

**46TH MEETING OF THE
REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Tuesday 13 December 2016 at 1.30 – 4.30pm

**TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE
REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

Andy Pearce (Chair)

Community Representatives	
Hugh Canard	Cole Groves
Jane Demeter	Nicky Hyslop
Andrew Mockford	Ross Millichamp
Vicky Southworth	
Zone Representatives	
Matt Hoggard	Kaikoura
Michele Hawke	Hurunui-Waiau
<i>Vacant</i>	Waimakariri
<i>Vacant</i>	Banks Peninsula
Les Wanhalla	Christchurch-West Melton
Ron Pellow	Selwyn-Waihora
Ben Curry	Ashburton
John Talbot	Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora
Barry Shepherd	Upper Waitaki
Bruce Murphy	Lower Waitaki-South Coastal Canterbury
Christchurch City Council	Cr Phil Clearwater
District Council Representatives	
Mayor Winton Dalley	North Canterbury
Mayor Sam Broughton	Mid Canterbury
Peter McIlraith	South Canterbury
Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu	Rebecca Clements
Ngā Rūnanga	Nigel Harris
	Riki Lewis
	David Higgins
Commissioners	Cr Rod Cullinane
	Cr Claire McKay
Central Government Observer	Nick Vincent (MFE) Kevin Steel (MAF) Jenny Ridgen (MPI)
CDHB Observer	Dr Alistair Humphrey

VENUE: Council Chamber, 200 Tuam Street, Christchurch

BUSINESS: As per Order Paper attached.
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<http://ecan.govt.nz/news-and-notice/minutes/Pages/Default.aspx>

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Regional Council
Kaunihera Taiao ki Waitaha

COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2002 DECISION-MAKING REQUIREMENTS

Except as below, a statement of compliance and a completed decision checklist is required for any agenda item on a council committee or the council recommending that a decision be made. This will be the responsibility of the person signing off the agenda item.

The compliance statement and checklist will not be used for:

- Recommendations that information be received or that the Council make a decision.
- Decisions taken under the Resource Management Act 1991 or the Biosecurity Act 1993 in relation to resource consents, decisions required when following the procedures set out in Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, other permissions, submissions on plans, or references to the Environment Court.
- Decisions taken to proceed with enforcement procedures under various primary or secondary legislation or regulations, including procedures under the Resource Management Act 1991, the Biosecurity Act 1993, the Local Government Act 2002, and Environment Canterbury Bylaws.
- Administrative and personnel decisions that are entirely internal to Environment Canterbury.
- Other decisions where the procedures to be followed are set out in Legislation.

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

The council committee (or the council) must formally certify that:

- (a) It is satisfied that it has sufficient information about the options and their benefits and costs, in terms of the region's social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being and the effects on community outcomes, bearing in mind the significance of the decisions.
- (b) It is satisfied that it knows enough about and has given adequate consideration to the views and preferences of affected and interested parties bearing in mind the significance of the decision.

INFORMATION CHECKLIST

(a)	A Statement of the Proposed Decision
(b)	A Statement of the Objective of the Proposed Decision and the Issue or Problem being addressed
(c)	A list of all reasonably practicable options, (including doing nothing).
(d)	For each option in (c): An evaluation of the Benefits and Costs, in terms of the region's social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being.
(e)	For each option in (c): A statement of the extent to which community outcomes would be promoted or achieved in an integrated and efficient manner.
(f)	For each option in (c): A statement of the Impact, if any, on Environment Canterbury's capacity to undertake its statutory responsibilities
(g)	If the Proposed Decision is a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, a statement of how Maori values have been taken into account
(h)	A Statement of significant inconsistencies, if any, with any Existing Policy, Plan or Legislation arising from the Proposed Decision.
(i)	A statement how the views and preferences of affected or interested persons have been given adequate consideration during the definition of the problem or issue, the objective, the assessment of options and the development of the proposed decision, including the particular contribution of Maori to the decision-making process.

Notes:

The significance of proposals and decisions determines how much time, money and effort is put into exploring and evaluating options and obtaining the views of affected and interested parties. The significance of proposals and decisions is determined through reference to criteria contained in the policy on significance.

The policy on significance together with Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002 set out the Council's requirements in relation to decisions. Some decisions can only be made through the Long-Term Council Community Plan, or after the Special Consultative Procedures set out in the Act have been used, (refer to the policy on significance and the Act).

All decisions of Environment Canterbury are subject to the decision-making requirements of section 76 of the Act unless inconsistent with specific requirements of other legislation.

CANTERBURY REGIONAL COUNCIL
REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

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**MINUTES OF 45TH MEETING OF THE REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE HELD AT ROSSBURN RECEPTIONS, RANGIORA
ON TUESDAY 11 OCTOBER 2016 AT 2.45PM**

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	KARAKIA
	CLOSURE OF PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT

Chair: Andy Pearce

Community: Hugh Canard, Jane Demeter, Andrew Mockford, Nicky Hyslop, Ross Millichamp
Vicky Southworth

Zone Representatives: Matt Hoggard, Claire McKay, Steve Lowndes, Ben Curry, John Talbot,

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu: Rebecca Clements

Ngā Rūnanga: David Higgins, Nigel Harris, Riki Lewis

Territorial Authorities: Peter Scott, Winton Dalley

Environment Canterbury Commissioners: Tom Lambie, David Caygill

Central Government Observers: Kevin Steel, Nick Vincent

IN ATTENDANCE

Bill Lambie (Selwyn Waihora Zone Committee [for Ron Pellow]), Barbara Nicholas (Team Leader Zone Facilitators), Ellie McNae (Senior Strategy Advisor Water), Stephen Bragg (Tangata Whenua Facilitator); Philippa Beckman (CWMS Committees Coordinator), Murray Doak (MPI) Don Chittock (Programme Manager Strategic Programmes)

WELCOME

Andy Pearce opened the meeting at 2.45pm

Stephen Bragg opened with karakia.

Andy Pearce welcomed everyone, and extended his thanks to those who had helped with the morning's field trip.

He also offered on behalf of the committee his congratulations to Steve Lowndes, Claire McKay and Peter Scott for their successes in the Local Body elections as new Environment Canterbury Councillors; his thanks to Commissioners David Caygill and Tom Lambie and to the central and local government representatives and observers for their contributions to the

thus far and welcome to those who may return; and his welcome to the new Regional Committee Rūnanga representatives Nigel Harris, Riki Lewis and David Higgins, and new Community Representatives Andrew Mockford, Cole Groves, Nicky Hyslop, Ross Millichamp and Vicky Southworth.

He invited new members to join one or more of the committee's working groups, and briefly outlined what each of these committees does. He then invited the new members to introduce themselves.

ITEM 1 - APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from John Donkers, Michele Hawke, John Talbot, Barry Shepherd, Ron Pellow, Bruce Murphy, Phil Clearwater, Angus McKay, Alistair Humphrey, and Cole Groves

ITEM 2 - CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Conflict of interest schedules were circulated.

ITEM 3 - MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of meeting of 9 August 2016
(Refer pages 4 - 19 of agenda)

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Regional Water Management Committee meeting held on 9 August 2016, be received and, subject to the following amendment:

Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Update (Bruce Murphy): Remove last bullet point "HDI and augmentation update ..."

be confirmed a true and accurate record.

David Caygill/ Steve Lowndes

ITEM 4 - MATTERS ARISING

None.

ITEM 5 – CORRESPONDENCE

None.

ITEM 6 – RECREATIONAL WORKING GROUP UPDATE

(Refer page 20 of the agenda)

Ellie McNae was invited to speak to this update:

At its November meeting the group will receive an update from Scott Pearson (Fish & Game), which will be brought to the Regional Committee at its December meeting. The Swimming Research Report just completed has identified sites and facts that the working group was not yet aware of. The report will also be discussed in November and brought to the committee in December.

Ellie was also asked to provide a brief background of this working group for the new members: The group's brief has been to identify, report on and drive through recreational amenity CWMS targets.

Reports to date include the kayaking and jetboating reports, and swimming research is currently underway. Survey responses were well distributed throughout the region; both geographically and culturally, although most responses were urban. Fewer responses came from the Hurunui region, although Christchurch respondents referred to the Hurunui area in their preferred swimming areas. The survey was distributed via Zone Committees, stakeholders and through our normal communication outlets e.g. social media.

Resolved:

That the Regional Committee:

- 1. Note progress on the recreation and amenity work programme.***

ITEM 7. – ECOSYSTEM HEALTH AND BIODIVERSITY WORKING GROUP (BEWG)

(Refer pages 21 - 86 of the agenda)

Steve Lowndes was invited to speak to this update, and provided further background to discussions noted from the September meeting of the working group. Steve noted that not many years ago such meetings such as the water forum held in September with the Christchurch City Council, ECan and Ngāi Tahu would not have occurred.

Steve noted that longfin tuna stocks have been of concern, and BEWG has been tasked with exploring solutions. Over the last two years forums have been held for eel stakeholders, leading to an agreement that the best approach from ECan would be to manage fish passage and habitats. Stephen Bragg clarified that the BEWG discussions are about a programme of work rather than a strategy, focusing on habitat enhancement, observation of tikanga, and a collaborative approach between manawhenua and agencies such as DOC. The programme is being progressed by Stephen Bragg and Chris Keeling, to come to the December Regional Committee meeting.

Resolved:

That the working group

- 1. Will progress work on a collaborative management work programme for Longfin Tuna habitat, to bring the Regional Committee in December.***

Steve reported that the algal bloom on Te Waihora has gone right through the winter without abatement, for the first time in living memory. The Banks Peninsula Zone Committee's Te Waihora Plan change led to farmer action and new recommendations for the Land and Water Regional Plan. Steve queried whether the state of Te Waihora was now becoming too big for the Banks Peninsula Zone committee to handle on its own, and whether the Regional Committee should become more involved. After discussion it was agreed that Steve would approach Banks Peninsula Zone Committee to see whether they wish to approach the Regional Committee, and Barbara Nicholas would discuss the same idea with Lesley Woudberg, the Banks Peninsula Zone Facilitator.

A question was raised about the Draft Management Plan for the Clarence/Waiarau River. In response to a question on how comprehensive this plan is, and whether it covers weed control or recreation, Steven Bragg noted that the plan is in its early draft stage, but that rafting and jetboating stakeholders have been involved in the conversation.

The committee was advised that the BEWG group, in conjunction with the Ashburton and Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Zone committees, is holding a field trip to the Rangitata area on 7 November, and invited Regional Committee members to participate. The field trip will cover briefings on the catchments and science, weed control, predator control and birds, along with an optional viewing of the RDR take site and briefing on infrastructure issues. An expression of interest form was circulated.

Resolved:

That the Regional Committee

- 1. *Receive the report from BEWG.***
- 2. *Give thanks to Steve Lowndes for his leadership of this working group.***

ITEM 8 – REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKING GROUP (RIWG) UPDATE

(Refer pages 87 - 106 of the agenda)

Ben Curry was invited to speak to this update. He reported on the Managed Aquifer Recharge trial in the Tinwald area. The trial has resulted in increased infiltration of 75m/day, adding 600,000 cubic metres recharged since 10 June 2016. A second outcome has been a significant reduction in nitrate concentration.

Peter Scott reported on the working group September meeting, held in South Canterbury to give it the opportunity to focus on South Canterbury issues and providing an opportunity for collaborative development with groups such as the Aoraki Water Trust. There is ongoing need for infrastructure discussions to work alongside the Zone Committees' discussions on environmental limits, and progress is being made on both of these objectives. The work of Brett Painter and Dennis Jamieson towards this was acknowledged. It was agreed that another meeting of the working group will be held in South Canterbury within six months.

Resolved:

That the Regional Committee

- 1. *Receive the report from RIWG.***
- 2. *Gives thanks to Peter Scott for his leadership of this working group.***

ITEM 9 – BRIEFING ON CLIMATE CHANGE

(Refer pages 107 - 114 of the agenda)

The key message of this report is that Central and Local government have defined responsibilities; Local Government being responsible to develop and carry out implementation plans and actions for climate change adaptation and mitigation. The eight areas of work described in the report represent an overview of the New Zealand and Canterbury story. The NIWA presentation and presentation by Brett Painter at recent Regional Committee meetings provided in-depth information about climate change issues.

Discussion was held around whether Environment Canterbury and the Zone Committees take climate change sufficiently seriously into account in their plans. Further questions and responses to this question included:

- Is there a document of high level responses at zone committee level through to the sub-regional plans?

- The Coastal Hazards policy and plan spans the entire coast. Don Chittock will bring updates to this committee.
- P110: does the sentence “s3(b) (i): the purpose of this Act is to amend the [RMA] ... to require local authorities to plan for the effects of climate change” imply that ECan must develop a Climate Change Plan? After discussion, it was agreed that this should be interpreted as that the expectation is to action climate change mitigation activities; not to produce a new ‘plan’.
- Many responses to climate change are happening. These need to be pulled together into cohesive practice noting that this committee’s brief is water management (in its broadest sense).
- There is a request for a more substantial briefing over work that has been conducted over the last 2-3 years, and how this has been integrated into regional plans and limit setting by zone committees, and informed appropriate programmes of work.

Resolved:

That the Regional Committee

- 1. Note the various ways in which Environment Canterbury takes account of the possible impacts of climate change;***

ITEM 10 – ZONE COMMITTEE UPDATES

(Refer separate paper tabled at the meeting and verbal updates from representatives)

Orari-Temuka Opihi-Pareora Zone Update (John Talbot)

Groundwater quality, quantity, and ecosystems

A presentation to the September meeting by Graham Fenwick (NIWA) highlighted the potential significance for aquifer yield and groundwater quality of ecosystems found in aquifer gravels. Dissolved organic carbon provides an energy source for microbes which form bio-films on aquifer gravels. Those bio-films are the basis of a food chain of diverse critters including 'shrimps' up to 25 mm long. It appears this biology ('stygo fauna') maintains aquifer flow and groundwater quality. (<http://ecan.govt.nz/get-involved/canterburywater/committees/orari-opihi-paeora/Pages/reports-presentations.aspx>)

Community Water Supply safety

In light of recent issues in Havelock North, OTOP District Councils provided updates about safety of water schemes. There is a level of comfort arising from treatment in most schemes. Risk is also addressed through Community Water Supply Protection Zones in the LWP, but it appears that the current provisions may still permit potentially risky activities in the vicinity of drinking water sources.

Healthy Catchments Project

(“OTOP's sub-regional process”) 'Current state' of the zone was discussed at a round of successful public workshops in September. The next step is to explore the likely effects of continuing current management (“scenario 1”). So far we appear to be on track for delivering our recommendations about limits and practical actions (the “ZIP addendum”) in about 12 months.

Ashburton Zone Update (Ben Curry)

The appeal to Plan Change 2 launched by Federated Farmers regarding groundwater depth has been settled. The zone committee is keen to communicate with the community about surface water/groundwater exchange.

Hurunui – Waiau Zone Update (Michele Hawke)

Apology – out of the country

Lower Waitaki–South Coastal Canterbury Zone Update (Bruce Murphy)

Update on activities in the Zone:

Waimate District Council presented to the Zone Committee on management of their stormwater network and progress in implementing ZIP recommendations around stormwater management plans.

- Recent extension work in the Zone has focused on early season tactics for irrigation efficiency and tactics for management of sediment and phosphorus in the steeper country in the Waihao catchment.
- The committee is focused on the protection of the Braided River Character of the Hakataramea River and investigating long-term options for the protection of this character. This would sit alongside a community action plan for the river.
- An advisory group is continuing its work to progress details around the augmentation of Wainono Lagoon.
- Plan Change 5 Waitaki hearings are ongoing.
- The Plan Change 3, South Coastal Canterbury, hearing commissioners' decision has been released and accepted by Environment Canterbury. It is currently subject to an appeal period on points of law.

Selwyn-Waihora Zone Update (Ron Pellow)

The Selwyn-Waihora Zone Committee has met twice since the regional committee meeting in August. (6th September and 4th October).

Key aspects from these meetings and related activities include:

1. Meeting with Te Waihora CoGovernance Group

A workshop was held between the Zone committee and the Co-Governance Group of Te Waihora to discuss both groups' interest in Te Waihora and its contribution to meeting environmental goals.

2. Discussion on the future of Water Races

- a. The Selwyn Waihora catchment has an extensive network of (former) stock water races that landowners are increasingly asking to be closed (as they are no longer required for provision of stock water). They remain however a significant water distribution network and incur reasonable annual maintenance costs – primarily funded by local ratepayers.
- b. The Sheffield scheme will become piped and contribute to Central Plains Water in that region, noting the existing water take for open channel stock water will not be exceeded when the scheme is piped and it then used for both stock water and irrigation.
- c. Further discussions are required in particular whether funding to maintain former stock water races is the most appropriate ecological investment

3. Ngāti Moki marae, Taumutu

The Zone committee met at Ngāti Moki marae for its October meeting. This included discussion on farming on the lake margin.

4. Discussions continue on the implementation of Plan Change 1

The Selwyn – Waihora Zone Committee Representative is unavailable for the 11th October CWMS regional committee meeting and asks the regional committee to note his apology.

Waimakariri Zone Update (Claire McKay)

The last two meetings have been focused on sub regional chapter planning, and being briefed on the eleven reports for the Current state of the Zone.

First round of Community consultation starts with three meetings over week 10th -17th Oct.

The aim is to share the current state information and provide people with an opportunity to express their concerns or give feed back to the zone committee, for consideration.

Key points about Waimakariri water.

- Drinking water is generally very good.
- Nitrate levels in Silverstream are increasing
- Sediment in lowland streams significantly compromising ecosystem health.
- Long term recording at the Gorge show water flows in the Ashley River are decreasing. This is impacting the water levels in the Ashley groundwater zone, and lowland flows.
- Flows in the Cust Main Drain have increased since irrigation scheme commenced in 1999-2000.
- Recent years have been much drier than usual with lower land surface recharge
- The Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd. irrigation, and the widespread stock-water network has offset a large increase in groundwater abstraction, with recharge from leaky race systems.
- Agriculture uses the most water, however urban water use is increasing with population growth.

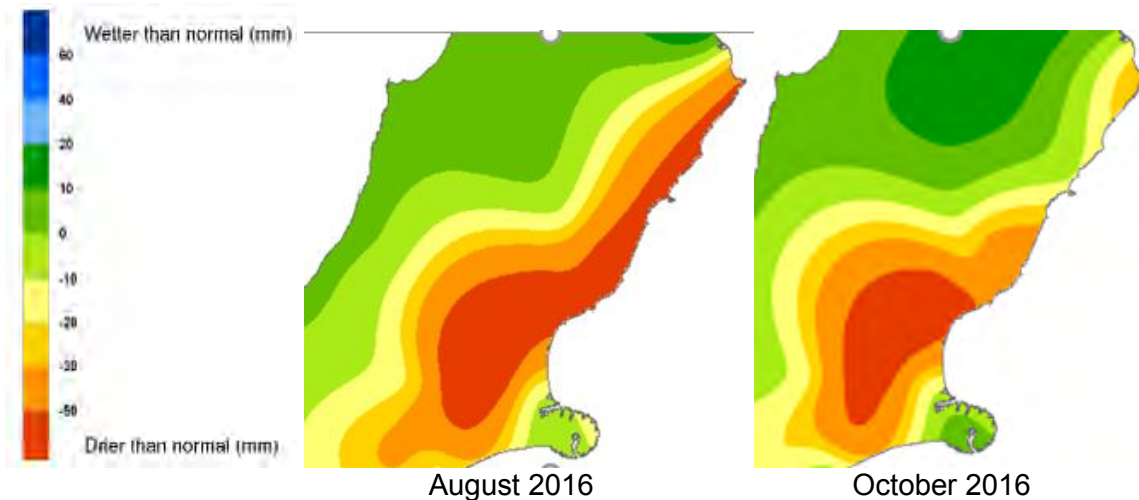
Subsequent rounds of consultation will take place in November and February 2017.

Upper Waitaki Zone Update (Barry Shepherd)

- The Zone Committee has met twice since the last report.
- The Committee was advised of the Immediate Steps biodiversity review and provided feedback regarding criteria expansion with Community engagement, more targeted focus, Stream lined admin and Zone Manager sign off for under \$5000 projects. Discretion to fund 100% and carry over of uncommitted funds.
- The Committee suggested better advertising of the biodiversity Immediate Steps Fund Projects within the Community.
- Genesis Energy provided an update on the Tekapo power project and the work at the Tekapo tunnel inlet.
- Reports were provided and discussed regarding the reconnection of Lake Middleton to Lake Ohau. The Committee asked for more water quality information on the Middleton Stream (the main surface water source), the Lake and its ground water source.
- The Zone Manager reported all water takes were compliant with the metering rules in the Upper Waitaki Zone.
- A fresh water jellyfish has been observed in the Kellands Ponds. This is the first recording of this kind in Canterbury. There is no biodiversity threat or threat to human health. The jellyfish is a predator to other species.
- A Hydrogeological study is to commence this summer in the Kellands Ponds and Lowe Tekapo River areas. In the Kellands Pond area it will help understand ground water flow paths and their seasonal changes and identify the ground water divide near Lake Ohau. In the Tekapo River it will serve to determine whether the river is perches as has been suggested.
- Immediate Steps Funding approval was given to the fencing of Boutons Gully Lagoon and Kettle Hole Tarn in Braemar Station near Lake Pukaki. This takes total Immediate Steps Funding in the Zone to \$598,230.
- A paper on the eel quota management was presented to the Committee who were happy with the results.

Kaikoura Zone Update (Matt Hoggard)

Spring is well underway and although soil moisture is improving, groundwater is still low.



Source https://www.niwa.co.nz/static/climate/smd_anom.png?1234

Nutrient Management Group

The Zone committee are pleased with the progress Dairy NZ, Fonterra and farmers are making. Progress includes:

- 100% of Kaikoura Dairy Farmers now with 11 days effluent storage
- 64% of Kaikoura Dairy Farmers now with 21 days effluent storage
- 39kms of waterways which are permanent flowing and greater than 1m wide fenced
- Support blocks being fenced and 100% likely to be completed by 2017.
- No high risk farms within the Kaikoura District

Despite the very good work done to date, turbidity, phosphorus, E.coli and low dissolved oxygen are still seen to be problematic at times.

Lyell Creek / Waikoau

The community planting day was a success; this being the third year school children have attended to take part. Reports were received that some of the more experienced children were offering advice on planting. For me this is a significant milestone.

The lack of rain in Kaikoura combined with particular sea conditions has seen the Lyell River mouth being opened and then quickly, within days, being closed again by natural processes.

Clarence River / Waiau-toa

Positive work continues within the catchment. The broom gall mite appears to be achieving good results in heavily infested areas of broom in North Canterbury and Kaikoura.

"Normally it takes many years for a biocontrol agent to establish itself, but the results from broom gall mite have been a lot quicker." "The mite will keep broom under control so there is no need for repeated spraying."

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/business/farming/84285007/mighty-mite-makes-easy-meal-of-marlborough-broom>

Over time it is anticipated that the catchment will also benefit from the success the gal mite.

The Braid.org.nz “The Flock” has arrived within Kaikoura, assisting the public’s understanding of how special braided rivers are, including the Clarence.

Finally, additional IS funding will be provided to the Clarence catchment seeing the first \$500,000.00 being fully allocated. It is fortunate that additional funding will occur as increasing interest is occurring around the Kaikoura Flats for projects within the red zone.

Banks Peninsula Zone Update (Steve Lowndes)

- The September ZC meeting was cancelled as the Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour Catchment Management Plan project got underway. Three community meetings were held around the harbour that were well attended. Participants shared their insights on the harbour, how it is used and what short and long term actions could be taken to make a positive change. As part of the project a website and story map has been created <http://healthyharbour.org.nz/>
- The catchment plan was an action from the Lyttelton Port Recovery Plan.
- EOS Ecology recently presented all schools on Banks Peninsula with a freshwater invertebrate identification chart and kit. We hope to see these schools out taking an interest in their local streams and being able to identify plenty of net wing midge larvae endemic to Banks Peninsula and an indicator of very healthy habitats.
- No appeals have been received to the Wairewa change to the *Land and Water Regional Plan* (Plan Change 6). Provisions will not become fully operative until formally adopted by the Council.
- The ZC will host a workshop with the Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust in 18th October to discuss the Trust’s 2050 Vision before it is launched by the Minister of Conservation 3 November.
- The ZC is likely to see some membership changes as a consequence of the local government election.

Christchurch-West Melton Zone Update (Les Wanhalla)

- The ZC received the annual report from CCC on the water quality of stream and rivers around Christchurch. The monitoring is a condition of the City’s storm water consent. The major contaminants are sediment and heavy metals, particularly zinc and copper. Spikes in E.coli occur particular after rain events mainly due to wild fowl and dog faeces. Waste water overflows can also occur but these have significantly reduced as infrastructure has been repaired after the earthquakes. The results are similar to the previous year.
- The ZC hosted a workshop with about 50 members of the construction industry on erosion and sediment control. At the workshop the ZC shared the results of trials on various site

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treatments as well as new provisions that will be included in ECan's *Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines*. The ZC also hosted a workshop with recreational groups on water quality at Kerrs Reach, Avon River.

- The Whaka Inaka project, involving placing hay bales along the Heathcote River to encourage inaka to spawn, has been successful and has shown the Heathcote River has potential for one of the longest spawning reaches in New Zealand if suitable riparian vegetation is available.
- The new eel condos at the Avon precinct steps are becoming popular with the lunchtime crowds. The eels are becoming very tame, poking their heads to demand lunch. The eels are, however, having to compete against the cute fluffy ducklings for affection from some in the public gallery.

Resolved:

- ***That the Regional Committee accept verbal updates from representatives.***

ITEM 11 - GENERAL BUSINESS

Workshop notes from the 9 August 2016 meeting were attached to the minutes of that meeting.

Items for next agenda:

1. Review the composition of the working groups. Also consider whether a Kaitiakitanga working group should be re-established.
2. Draft the work programme
3. Draft meeting dates for the committee and the working groups (Barbara Nicholas will circulate drafts for these before the meeting).

CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 4.30m.

Stephen Bragg closed with a karakia.

Date: _____

_____ **Chairperson**

AGENDA ITEM NO: 6	SUBJECT MATTER: ZONE UPDATES
REPORT: Regional Water Management Committee	DATE OF MEETING: 13 December 2016
REPORT BY: Barbara Nicholas, and zone representatives	

PURPOSE

To provide the committee with an overview of the work of the zone committees to inform discussions of the future work programme.

BACKGROUND

There are ten zone committees, each represented on the regional committee and providing the link between the work at zone and regional scales.

The zone committees provide updates at each meeting of the regional committee. At this meeting these updates provide an opportunity to collectively review the achievements of the zone committees and to consider where the regional committee's work programme for 2017 might contribute to advancing zone priorities.

Kaikoura

What are the critical things we need to achieve in the zone in order to deliver the CWMS targets?

- The recent earthquakes present a whole new set of challenges for the community and the Water Zone Committee. A number of the water management priorities, as outlined in the Kaikōura ZIP and 5 Year Outcomes Milestones, are priorities for the communities' post-earthquake recovery – notably drinking water, visitor and transport corridor impacts, water / nutrient / effluent management, biodiversity and mahinga kai values.
- A reappraisal of CWMS priorities within the Zone will be a primary focus for the Zone Committee when it reconvenes in 2017.

What have we already achieved/advanced over the last 6 years

- Kaikōura ZIP produced in 2012.
- Significant Immediate Steps investment in biodiversity (\$500K) within the Zone most notably supporting weed and predator control in the Clarence Waiau Toa. A CWMS Special Edition newsletter has been produced to reflect the partnership developed in delivering this weed control programme over such a large catchment of high scenic and amenity values.
- In 2015 a Nutrient Management and Water Efficiency Working Group was established to engage local farmers and Primary Industry partners on local priorities.
- In 2015 all Fonterra suppliers in the zone completed their FEPs, the first catchment of significant scale to achieve this in NZ.
- In 2015 a well attend 'Water Forum' was hosted to address the understanding and requirements of local water consents holders. Follow up meetings by ECan Consents staff provided additional support to water consent holders.
- The Love the Lyell Working Group has maintained focus over an enhancement programme for the Lyell/Waikōau. To date the Zone Committee has hosted 11

community planting and clean up days, with strong engagement from local schools, businesses, residents and visitors.

What are we currently working on, and what are the challenges and opportunities that presents

- The Committee has recently been focused on the options for the community in preparing for an extended dry period. As part of this focus, a 'Waterwise Brochure' has been developed as a resource for the local community. This brochure provides affordable options for on-site domestic water storage and other water efficiency tips and was scheduled to be distributed over the summer period. This is likely to be adapted to incorporate the impact of the recent earthquakes (e.g. securing water tanks)
- A Biodiversity Action Plan for the Clarence/Waiau Toa (2016-2020) has been drafted, with representatives of public agencies and private landowners, to build on the partnership developed over 2014-15 in implementing the weed control programme. This will need to be reviewed as part of assessing the impact of the recent earthquakes within the catchment.
- Love the Lyell had made significant progress in 2015/16 through esplanade development along the Lyell/Waikōau through riparian planting and walkway development. This work has been badly damaged by the earthquakes with an initial focus being of what can be salvaged and repaired.
- The Kaikōura Plains, as a nutrient red zone in the LWRP, has been another area of focus in 2016. Support of local farmers and landowners on the plains will be a priority to determine the level of impact and ongoing risk the earthquakes represent.

Priorities over the next 2-5 years

- Supporting the community's recovery post-earthquake where this aligns with CWMS priorities and scope.
- Determining the ongoing risks to the community, from 'post seismic sediment cascades' from the numerous slips in the hills above the town, to the capacity and recovery of the visitor industry, and support of local farmers.
- The dramatic changes to the coastal marine environment will be another area of priority and probable area of collaboration between CWMS partners and stakeholders such as Te Korowai.
- ECan Zone Delivery co-ordination with the Zone Committee 5 Year Outcomes and milestones. Again, the earthquakes necessitate a reassessment of the Zone Committee and Zone Delivery Team priorities over the next 2-5 years.
- Determining the planning approach for the District given the Kaikōura chapter of the LWRP, a District Plan review, and Coastal Plan are all scheduled to be prepared over the next 2-5years.

Where we think the regional committee could best add value to the work of our zone.

Co-ordination of regional initiatives and programmes for CWMS priorities such as Braided River Habitat and Biodiversity.

Support on investigations in Kaikōura and the Hurunui/Waiau to address recovery priorities associated with the CWMS that will likely impart learning for other communities in the Region.

Hurunui Waiau Zone

Current focus of zone-committee's work programme

1. "Healthy rivers – productive land" Project

The Hurunui Waiau Zone Committee, with Environment Canterbury, is starting the development of a long-term water management solutions package for the zone. We are proposing that this be called "Healthy rivers – productive land". Currently many refer to it as the "HWRRP review" or the "sub-regional process" which emphasises regulatory solutions. The solutions package needs to also include a lot of non-regulatory actions although, acknowledging the difficulties with the "10% rule", a plan change will be notified in mid-2019 with zone-specific limits and rules for the Hurunui Waiau zone where required.

As part of preparing for this work the zone committee has:

- Developed with a wide range of stakeholders a set of principles for property-scale nutrient management;
- Agreed a set of outcomes that will be the basis for evaluating possible water management solutions;
- Almost completed a review of the recommendations in the ZIP;
- Almost completed a review of what they like and what they don't like in the HWRRP;
- Established a Hurunui Science Stakeholder Group to help access all relevant information and to get buy in from stakeholders on what the monitoring results and science means.

A technical team is looking at what the monitoring and investigations done to date tell us about water quality in the major rivers and what this means. This has been completed for the Waiau River and its tributaries. This was provided to the Science Stakeholders Group on 16 November. Community meetings on this in the Waiau catchment have been postponed until February 2017. The review of water quality in the Hurunui River will be done for community meetings in March 2017.

2. Integrated water infrastructure including major water storage in Hurunui catchment

For the last three years the zone committee has worked hard at trying to get Amuri Irrigation, Ngāi Tahu Farming and Hurunui Water Project to work together to come up with an integrated approach to irrigation development in the zone. This was a very frustrating task until early this year when the three parties resolved their differences about who got what share of HWP's nitrogen load and agreed to work together on water storage options for the Hurunui catchment.

To assist the zone committee to understand the water storage options Environment Canterbury will do an assessment of the options against the CWMS targets and other criteria. This will be completed in early 2017. Lake Sumner is included in the options even though the committee considers it is off the table – others still continue to actively push it as an option.

Current challenges

Natural disasters

Drought and earthquake made 2016 a challenging year. The impact of these varied from place to place. The earthquake was devastating in the north east of the district.

Biodiversity protection

Attitudes shaped over 15 years ago in a battle over the District Council's attempt to designate significant natural areas (SNAs) on private land mean that it is very difficult for the zone committee and ECan to make progress on increasing biodiversity protection on private land. There is suspicion of ECan's role and actions in this area with Jamie McFadden of the Rural Advocacy Network being particularly critical. The committee has underspent its Immediate Steps Biodiversity Funding and is developing a newly aligned programme for biodiversity in the area and the actions required to deliver our vision and how the Immediate Steps money will be allocated.

Runanga participation

There was strong mana whenua involvement in developing the ZIP. This is not now the case. Internal issues with Kaikoura rūnanga mean that they have not had a representative on the committee for about 6 months and this looks like continuing for some time.

Where Regional Committee could add value – aligned Braided River programme of action

Braided rivers are a key feature of the zone yet the management and land tenure of them is fragmented and serves neither conservation of braided rivers nor the practical needs of those who farm areas near or within them. Fragmentation and lack of regard for the system as a whole is particularly apparent in the Waiau and Hurunui, which have large areas of lowland floodplain which are as yet outside the scope of flood protection rating districts.

At the “regional” level it would be useful to develop a strategic guidance document to outline the values of braided river beds and what is anticipated to take place within them and how legislation such as the RMA, Flood Protection Act and Biosecurity Act are implemented in the context of braided rivers.

While such a braided river strategy is being developed there is need to get on with working with local communities on their local braided rivers. The Hurunui Waiau zone committee would like to see work programmes of action developed for priority reaches of the Hurunui and Waiau Rivers. The development of these work programmes would be able provide “real-world” reality into the development of a regional braided river strategy.

Waimakariri

What are the critical things we need to achieve in the zone in order to deliver the CWMS targets?

- Address rising nitrate levels and sedimentation in key lowland sub-catchments like the Silverstream
- Continue to focus support on the rehabilitation of the Kaiapoi River
- Develop a whole of catchment approach to the Ashley/Rakahuri
- Develop a Biodiversity Strategy for Waimakariri and continue implementing IMS projects.
- Continue to work with Primary Industry Partners and stakeholders towards GMP and on farm innovation for nutrient management and water efficiency

- Develop and implement support for small/lifestyle block owners to be part of water management solutions
- Identify key Recreational and Amenity issues
- Continue to foster collaboration across the district, urban and rural communities through the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions programme

What have we already achieved/advanced over the last 6 years

- Waimakariri ZIP produced in 2011.
- Significant Immediate Steps investment in biodiversity (\$500K) within the Zone most notably supporting the Tūtaepatu Lagoon and Tūhaitara Coastal Park.
- In 2012 the last remaining industrial discharge into the Waimakariri River was stopped ending a 130 year period of discharging into the waterway. This was successfully managed through the period of post-earthquake infrastructure repair ensuring no further industrial discharge to the Waimakariri should ever occur.
- In 2015 the Zone Committee hosted over 15 community meetings to raise awareness and build engagement on the Waimakariri sub-regional planning process which has commenced this year.

What are we currently working on, and what are the challenges and opportunities that presents

- The Committee is currently involved and leading the community engagement for the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Programme (the LWRP sub-regional planning process). We are currently in the scenarios phase, having hosted a round of meetings on the Current State reporting in October.
- Completed the first round of community engagement in November for the Current pathways scenario.
- We will move into the 'Solutions' phase in March/April next year.
- A Biodiversity Working Group of key stakeholders was established in 2015 and has met twice in 2016 to advance the development of a Biodiversity Strategy for the Waimakariri by the end of 2017.
- ECan Zone Delivery co-ordination with the Zone Committee 5 Year Outcomes and milestones

Priorities over the next 2-5 years

- Development of and implementation of the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Programme
- Facilitating the establishment of Water Management Groups/Areas across the Zone as part of the Solutions Programme implementation.
- Developing priority projects work programmes notably in the Ashley/Rakahuri River, Kaiapoi River / Silverstream catchments, and coastal lowlands incorporating Tūhaitara Coastal Park.
- Develop closer relationships with District Council staff to foster a better understanding of Kaitiakitanga and the need for an integrated approach in the management of land and water.

Where we think the regional committee could best add value to the work of our zone.

- Co-ordination of regional initiatives and programmes for CWMS priorities such as Braided River Habitat and Biodiversity.

Banks Peninsula

Context

The name Te Pākaka o Rākaihautū – or the great food storage house of Rākaihautū, reflects the importance of Banks Peninsula to Ngāi Tahu and particularly the four rūnanga that make their home on the Peninsula (Te Hapu ō Ngāti Wheke/Rāpkai, Te Rūnanga o Koukourārata, Te Rūnanga o Ōnuku and Te Rūnanga o Wairewa).

Banks Peninsula is a water short zone. It relies mainly on rainfall with limited pockets of groundwater. There are 28 active surface water take consents, 11 are for small community water takes and do not have a minimum flow attached to the consent. The remaining 17 consents are for irrigation or similar and 15 of these have minimum flows attached to the consent. We determined (during Plan Change 6 investigations) that permitted takes (5 l/s daily max 10m³) in the Wairewa catchment did not have a significant effect but we have yet to determine the effect of permitted takes across the rest of the Peninsula.

The volcanic and fine loess soils of Banks Peninsula mean the main contaminants are sediment and naturally occurring phosphorous.

Indigenous biodiversity is an important feature of Banks Peninsula. When Europeans arrived they made quick work of clearing the native vegetation and planting exotic grasses such as cocksfoot. It is estimated that at the low point 1% of original native forest remained. Today 18% of Banks Peninsula is clothed in native vegetation.

Key issues and initiatives

- Drinking Water

Apart from the larger township, most of the communities on Banks Peninsula rely on small community water supplies, sourced from small streams, reliant on the good will of landowners and treatment is the responsibility of individual households. In 2015 the Akaroa drinking water storage and treatment plant was opened. Every summer Akaroa is subject to water restrictions.

- Wastewater

Thirty years of discussions resulted in agreement this year to pipe wastewater across Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour (cost \$52 million) – ending the need to discharge treated wastewater into the harbour. Discussions continue in an effort to find solutions to discharging Akaroa wastewater to land rather than the current practice to discharge to Akaroa Harbour.

- Te Roto o Wairewa

The health of Te Roto O Wairewa is poor. The Lake suffers from regular cyanobacteria blooms. This a consequence of geology and Canterbury's settler history. Large quantities of phosphorus rich sediment was released from the hillsides into the lake during the logging boom of the 1860-1890. Phosphorous is believed to be the main limiting factor in cyanobacteria blooms. Today sediment inputs into the lake have significantly reduced but are still problematic. In addition, the phosphorous locked in the lake sediment is recycled every year as the lake warms, providing perfect conditions for cyanobacteria to bloom. The behaviour of the Lake is complex and there are no quick fixes to its current situation. Wairewa Rūnanga have lead the way by working with researchers, community and councils to relocate and redesign the lake opening. This innovation has meant that the lake can be opened and closed more quickly giving greater control of lake levels and the timing of its opening to the sea. The Rūnanga and Christchurch City Council work together to decide when the lake should be opened. The decision to open the lake is a fine balance between flood risk, opportunities for species to migrate and keeping the lake at a higher level over summer, – conditions thought to be less favourable to cyanobacteria . Other actions underway include reducing inputs of phosphorus into the Lake by reducing sediment (Plan Change 6 *Land and Water Regional Plan*, river bank stabilisation and riparian management) and upgrading monitoring equipment to better understand the Lake's behaviour.

- Enhancing ecosystem health/biodiversity

Native biodiversity is a signature of the Banks Peninsula landscape and its enhancement and protection is important to the community as demonstrated by the establishment and work of the Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust. The Zone Committee has invested \$513,744 of Immediate Steps funding into 24 projects. The Committee is currently trying to find a way to demonstrate the effectiveness of its investment over its six year tenure.

- Healthy Harbour - Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour Project

As part of the Lyttelton Port Recovery Plan five parties (Te Hapu ō Ngāti Wheke/Rāpkai, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Christchurch City Council, Environment Canterbury and Lyttelton Port Company) made a commitment to develop and implement a catchment management plan/programme for Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour. The purpose of the plan/programme is to restore the ecological and cultural health of the catchment and harbour and to provide healthy and abundant mahinga kai. This initiative is now underway <http://healthyharbour.org.nz/>

How can the Regional Committee add value?

Ecosystem health/biodiversity – provide guidance on appropriate/cost effective monitoring. Monitoring can range from contract monitoring, effectiveness of individual projects to the wider questions of meeting CWMS ecosystem health and biodiversity targets. What are the questions we need to answer across all zones? Where might citizen science provide opportunities?

Christchurch West Melton

Context

The expansive wetlands and sand dunes that once covered large areas of the Christchurch West Melton zone have always been an important place for Ngāi Tahu. The zone is the takiwā of Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga, Te Hapū Wheke/Rāpaki and Te Taumutu Rūanga.

Today the zone is dominated by urban land uses – 366,000 people live, work, travel and play within the zone. The City Council is the most significant player in delivering the Canterbury Water Management Strategy. A significant area of the lower Avon catchment is “red zoned”. LINZ currently manages this land on behalf of the government while plans for its future are debated.

The City Council uses approximately 90 bores across the City for public water supplies, other large users (eg. Airport) have their own bores. With the exception of the NW Christchurch, all of the council's groundwater supplies have the highest grading possible for a secure groundwater supply. The Council is currently deepening the wells (cost \$16 million) in the NW zone to provide greater security. In general, the groundwater resource is in pretty good shape – the challenge is to keep it this way.

The groundwater system feeds the springheads of the Styx, Avon and Heathcote rivers. Tributaries of these rivers have been affected by low winter rainfall recharge, higher evaporation rates over the last couple of seasons with upper reaches drying out. Some tributaries are augmented by the Paparua stock water system, cooling from Jelly Park complex and dewatering of buildings in the university complex. Main contaminants to streams and rivers are sediment, heavy metals, nutrients and E.coli. In addition, legacy issues from old landfills and land uses such as the Islington freezing works are still significant risks.

Key issues and initiatives

- **Urban Stream Syndrome**
All the streams and rivers are highly modified – primarily for drainage. In 2015 98% of sites did not meet guideline values for at least one parameter tested (ie. metals, pH, conductivity, suspended solids, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, temperature, ammonia, nitrogen, phosphorous and E.coli). The Heathcote catchment is the worst. Of particular concern for the ZC are sediments and heavy metals. The ZC has provided worked with the University of Canterbury to develop a storm water model specific to Addington Brook, provided advice on the review of the Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines and is working to promote the use of copper free brake pads.
- **Ecosystem health/biodiversity**
Native biodiversity is limited in the zone. Much of the work of the ZC has focused on restoration. There are few sites of high ecological value outside the dryland areas to the west of the city. One exciting initiative the ZC has been involved with is the Whak Inaka project long the lower reaches of the Heathcote River. This project has involved 16 schools in the area and has found that this reach of the river is the longest known potential spawning site for inaka in the South island. The challenge is to enhance the habitat along this reach.
- **Protecting the groundwater resource**
Christchurch is blessed to have the quality/quantity of the groundwater resource it has. The challenge is to continue to protect the resource as development moves west and

greater demand is made on the use of resource. The ZC is beginning to initiate a conversation on the value of water and water use efficiency.

- Enhancing streams and rivers for recreation and amenity
Residents are closely connected to the streams and rivers. The Avon Precinct development has provided a new recreation/leisure facility for the central city. Proposals for large developments are currently being considered for the “red zone” by Regenerate Christchurch and Ōtākaro Limited. The ZC has invested biodiversity funding in the recreational park around centred around the Ōtūkaikino and the Groynes.

How can the Regional Committee add value?

- Help bridge the gap between rural and urban communities by telling the regional story.
Tell the story of the
 - who is paying for what – is water really free?
 - shift from groundwater to alpine water
 - investment in biodiversity across the region
 - effort going into FEPs and nutrient budgets
 - complexity of the systems, often difficult to quantify effectiveness of interventions, long time frames
- Help raise the profile of “urban stream” syndrome by helping to
 - raise the issue with central government
 - promote central government interventions eg. Building Act to control the use of zinc and copper building materials, standards and labelling of non-metallic brake pads

Selwyn Waihora Zone

Vision for Selwyn Waihora Zone

Restoring the mauri of Te Waihora while maintaining the prosperous land-based economy and thriving communities (for the part of zone covered by Variation 1), and

Protecting the alpine rivers and high country values (for the part of the Selwyn Waihora zone not covered by Variation 1).

Current focus for zone-committee:

1. Helping Environment Canterbury, primary sector and Ngāi Tahu ensure the Selwyn Te Waihora Plan Change is implemented in a workable manner that delivers the committee’s vision.
2. Supporting Te Waihora Co-governors and others to progress the lake interventions for Te Waihora (including leadership and funding).
3. Improving the Selwyn River/Waikirikiri with the aim of “Swimmable Selwyn@Coes Ford”.
4. Continuing to prioritise and support delivery of Immediate Steps on-the-ground biodiversity actions in Hororata catchment, Silverstream and the high country.

Challenges and opportunities

Whakaora Te Waihora

This programme has been the cornerstone of the work to improve Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere and its catchment. The programme started in 2012, and Phase One (2012-2017) has initiated

actions to restore Te Waihora and its sub-catchments. Current funding from the Ministry for the Environment finishes in mid-2017. Although the other partners will continue to commit resources, in order to achieve the long term objectives of the programme the Te Waihora Co-Governance Group, which includes Selwyn District Council and Christchurch City Council, is actively seeking further funding.

Implementing the Selwyn Te Waihora Plan

About 900 farms will require land use consents under the plan change. These consents include audited farm environment plans (FEPs). In parts of the catchment the FEPs need to show farming practices to minimise phosphorus and sediment losses. Near Lake Ellesmere/Te Waihora the FEPs need to show how farming practices manage for Ngai Tahu values including mahinga kai. Consents are required from January 2017 and from 2022 require many land users to significantly reduce nitrogen losses.

Swimmable Selwyn@Coes Ford

The Selwyn River/Waikirikiri meets swimming standards at Chamberlains Ford but not at Coes Ford a short way downstream. The zone committee wants to focus on improving the river, particularly at Coes Ford, a popular recreational area.

Where the Regional Committee could add value

Sharing experiences on implementing plan changes

The Selwyn Waihora zone committee established a Plan Implementation Working Group (sub-committee) and has been actively involved in helping implement the plan change in a manner that achieves the outcomes of the ZIP Addendum in a workable and pragmatic manner.

Other zones are, or will shortly, also be implementing plan changes. The Regional Committee is an established forum across zones that can be used to enhance learning and enable zone committees to share experiences in plan implementation.

Encouraging collaboration on cross-zone alpine rivers

The major rivers form many of the zone boundaries and have tended to be a little neglected by zone committees. The Regional Committee should continue to encourage zone committee collaboration on these rivers.

“Flagship” projects to improve on-the-ground water quality

The regional committee has biodiversity flagship projects. Focus group research in Selwyn Waihora zone has identified the importance of personal experience in determining community awareness of water management, the CWMS and zone committees. This has led the SW committee to establish its goal of “Swimmable Selwyn@Coes Ford”. The regional committee could actively support this project due to its proximity to Christchurch while also identifying and progressing other programmes that should be able to deliver tangible improvements in water quality at sites that are also highly valued by the local community.

Ashburton

[To be tabled at the meeting.]

Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora

Critical needs

- To optimise use of limited in-zone water – deal with over-allocation, low reliability, and loss of lowland water quality
- Local people engaged in local solutions
- Access to alpine water

Achievements to date

- Catchment groups operating throughout zone
- Improved understanding of demand for water and potential supply and distribution options, particularly in regard to potential supply from north. Entities emerging to pursue options.
- A number of biodiversity protection projects implemented ('green dots')

Current work, challenges, opportunities

- Healthy Catchments Project (a.k.a. 'Sub regional process')
- Challenges – keeping people engaged in a lengthy talk fest; existing tools not enough to reach targets; addressing 'predicaments' eg phormidium and 'problems' eg improving mahinga kai, weaving biodiversity into working landscapes ('joining the green dots');
- Opportunities - Develop package of solutions which are 'fit for purpose', accepted by communities, and deliver results.

Priorities next 2 -5 years

- Delivering practical and planning 'solutions' through Healthy Catchments Project – addressing over-allocation, loss of lowland water quality, addressing irrigation reliability

Regional committee value add

- 'Sharing the wisdom' gained from previous sub-regional processes
- Build understanding of multi zone issues – phormidium, “GMP+” - frameworks for going beyond current tools for nutrient management, mahinga kai, biodiversity
- Facilitating access to alpine water

Lower Waitaki

The critical things needed to deliver the CWMS targets in the zone are:

- The Wainono project and ongoing commitment the project
- Augmentation of Wainono lagoon
- Irrigation schemes in the zone and their commitment to CWMS outcomes
- Implementation of Plan Change 3 that is integrated with work in the zone and delivers on the intent
- The decision on Plan Change 5 and implementation focused on water quality

- Improved management of Braided rivers to protect their natural character, including better alignment of all aspects of work, including planning provisions
- Continued community buy-in to the CWMS
- Good practice from all resource users
- Moving from a 'separate project' approach to biodiversity to a 'programme' approach

What has been achieved/advanced over the last 6 years is:

- Raising the profile of Wainono, community buy-in to solutions, planning support and funding for the lagoon
- Catchment works, community leadership, FEPs, and on-farm work in the Wainono catchment
- Community ownership and leadership of water management in key catchments
- Over \$450,000 of biodiversity projects funded and key project on braided river habitat
- Issues with the Waitaki Allocation Plan have been resolved and gains made relieving pressure on hill-fed streams and providing water for mahinga-kai enhancement
- New science investigations that respond to community needs and knowledge gaps to better manage the resource
- Community agreement on environmental limits

We are currently working on/ will be working on, and the associated challenges are:

- Supporting the integration of actions in the Wainono catchment and parties working on the augmentation of Wainono lagoon. There are challenges around who pays for all the aspects of augmentation, how we monitor its efficacy, and what happens if it doesn't go ahead.
- Providing guidance on Plan Change 3 implementation. The challenge is to make sure that all the work in the catchment continues to pull in the same direction and that plan implementation supports that work and that all industries are involved.
- Supporting community action in the Waihao Wainono catchments and work as part of the Wainono project.
- Supporting the Hakataramea community with actions in their catchment. The challenge is making sure the planning settings for braided rivers supports the community actions.
- Providing guidance on Plan Change 5 implementation. The challenge will be to keep focused on catchment water quality in the implementation of the plan, integrating this into other work, and supporting community and collective action.
- Providing guidance on the implementation of our integrated monitoring framework. There is a real opportunity for this to increase the effectiveness of what we do, increase community buy-in, and to reduce overlap.

The regional committee could add value to the work of our zone by:

- ❖ Bringing all parties into the CWMS and holding onto the breadth of CWMS work
- ❖ Supporting zone-led initiatives through funding, advocacy, and removing barriers

Upper Waitaki

The critical things needed to deliver the CWMS targets in the zone are:

- Managing the cumulative effects of resource-use on water quality and the implementation of PC5 Waitaki
- Continued community buy-in to CWMS and the collaborative way of working

- Weed and Pest management
- Integration of District planning, regional planning, and the work of the Mackenzie Country Trust
- Managing the effects of visitors on the recreational experience in the zone
-

What has been achieved/advanced over the last 6 years are:

- Community agreement on water quality limits and how to manage to these limits
- Over \$500,000 of biodiversity projects funded in a zone with a small number of landowners with good landowner buy in
- Innovative ways of using funding i.e. ring-fencing funding to give certainty to a pre-emptive weed control programme and pre-approving funding in a catchment for a finite time period to incentivise action
- A whole of stream rehabilitation project underway with landowners and wider community
- An Integrated Monitoring Framework (ongoing) that firstly brings together regional council, consent holder, and other agency monitoring data into a central portal that is accessible to the public, and secondly looks to best use this data by responding to gaps and redundancy.
- The initial impetus and recommendations that ended in the split of the South Island long-fin eel quota.
-

We are currently working on/ will be working on, and the challenges are:

- Our stream rehabilitation programme in the Willowburn. The main challenge is maintaining momentum and bringing all parties along.
- Investigations in the zone into ground water and surface water interactions in a sensitive catchment and into lake re-connection. Challenge is how to advance findings re: potential planning changes and funding for catchment interventions.
- Integrated Monitoring Framework. The challenge is in catchments with complex consent conditions which are contrary to an integrated framework and how we resolve this in an equitable way.
- Plan Change 5 Waitaki is in the hearing phase. The challenge will be to ensure plan implementation - especially awareness, understanding and compliance is effectively carried out in a way that retains the integrity of what is trying to be achieved.
- Educating visitors to minimise their impact on our lakes. The challenge is around freedom camping and fragmented responsibility. There is a need for education, rules, facilities, and enforcement.

The regional committee could add value to the work of our zone by:

- Continuing to support the collaborative process and champion the CWMS
- Taking forward cross zone issues with central government, as in the long-fin eel quota example

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the committee

- Notes the reports from the zone committees
- Considers where the regional committee can add value to the work of the zone committees

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7	SUBJECT MATTER: RECREATION AND AMENITY WORKING GROUP UPDATE
REPORT: Regional Water Management Committee	DATE OF MEETING: 13 December 2016
REPORT BY: Barbara Nicholas	

PURPOSE

To update the committee on the work of the Recreation and Amenity working group (RAWG).

BACKGROUND

Since the last meeting of the regional committee, RAWG has met with Scott Pearson (Fish and Game) and Doug Rankin (White water NZ) to consider a paper proposing a pathway for ensuring that recreation and amenity values are adequately understood and recognised under the wider Canterbury Water Management Strategy.

The paper raised a number of issues that the committee intends to explore further with planning experts, and they will be doing so at a meeting on the morning of 13 December. A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

Work on the swimming report continues. The report is now expected to be available in February 2017.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the committee

- Notes the RAWG update

ATTACHMENTS

- RAWG Meeting notes from 3 November 2016.

Recreation and amenity working group meeting notes 3 November 2016

Present: Ben Curry (apology for leaving 3.45), Hugh Canard, Ted Howard (online), Mark Webb, Grant Edge, Thomas Kulpe.

In attendance: Scott Pearson (North Canterbury F&G), Doug Rankin (White water NZ)

Staff: Barbara Nicholas, Ellie MacNae

A paper from Scott and Doug was pre-circulated to the working group. Scott and Doug then talked to this paper. Issues they profiled:

- Paper to regional committee in February 2016/Participated in workshop with recreational parties/ Invited to come back and present more details – worked with staff and other interests.
- Looking for expert technical advisory group (approx. 6), with steering panel to shape the work of TLAG
- TLAG –
 - scope entire project from funding point of view
 - prepare scoping report, using current info as starting point [plus info do not have in professional documented form – includes value identification of waterways (not at level of ‘reaches’), in spreadsheet format; identify gaps, and how to meet gaps.
 - Info in form that can feed into land and water process.
- Need some initial work
 - validation this work is necessary
 - firm up components of the report
 - know that outputs are valid and useful to planners and the like
- Nuts and bolts/outputs of omnibus report
 - capture recreation and amenity values and what is important to protect them in planning processes
 - propose using similar approaches to the jetboating and kayaking reports – connect with many groups, what is needed to protect their values
 - need to connect identification of these values, with how they are managed in the planning environment, including: possible schedules to be included in plans; section 32 analysis
 - want ECan staff involved – needs to be fit for purpose, able to be worked on. But want others to work on phase involving planning.

Committee then considered issues raised.

- Noted the reports already available.
- Section 32 reports variable – need costs/benefits to be monitorised. Difficult to put decent values on health benefits of recreational use. PMI/Lincoln working on issue wrt excluding stock from water

- Like intent of project. Note RPS has landscape section – significant *amenity* values identified by ECAN. TAs can also do this but only some councils do. Yes – need to find gaps here too.
- Is report for Regional council or people of Canterbury? How would people know this work is there? Primarily for planning work so values not overlooked by planning.
- Concern about complexity of what is involved.
- Has there been gap analysis between 2004/5 report and what is needed now (for planning processes)? Needs greater engagement with users, to understanding their needs. Planners do now have the detail they need. Gaps around schedules. (Would be asking for a plan change.)
- Report will not have statutory weight, but useful in bringing info together.
- If report framed as enabler of commonly accepted values, within a CWMS framework to lead into planning later– then could be sold as idea that can be sold to regional committee and council. Want RAWG to talk to ECAN planners, and then perhaps Boffa Miskell– to see if a benefit to them and their clients – will it save time and costs in litigation? What forms would be best for different parties?
- Is this report the chance to have the conversation early, before any statutory processes? Will it help us avoid going down a statutory path?
- RPS has consensus around attributes in landscape chapter. Use attributes rather than activities to describe waterways. Then defensible if it does come to court.
- Remember NPS – there will be interesting conversations
- Note mana whenua and kaitiakitanga values have not come through
- Is it too much to integrate environmental and economic as well as social? Wanting broader skills at the table.
- Need to consider co-funding for some reports

Next steps

- Working group talk to planners and independent experts so understand how this could work in practice
- After further work RWAG needs to feed back to Scott and Doug, and consider what to take to the regional committee.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 8	SUBJECT MATTER: Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group
REPORT: Regional Water Management Committee	DATE OF MEETING: 13 December 2016
REPORT BY: Tim Davie	

PURPOSE

To brief the Regional Committee on the work of the Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group.

BACKGROUND

The Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group has been formed in response to the Havelock North campylobacter incident earlier this year. The mandate for the group has come from the Canterbury Chief Executives Forum who want to ensure that Canterbury is well prepared if a similar incident occurred here and that agencies are ready to work together. The group draws together key staff from district and city councils concerned with drinking water supply, the Canterbury and South Canterbury District Health Boards and Environment Canterbury. The convenor of the group is Dr Stefanie Rixecker (Director of Science, Environment Canterbury).

The terms of reference for the group have been agreed and the initial tasks are:

- (1) Review compliance in the Canterbury region with current regulation;
- (2) Identify high-risk drinking water supplies, alongside current measures/plans to mitigate or eliminate these risks;
- (3) Review contingency planning and preparedness for contamination response;
- (4) Review and develop recommendations on any other measures that may be required to ensure the security of drinking water supplies, including any associated costs of such measures; and
- (5) Develop a strategy if Canterbury councils are asked for information through the Havelock North Inquiry process.

The Group provided its initial report to the Chief Executives Forum on 31 October 2016. A further update initially requested for 25 November was deemed unnecessary by the Chief executives forum. Further scheduled reports include an Interim Report to the Chief Executives Forum on 30 January 2017 and a Final Report to the Mayoral Forum on 24 February 2017. Dates may be amended, pending earthquake impacts.

As of November 28th, 2016 the group has met three times and substantially completed the first two tasks listed above. A workshop focused upon the third task was held and a workshop summary is currently under production.

The North Canterbury earthquake means we are currently reassessing whether the original timelines can be met as both Kaikoura and Hurunui District Councils have infrastructure issues and there is considerable cross-regional support for these.

RECOMMENDATION

To receive and note the existence and progress of the Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group.

ATTACHMENTS

Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group Update to Chief Executives Forum (31 October 2016)

Chief Executives Forum

Item 11

Date: 31 October 2016

Presented by: Bill Bayfield

Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group

Purpose

This paper updates the Chief Executives Forum on the formation, membership, progress to date, and proposed next steps of the newly created Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group.

Recommendations

That the Chief Executives Forum:

- 1 **note** the formation and membership of the Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group
- 2 **agree** the draft Terms of Reference (Appendix A), including reporting dates to the Chief Executives and Mayoral Forums
- 3 **note** discussion points raised and identified to date
- 4 **note** that a review of current contingency planning is underway and a cross-organisational contingency plan will be proposed no later than 24 February 2017.

Background

- 1 In light of the Government Inquiry into Havelock North Drinking Water, the Chief Executives Forum established a short-life Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group. The Reference Group is to report on the vulnerability of drinking water supply in Canterbury, note contingency plans, and recommend any amendments to current practice as may be required.
- 2 In particular, there is a need to:
 - review compliance in the Canterbury region with current regulation
 - identify high-risk drinking water supplies, alongside current measures/plans to mitigate or eliminate these risks
 - review contingency planning and preparedness for contamination response
 - review and develop recommendations on any other measures that may be required to ensure the security of drinking water supplies, including any associated costs of such measures
 - develop a strategy if Canterbury councils are asked for information through the Havelock North Inquiry process.

Membership

- 3 The Reference Group comprises representatives from Environment Canterbury, all Canterbury councils and the CDHB Medical Officers of Health. Council representatives include water supply engineers, consents officers and water scientists.

Meetings and progress to date

- 4 Two meetings have taken place since the formation of the Group, on 4 and 14 October 2016.
- 5 The first meeting clarified the Group's focus on quality of drinking water. Water quantity was discussed and, given the timeframe for the work, the Group agreed that water quantity issues would be limited to recommendations for future work.
- 6 An overview of current regulation and management of drinking water supplies throughout the region was collated as a starting point. Further refinement is underway.
- 7 Both meetings canvassed a variety of possible issues, such as clarification about whether there is a Maximum Acceptable Value (MAV) for cyanobacteria and stock water, the need for a better understanding of preferential flow paths for groundwater ageing, and the ability to have more easily accessible data records. A log of the key issues is being prepared, and associated recommendations will be included in the final report.
- 8 Both meetings highlighted the importance and value of cross-organisational communication and sharing. The Group's willingness to share and work jointly has been evident at all meetings and has enabled genuine progress.
- 9 A cross-organisational contingency planning workshop will be held in November 2016, tentatively scheduled for the week of 7 November 2016.

Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group (Terms of Reference)

Purpose

In light of the Government Inquiry into Havelock North Drinking Water, the Chief Executives Forum established a short-life Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group. The Reference Group is to report on the vulnerability of drinking water supply in Canterbury, note contingency plans and recommend any amendments to current practice as may be required.

In particular, there is a need to:

- review compliance in the Canterbury region with current regulation
- identify high-risk drinking water supplies, alongside current measures/plans to mitigate or eliminate these risks
- review contingency planning and preparedness for contamination response
- review and develop recommendations on any other measures that may be required to ensure the security of drinking water supplies, including any associated costs of such measures
- develop a strategy if Canterbury councils are asked for information through the Havelock North Inquiry process.

Membership

The reference group will comprise representatives from:

- Environment Canterbury
- Canterbury councils
- Canterbury District Health Board, Medical Officers

Reporting and timelines

Meeting frequency will be determined by the Reference Group and reporting dates are:

- 31 October report to Chief Executives Forum
- 25 November interim Report to Mayoral Forum
- 24 February substantive report to Mayoral Forum

AGENDA ITEM NO: 9	SUBJECT MATTER: REGIONAL COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME AND WORKING GROUPS FOR 2017
REPORT: Regional Water Management Committee	DATE OF MEETING: 13 December 2016
REPORT BY: Barbara Nicholas	

PURPOSE

To provide context for a discussion of the 2017 work programme and decisions on the membership of working groups.

BACKGROUND

The regional committee's purpose and function (as expressed in the terms of reference) is to:

1. Monitor progress of the implementation of the CWMS across the Canterbury Region; and
2. Provide advice to Environment Canterbury on regional issues associated with implementation of the CWMS.

Objectives include:

- Assessment of how well the implementation of the Regional Implementation Programme and the Zone Implementation Programmes across the region are meeting CWMS targets, including *the identification of gaps*
- *Identification of opportunities for alignment, prioritisation and efficiencies in delivery* across all of the Zone Implementation Programmes
- *Identification, in partnership with Zone Committees and stakeholders, of issues that are of regional importance and would benefit from a regional approach*

The regional committee has, over the last few years, advanced its work priorities through working groups agreed by the full committee. Membership has been drawn from the committee itself with the one exception of the Recreation and Amenity working group that has extended its membership to include several additional zone committee members.

The working groups that operated for all or part of 2016 are:

- Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health
- Regional Infrastructure
- Recreation and Amenity
- Land Use and Water Quality
- The use of public funding to contribute to funding organised its work programme

DISCUSSION

The papers and presentations from the zone committees at the meeting provide an opportunity for the committee to consider the work at zone level to progress CWMS targets, and for this to form the basis of a consideration of the work priorities and programme of the regional committee for 2017. Are there significant gaps? What are the opportunities for alignment, prioritisation and efficiencies in delivery? And what are the issues that are of regional importance and could benefit from a regional approach?

A working session at the meeting will, in the light of the earlier reports from the zone committees, consider how the regional committee wishes to progress their work programme in 2017. This can then be formalised at the February 2017 meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the regional committee

- Provide direction on the work programme for 2017, and
- Agree the 2017 working groups to operate, and their membership

AGENDA ITEM NO: 10	SUBJECT MATTER: 2017 MEETING DATES
REPORT: Regional Water Management Committee	DATE OF MEETING: 13 December 2016
REPORT BY: Barbara Nicholas (facilitator)	

PURPOSE

To confirm 2017 meeting dates for the regional committee and its working groups

BACKGROUND

The regional committee has an established pattern of meetings every second month, with working groups meeting in the alternative month (or on the morning of the full committee when more frequent meetings are required).

Staying with the pattern of previous years, the following schedule of meetings is proposed:

Regional committee	Working groups
Tuesday 14 February	
	14/15 March
11 April	
	9/10 May
13 June	
	11/12 July
8 August	
	12/13 Sept
10 October	
	14/15 November
12 December	

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the committee agreed this schedule of meetings for 2017