **provide feedback** on the reporting format & level of detail provided

Table 1: An overview of the key progress and proposed actions for each of the Ashburton Zone Committees 5 Year Outcomes and Milestones.

Outcome Milestone	Progress at end of quarter (30 Sep 2016) - Activities summary current quarter (Jul-Sep 2016)	Contributors	Priority actions for next quarter (Oct-Dec 2016)
All farmers are operating at Good Management Practice (GMP) or better (Contributes to ZIP recommendation 3.2.7, 3.2.8, 4.2.1-4.3.3)			
Milestone 1.1 - Industry supported extension programme is developed to communicate and promote industry agreed GMP practices – August 2016	Completed - Extension programme developed - 28 rural professional attended meeting to improve understanding of Ashburton farming rules and support available	ECan	- Tutorials for Rural Professionals on GMP Estimator - Regular meetings with rural professionals set up
Milestone 1.2 - Prioritise FEP support for higher N leaching farming activities	On Track - DairyNZ/diary company's sent letters to 137 properties for Sustainable Milk Plan programme - 617 FEP completed via irrigation scheme ASM programmes - Arable properties as per Milestone 1.3	DairyNZ RDR BCI/Acton Irrigo Federated Farmers FAR Beef & Lamb	- 1-1 contact with Beef & Lamb properties - Presentation of DairyNZ & Irrigo programmes at November ZC meeting
Milestone 1.3 - Prioritise FEP support for Arable properties, particularly those outside of irrigation schemes	On Track - Joint FAR-ECan FEP workshops attended by 47 properties July 2016 - 1-1 support given by ECan staff - FAR Ground Rules newsletter produced	FAR Environment Canterbury	- 1-1 support - FAR CROPS day stand
Milestone 1.4 - All irrigated properties have an FEP- March 2018	On Track - As per Milestones 1.2 & 1.3		
Milestone 1.5 - All irrigated properties to undertake an assessment of the efficiency of their irrigation system with action taken to implement any improvements identified – March 2018	On Track - Developed joint project with industry for work to be completed summer 2016-17 - Two summer students recruited	ECan IrrigationNZ RDR BCI Fonterra Synlait Acton Irrigo	- Two field days held - Summer student bucket testing programme begun

		ECGIS DairyNZ Beef & Lamb FAR Federated Farmers	
Milestone 1.6 - Identify opportunities for water user groups	Not started - Scheduled to begin Oct 2016	ECan Irrigation consent holders	- Communication about value of water user groups to rural irrigators
Landowners, rūnanga, stakeholders, local authorities and others are working together to protect and enhance biodiversity throughout the zone. (Contributes to ZIP recommendation 2.2.1, 2.2.10, 2.2.22, 2.2.29, 2.2.30, 2.2.32, 2.2.35, 2.2.36, 3.2.3)			
Milestone 2.1 - Ashburton District Council Biodiversity Working Group continues to provide a forum for coordination of biodiversity work programmes across the zone- Annually to 2021.	On Track - 2 meetings held - Completion of Wakanui Beach Restoration Plan. - High Plains Roadside Vegetation Survey completed - 6 applications received for ADC Biodiversity Grants	ADC Forest & Bird Fish & Game QEII DoC ECan Federated Farmers	- Implementation of the Wakanui Beach Restoration Plan - Signage erected at Significant Indigenous sites along roadsides in the High Plains - Review of the Ashburton District Biodiversity Action Plan - Preparation of the draft Lake Camp/Clearwater Landscape Management Plan - Visits to all 17 sites that have received ADC Biodiversity Grants
Milestone 2.2 - Priority weed and pest control for braided river bird habitat in the Rakaia and Rangitata Rivers is implemented with support from Regional Immediate Steps funding – Annually to 2021	On Track - \$250,000 allocated for 2016/17 year - Annual weed coordination meeting held and strategy confirmed	Upper Rangitata LCG CWMS RC OTOP ZC AshZC DOC ECan	- Weed & pest control begun - Nest monitoring begun

Milestone 2.3 - Develop a programme to support the management of biodiversity values in two priority areas, including the foothills. Support on the ground changes via Immediate Steps funding – July 2017	On Track - \$16,460 allocated to three projects - See table 2 below for updated status for funding projects	AZC ECan Various landowners	- Develop, assess and fund three further projects
Milestone 2.4 - Two sites are primarily managed for mahinga kai, including one outside of Hinds catchment – July 2017 <i>(incorporates HDWP Rec 4.12)</i>	On Track - Hinds Road Side Mahinga Kai sites signage and information developed	HDWP Arowhenua ECan	- Road Side sites – landowner meeting held, signage erected - Hui with Arowhenua to identify any possibilities for second site
Milestone 2.5 - Increase community awareness of the nature and value of biodiversity	Not started - Due to start October 2016	ECan Ashburton District Biodiversity Working Group partners	- Media release on funded biodiversity project - Confirm strategy for milestone
Milestone 2.6 - Trustpower funding is unlocked for Rakaia enhancement projects - 2016	On Track - Fund committee representatives and alternates confirmed (Taumutu tbc) - Society rules, fund history and committee purpose reviewed - Funding guidelines and assessment criteria in final stages of development	TrustPower Rūnanga (Tuahuriri and Arowhenua) AZC SWZC ECan DoC	- Confirmation of funding guidelines and assessment criteria - Opening of the first funding round
Improve the ecosystem health of the Hakatere/ Ashburton River. (Contributes to ZIP recommendation 1.2.1- 1.2.6, 1.2.8, 2.2.29-2.2.31, 3.2.1, 4.2.8-4.2.10, 4.2.14)			
Milestone 3.1 - Develop a strategy to ensure that the flow regime for the Ashburton River is achieved	Behind - Development of workshop with ZC - Further steps delayed until after ZC Ashburton River workshop	AZC ECan ADC	- To be discussed at ZC Ashburton River workshop 25 Oct
Milestone 3.2 - ADC develop and implement a strategy to reduce stock-water take to 2,900L/s by no later than 2023- date tbc	On Track - Direction regarding handover of service to Irrigation Schemes as outlined in ADC Long Term Plan being progressed.	ADC	- To be discussed at ZC Ashburton River workshop 25 Oct

	- Stockwater takes from Ashburton nearing policy target.		
Milestone 3.3 - Identify source of spikes in E-coli at SH1 and determine if an action plan is required - May 2017	On Track - Programme confirmed	ECan	- Sampling being undertaken weekly from November 2016
Milestone 3.4 - Priority weed control work for braided river bird nesting habitat is completed with support from Zone Immediate Steps Programme – annually to 2021	On Track - Braided River Bird Habitat Management Recommendations developed	AshburtonZC ECan Forest & Bird DoC	- Implementation plan developed for management recommendations
Milestone 3.5 - Develop a streamlined pathway to enable swaps from surface water/ hydrologically connected groundwater permits to deep groundwater or scheme water – Feb 2017	Behind - Start delayed until after ZC Ashburton River workshop 25 Oct	ECan	- To be discussed at ZC Ashburton River workshop 25 Oct
Milestone 3.6 - Understand the health of Carters Creek and identify opportunities to improve ecosystem health	Not Started - Scheduled to begin 2018-19	AZC ECan ADC	
Milestone 3.7 - ADC develop an integrated stormwater management plan	On Track - Stormwater Management Plan prepared - Draft application for resource consent prepared - ADC have been awaiting outcomes from regional stormwater forum	ADC	- To be discussed at ZC Ashburton River workshop 25 Oct
Hinds River and Drains are managed in a way that provides for multiple needs/interests. (Contributes to ZIP recommendation 2.2.3, 2.2.17,3.2.3, 4.2.3, 4.2.14, 4.2.9, 4.2.10)			
Milestone 4.1 - Managed aquifer recharge and targeted stream augmentation trials have been completed- 2021 (<i>Incorporates HDWP Rec 4.7</i>)	On Track - MAR Trial ongoing - TSA monitoring scoped	RDR ADC MHIS VIL BCI ECIS Golder MPI	- MAR Presentation to ZC Oct 2016 - MAR monitoring ongoing - TSA monitoring funding options investigated

		Lincoln Agritech CBH Tarbottons ECan	
Milestone 4.2 - Next steps following the MAR and TSA trial are identified including funding mechanisms and the development of an ongoing programme- 2021	Not Started - Discussions to begin following initial results of MAR trial		
Milestone 4.3 - Programme to identify and remove, where appropriate, fish barriers – annually to 2021	Not Started - Due to start October 2016	ECan Fish & Game DoC	- Meet with key partners to determine work programme for 2016-2018
Milestone 4.4 - Develop a programme to increase community awareness of the importance of well head protection - July 2019	Not Started - Scheduled to begin Jan 2019, will begin early in conjunction with Milestone 5.6 due to public interest following water quality concerns in Havelock North - Key messages discussed with ZC	ECan	- Mail drop to help users understand risk & actions to minimise risk
Milestone 4.5 - Habitat extent of known mudfish populations is quantified. In addition, surveys are conducted to identify new habitats and populations and assessments are subsequently made to determine if remediation/enhancement of sites is appropriate – July 2018	Not started - Survey is scheduled to start March 2017	DOC	
Milestone 4.6 - Develop a streamlined pathway to enable swaps from surface water/ hydrologically connected groundwater permits to deep groundwater or scheme water – June 2017	Not started - Scheduled to begin Jan 2017, will begin early due to Hinds Plan Change plan appeals already resolved - Will leverage of work for milestone 3.5	ECan	- Mail drop to Hinds catchment to inform landowners that swap rules are now operative
<i>HDWP Rec 4.3 – Adaptive Minimum Flow Habitat Trial – Boundary Drain</i>	On Track - Trial started	Boundary Drain landowners	- Consent granted - Landowner meeting to

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consent application submitted - Fish Species monitoring undertaken 	F&G ECan	review first three months of trial
<p>The urban and rural community understand the environmental, economic and social trends occurring in the zone and there is widespread ownership of catchment health. (Contributes to ZIP recommendation 2.2.6, 2.2.11, 2.2.24, 2.2.34, 3.2.2)</p>			
Milestone 5.1 - Receive an annual update on the economic and social trends occurring in Ashburton Zone	<p>Not Started</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1st annual report due July 2017 	ECan ADC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investigate possible sources of information
Milestone 5.2 - Receive quarterly reporting on water quality and quantity monitoring results	<p>On Track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - sampling ongoing 	ECan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Confirm sites and dates for reporting to ZC
Milestone 5.3 - Create opportunities to involve schools in waterway and wetland enhancement and/or monitoring projects	<p>Not Started</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scheduled to begin Jan 2017 	AZC ECan	
Milestone 5.4 - Regular media articles from ZC to profile zone implementation work	<p>On Track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monthly pages in Ashburton Guardian Farming profiling implementation activities - Newspaper articles on role of committee 	AZC ECan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zone wide newsletter delivered - 3 monthly pages in Ashburton Guardian Farming
Milestone 5.5 - Landowners in north Ashburton area understand the catchment health in their area and know what actions can be taken to make improvements – July 2019	<p>Not started</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awaiting confirmation of schedule in Environment Canterbury science & planning teams 	AZC ECan Primary industry bodies	
Milestone 5.6 - Improve community understanding of drinking water supplies, including actions to minimise risk	<p>On Track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussed key messages with ZC 	CPH ECan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mail drop to help users understand risk & actions to minimise risk
<i>HDWP Rec 4.15 – Undertake a quality and habitat monitoring programme until Hinds Plan review period to determine the effects of actions taken</i>	<p>On Track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partners meeting held and commitments confirmed - Sampling begun 	HDWP F&G ECan DairyNZ FAR Beef & Lamb DoC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sampling on going

Table 2: Update on Status of Immediate Steps Biodiversity Projects funded by the Ashburton Zone Committee

Project Name	Brief description	IS funding allocation	Status (30 Sep 2016)
Approved 2011			
Glenariffe Stream	Fencing	\$20,000	Completed.
Lake Heron	Fencing	\$14,000	Completed.
Upper Rakaia River - Whitcombe Landcare Group	Weed control	\$10,800	Completed.
Approved 2012			
Gawler Stream and Wetland	Fencing, weed control	\$26,644	In progress. Ongoing maintenance, weed control & infill planting.
Pudding Hill	Fencing, weed control	(\$8,133)	Funding retracted as landowner decided not to go ahead with QEII covenant.
Pudding Hill - Kahikatea Wetland	Fencing	\$3,500	Completed.
Swamp Grass and Track Paddock Wetlands	Fencing	\$14,475	Completed.
Upper Rangitata River - Department of Conservation	Weed control	\$20,000	Completed.
Vehicle Management Upper Rakaia	Signage	(\$4,500)	Funding placed back in the pool (see previous updates). May be reviewed in the future, the current signage not considered sufficient.
Approved 2013			
Ashburton/Hakatere River Vehicle Gates	Install vehicle access gates	\$4,359	Completed.

Black Hill Station Blackberry Control	Weed control	(\$12,000)	Applicant withdraw from funding
Glenfalloch Wetlands	Fencing, planting	\$20,250	In progress.
Harris Scientific Reserve Plantings	Plant propagation, planting	\$5,320	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Lincoln Hills Wetland	Fencing, planting	(\$13,700)	Applicant withdraw from funding
Mount Hutt Wetland	Fencing, planting	\$33,800	Fencing & planting completed. Ongoing maintenance.
Mount Somers Biodiversity Project	Fencing, planting	\$26,605 \$21,605	In progress. All fencing completed. Planting funding removed from agreement as wanting to see what natural regeneration occurs.
South Rakaia Huts Domain	Weed control, planting	\$4,000	Completed
Upper Rakaia River Phase 2 - Whitcombe Landcare Group	Weed control	\$20,650	Contracting and weed control work in progress.
Woodvale Road Wetland	Fencing, planting	\$5,000	Completed
Approved 2014			
CaREx Waterway Rehabilitation - Ashburton Forks	Planting	\$11,220	In progress. All planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
CaREx Waterway Rehabilitation - Harris C Drain	Planting, weed control, re-battering	\$23,380	In progress. All earthworks and planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
CaREx Waterway Rehabilitation - Boundary Drain	Planting	\$3,962	In progress. All planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Woodvale Road Wetland Stage 2	Fencing, planting	\$8,860	In progress. All planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Flynn Stream Enhancement	Fencing, planting	\$8,250	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Darra Downs Restoration	Fencing, planting	\$8,293	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.

Somerview Restoration	Fencing, planting	\$8,038	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Approved 2015			
Coldstream and Wetland	Fencing, planting, earthworks	\$5,605	In progress. Fencing, bank battering and planting completed. Ongoing maintenance.
Taylor's and Windermere Drains Habitat Enhancement	Instream enhancement	\$5,400	Completed. Ongoing monitoring only.
Okawa Wetland	Planting	\$12,925	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Upper Rangitata River Predator Control Project	Predator control	\$23,000	In progress.
Staveley – Westray Farm Poaka Kahikatea Bush Protection	Fencing	\$9,520	In progress.
Coldstream Creek and Coastal Wetland	Fencing, planting, weed control	\$3,270	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Upper Flynn Stream Enhancement	Fencing, planting	\$8,800	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Harding Creek Riparian Restoration	Fencing, planting	\$7,288	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Yatemans Waterway Rehabilitation	Fencing, planting	\$32,078	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Mt Harding Creek Enhancement	Planting	\$5,970	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Silverstream (Anama) Planting	Planting	\$24,300	In progress. Year 1 planting completed.

Approved 2016			
Coldstream and Wetland Stage 2	Fencing, planting, weed control	\$20,450	Landowner agreement completed. Seed eco-sourced for planting in autumn 2017.
Flynn Stream Stage 2	Weed control, planting	\$8,688	Landowner agreement in progress.
Upper Flynn Stream Stage 3	Fencing, planting	\$10,000	In progress. Fencing completed.
Smith River Terrace	Fencing, planting	\$10,000	In progress. Fencing & planting completed. Ongoing maintenance
Limestone Creek Wetland	Fencing	\$5,000	Landowner agreement in progress.
Lincoln Hills – Mudfish Habitat	Fencing, planting	\$9,510	Landowner agreement in progress.
Surrey Hills Mudfish Project	Fencing	\$1,950	Landowner agreement in progress.
TOTAL	40 Projects	\$500,160	From available funding of \$600,00

12 Reports for Committee Information

12.1 Consents Update

CONSENTS UPDATE – October 2016 – ASHBURTON ZONE	
<u>CRC#/Applicant/Description</u>	Status
CRC169440 – Castleridge Station Limited – Sensitive Lake Nutrient Allocation zone (Lake Heron).	Granted
Applications for farming activities: Orange Nutrient Zones (unchanged): CRC170110 , CRC170126 – Greentree Farms Ltd ; CRC168944 – LA & SP Glass. ; (new applications) CRC171042 – Rohgmal Ltd.	Granted
CRC160364 , CRC160365 – GR & RC Wilson ; CRC156997 – LD & JL Moore ; CRC171961-2 – Mirrabook Holdings 2015 Ltd. ; CRC172116 – Molloy Dairying Ltd ; CRC172309 – WR & DR Lovett . PC2 rule 13.5.31 treated as operative after HC decision (23 August 2016).	Granted
CRC171382 – G S & J M Lovett – Replacement groundwater connected to Ashburton River – draft conditions with minimum flow.	Granted
CRC163693 – E G Perkins Limited – Surface water take replacement on Dobsons Drain – minimum flow proposed that is equivalent to that recommended in Hinds Drain Working Party recommendations for Boundary Drain.	Granted
CRC170651-662 – Rangitata Diversion Race Management Limited – Klondyke storage application for 10 m ³ /s Rangitata River take and 53 Mm ³ storage pond. 98 Submissions – 40 submitters to be heard. Of the submissions 57 oppose, 41 support, 23 are neutral (these do not add up to 99 as one submitter can support or oppose different consents within the proposal).	In Process
Applications for farming activities: Orange Nutrient Zones: CRC171554 – Snowden Farm Ltd ; CRC171540 – Riverlyn Farm Ltd Plan Change 2 area (Hinds/Hekeao): CRC165909 – Mr Gingerbread Limited – Use land for farming (as a farming enterprise) –small part of property in Orange Nutrient Zone, most in Red Zone (no update from previous); CRC172215 – Simon Molloy.	In Process
CRC170886-7 – Mayfield Hinds Irrigation Limited – Augment Harris Drain from MHIS and take water out downstream for irrigation – applicant considering draft conditions	In Process

<p><u>Valetta Groundwater Allocation Zone PC2 swap (surface water to deep groundwater swaps):</u> CRC151154, CRC151179 – LW & DI Molloy; CRC151176 – Yollom Farm Limited; CRC154901 – Longbeach Estate Ltd & Raynham Dairies Ltd; CRC154902, CRC154906 – KB & RA Townshend; CRC154904 – Bellwin Farms Limited. Hearings held 12 and 13 September, closed on 12 October – decision by 03 November.</p>	In Process
<p>CRC172606 – Norman Stoddard Limited – Application to swap surface water from Parakanoi Drain for Deep Groundwater in Valetta</p>	In Process
<p>CRC172378-9 – General Distribution Limited – Countdown Ashburton – Application for earthworks and construction phase stormwater.</p>	In Process
<p>CRC164787 – T R Scott Limited – Mayfield Hinds Groundwater Allocation Zone – hearing scheduled for 20 October.</p>	In Process
<p>CRC172348 – Nelson Petroleum Distribution Limited – Application to discharge operational stormwater to land</p>	In Process
<p>CRC172449 – Boundary Drain Trial Group – consent for the Boundary Drain flow trial proposed by Hinds Drain Working Party – To be held jointly in the name of 5 parties.</p>	In Process
<p>CRC167731-2 – Erralyn Farm Limited – Renew consent for flood protection works and to divert water within Rakaia River bed – Applicant is providing further information regarding the proposal (no update from previous).</p>	In Process
<p>Lake Extension Trust – Application to take additional 0.9 m³/s “non-consumptively” from the Ashburton River. Returned as inadequate in December 2015 – applicant discussing matters required to address in re-lodged application (no update from previous).</p>	Pre-application

Ashburton Zone Committee Meeting

Tuesday 25 October 2016

Timetable	
Time	Item
1:00 pm	Meeting Commences

Order of Business

- 1 Welcome, Karakia and Introductions
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