To the members of the

Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee

MEMBERSHIP

Simon Cameron (Chair)
Barry Shepherd
Mathew Bayliss
Jay Graybill
Lisa Anderson
Sandra Hampstead Tipene
Moeraki Representative (vacant)
John Sunckell
John Wilkie
Richard Subtil
Craig Dawson
Stuart Barwood

Notice is given of the Meeting of the Upper Waitaki Water Zone Management Committee to be held on Friday 17 November, 2017, at 11.00am. The meeting will be followed by a hangi.

VENUE: Omarama Station, 59 Omarama-Lindis Pass Rd.

BUSINESS: As per agenda attached

WAYNE BARNETT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MICHAEL ROSS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, WAITAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Upper Waitaki Zone Committee Meeting

Friday 17 November

Omarama Station

11:00am	**Karakia**	**Lead**
11:00	**Standing Items** Apologies, Minutes, Correspondence, Regional Committee update, Facilitators update	Simon Cameron
11:15	**Biodiversity/Ecosystem Health** • Immediate Steps Funding Update • Willowburn update	Chris Eccleston (ECan)
11:30	**Funding Application** • Fish Barrier – tributary of the Fork River Application $12,000 Total project approx. $20,000	Robert Carson-Iles (ECan)
11:45	**Research (TBC)** • Catchment Boards vs Collaborative Governance	Elizabeth Soal University of Otago Waitaki Irri Collective
11:55	**Annual Report Upper Waitaki ZC** • Proposed Stories	Lesley Woudberg (ECan)
12:05	**Communication** • What have we done? • What is our focus for the next month? • What is the ZC going to do? • What can ECan do to help?	ZC members Kate Doran (ECan) Lesley Woudberg (ECan)
12:25	**Other** Invitation to Minister of Conservation & LINZ to a future ZC **Next meetings** 15 December – yes/no? 19 January – yes/no? 16 February - yes	Lesley Woudberg (ECan)
12:30	**Karakia - Hangi**	

ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY
MACKENZIE AND WAITAKI DISTRICT COUNCILS

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE UPPER WAITAKI ZONE WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, HELD AT THE MACKENZIE COUNTRY INN, TWIZEL, ON OCTOBER 20, 2017, AT 9.30 AM

PRESENT:
Simon Cameron (Chair)
Lisa Anderson
Matthew Bayliss
Sandra Hampstead-Tipene
Barry Shepherd
Richard Subtil
John Sunckell
John Wilkie
Jay Graybill
Craig Dawson

IN ATTENDANCE:
Mackenzie Mayor Graham Smith (from 11.30am)
Pat Shuker, Twizel Community Board
Arlene Goss, Committee Administrator
Chris Eccleston, Environment Canterbury
Lesley Woudberg, Environment Canterbury
Peter Ramsden, Environment Canterbury
Rick Ramsay, Aquaculture Industry Group (from 10.22am)
Graeme Clarke, Environment Canterbury
Kate Doran, Environment Canterbury
Helen Shaw, Environment Canterbury
John Benn, Department of Conservation

WELCOME AND KARAKIA:

The chairman welcomed everyone and asked Peter Ramsden to open the meeting with a karakia.

APOLOGIES:

An apology for lateness was received from Mayor Graham Smith, Mackenzie District.

MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING:

> Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting of the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee, held on September 22, 2017, be confirmed and adopted as a true record of the meeting.
>
> **Craig Dawson/BarryShepherd**

There were no matters arising.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence.

FACILITATOR UPDATE:

Lesley Woudberg, Environment Canterbury, talked about the committee membership refresh process said member Lisa Anderson has been recommended for a new term beginning 2018 on the Upper Waitaki zone committee and next step is approval by the participating councils. Jay Graybill is retiring at the end of this year and was thanked for his service. A discussion was held on community representation and the balance of the Upper Waitaki zone committee and the difficulties in attracting people.

COMMUNICATION:

Lisa Anderson and Richard Subtil reported to the committee on a communications workshop held the day before this meeting. Richard Subtil summarised the advice received and how to become advocates in the community for the zone committee. Lisa Anderson added additional points. The committee agreed to finish each meeting with agreement on a news item to take to the community. This will become a regular addition to the agenda.

Discussion was held on TLI results (improvements in water turbidity) as this would make a good news story. It was also suggested that the high use of the Omarama public toilets would be of interest.

Members were asked to bring their ideas and photographs to each meeting.

The terms of reference names the chairman as the media spokesperson. To speak as a committee it was suggested that members work through the chairman.

Examples of current work by the communications team were handed around for the committee to look at.

Further discussion on possible communication points was adjourned until the end of the meeting to allow the members to assess the current priorities in the zone.

CHAIRS/DEPUTY CHAIRS MEETING:

Chairman Simon Cameron updated the committee on the chairs' meeting held in Christchurch. Chairs feel they are making in-roads throughout Canterbury. They were updated on water projects, farm environment plans, improvements to storage and systems of irrigation, problems with litter, difficulties of enforcement, and the expense of clean drinking water. Next year there will be a symposium of all zone committees over two days, to discuss the future direction out to 2040. This will be worthwhile for members to attend.

The meeting discussed pooling resources on large projects. They talked about allocating Immediate Steps money to larger, longer-term projects. Not all of the Immediate Steps budget for Upper Waitaki is spent each year. A suggestion was made to offer a dollar-for-dollar incentive to landowners to get rid of wilding pines.

An update was requested at the next meeting on Immediate Steps in general, and the Willowburn project specifically, and also a report back to the committee on the idea of subsidising wilding pine removal.

LAKE SNOW:

Graeme Clarke from the Environment Canterbury science team gave a power point presentation regarding lake snow (Lindavia Intermedia) in the district. He has received word that Lindavia Intermedia was discovered in Lake Ohau a few days ago. Following discussion, member Matthew Bayliss offered to approach the NZ Rowing Association to ensure boats are dried and advice is followed. Jay Graybill outlined the communication channels available via the Fish and Game network, and offered the use of this network to spread information.

The committee adjourned for morning tea at 11.02am and reconvened at 11.33am.

ZIP COMMUNITY OUTCOMES:

Graeme Clarke from Environment Canterbury gave a power point presentation on progress in the recovery of the Upper Waitaki lakes and rivers. Discussion and questions were around the reasons for the changes and the recent lack of turbidity in the water. The results showed many improvements over the past few years. Possible reasons for the improvements were discussed.

The testing for faecal sources at Lake Aviemore was examined and the committee asked Mr Clarke to continue to test for faecal sources in this location to find the source, as it was of concern to the community. Determining the source of the contamination would help focus actions tosolve the problem. This was agreed.

Chris Eccelston gave a power point presentation in response to a discussion held at the last meeting regarding the reporting of ZIP progress and ZIP addendum priorities. He outlined current projects and budget considerations, and provided a reporting schedule to the committee.

Helen Shaw gave a presentation called ‘Measuring Success’. She outlined the data currently collected and the reports available to anyone on request. The committee discussed what it would like to see from staff, to help keep track of progress.

The members requested that sign boards be set up at the zone hot spots to say ‘this is what is happening at this site and this is what we are doing to address it”. Locations requested were Loch Laird, the Willowburn, Sailor’s Cutting, Lake Middleton, Kelland’s Pond, and Lake Alexandrina. Also need something to show the trend on Lake Benmore.

Helen Shaw spoke regarding the information that is available on the Waitaki Integrated Monitoring Framework.
http://test.canterburymaps.govt.nz/webapps/StoryMapSeries/Waitaki.html

REGIONAL COMMITTEE UPDATE:

This report in the agenda was taken as read.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Discussion was held on the communication focus for this month. Richard Subtil suggested that the sign boards in local hot spots be a priority, with committee members providing photographs. John Sunckell offered to go back to Environment Canterbury with the request for sign boards. Richard Subtil and Simon Cameron offered to take photographs for communication use.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the committee will be held on Friday, November 17, 2017. Richard Subtil offered to host the meeting and lunch, but this is to be confirmed.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 1.10PM

CHAIRMAN: _____

DATE: _____

AGENDA ITEM NO:	SUBJECT MATTER: Immediate Steps Funding Projects, and update on Willowburn Incentives
REPORT BY: Chris Eccleston, Zone Manager	DATE OF MEETING: 7th November 2017

Purpose: to provide a detailed list of the projects within Upper Waitaki that have been funded by the Immediate Steps (IMS) Programme, from 2011 to date, and to update the committee on progress with the Willowburn Inceptives programme

Action Required: For Committee review, and information.

Background

The attached table of gives a complete list of IMS funded projects that have been undertaken in the Upper Waitaki Zone since 2011.

A total of $621,149 dollars have been allocated over this time period.

Application Year	Project Name	Main ecosystem	Status	Amount Allocated
2016/2017	Robust grasshopper wasp protection	Braided Rivers	Complete	$894
2016/2017	Otematata Wetlands Walkway stage 2	Wetlands	In Progress	$13,645
2016/2017	Boultons Gully Lagoon	Wetlands	Complete	$12,480
2015/2016	Otematata Wetlands Walkway	Wetlands	Complete	$12,200
2015/2016	Bignose Twaddles Swamp	Intermontane Streams	Complete	$10,000
2016/2018	Willowburn Incentives	Intermontane Streams	In progress	$171,500
2016/2018	Upper Waitaki Pre-emptive weed control	All	In progress	$90,000
2015/2016	Six Mile Creek Wilding Pine Control	Intermontane Streams	Land owner agreement	$18,000
2015/2016	Maryburn fencing – House Hill	Intermontane Streams	Complete	$16,177
2015/2016	Tekapo Regional Park stage 1	Dryland	In Progress	$4,890
2015/2016	Fraser Wetland Willow Control	Wetlands	Complete	$15,000
2015/2016	Omarama School	Artificial waterbody	In progress	$2,228
2013/2014	Ahuriri Tributary Longjaw Protection	Braided Rivers	Complete	$8,190

2014/2015	Barclays Wetland Fencing	Wetlands	Complete	$23,923
2012/2013	Ben Avon Willow Control	Wetlands / Braided River	Complete	$11,500
2011/2012	Fraser Stream Spring Protection	Intermontane Streams	In progress	$8,000
2012/2013	Grampian Grays River Fencing	Wetlands	Land owner agreement	$10,000
2012/2013	Lower Maryburn Wetland	Wetlands	Complete	$5,300
2012/2013	Mailbox Inlet Springs Protection	Intermontane Streams	Complete	$38,400
2013/2014	Maryburn-Irishman Alder Control	Intermontane Streams	Land owner agreement	$45,000
2013/2014	Pukaki Tarns Wilding Control	High country lakes	Complete	$68,000
2013/2014	Stockyard Creek Protection	Intermontane Streams	Complete	$6,600
2012/2013	Upper Wairepo Wetland Wilding Control	Wetlands	Complete	$8,000
2011/2012	Wairepo Wetland	Wetlands	Complete	$10,932
2012/2013	Willowburn Wetland Protection	Wetlands	Complete	$10,200
	Total allocated (to end of 2018)			**$621,149**

The Willowburn Incentive programme has been allocated the largest amount of IMS funding since its inception in 2016, with $171500 allocated to date.

The latest update on progress is:

- Willowburn Station has carried out fencing as agreed last year under immediate steps. They have committed to additional fencing this year
- Agreed to trial carex planting to supress weed growth
- Buscott Station have completed their agreed fencing
- Ribbonwood Station has agreed to fencing this year
- The Glens were100% fenced before the project started.
- No agreement from been reached with the land owners on the Quail Burn reach to fence the Willowburn there, although it is an area of lower intensity stocking. This is still a work in progress
- Discussions regarding fencing are still underway with Shelton Downs and Benmore Station. Indications from owner of Ohau Downs is that they may soon be in a position to undertake fencing.
- Willows have been sprayed on Willowburn Station, and Quail Burn reach.

AGENDA ITEM NO:	SUBJECT MATTER: Immediate Steps Biodiversity Decisions
REPORT BY: Robert Carson-Iles	
DATE OF MEETING: 17 November 2017	

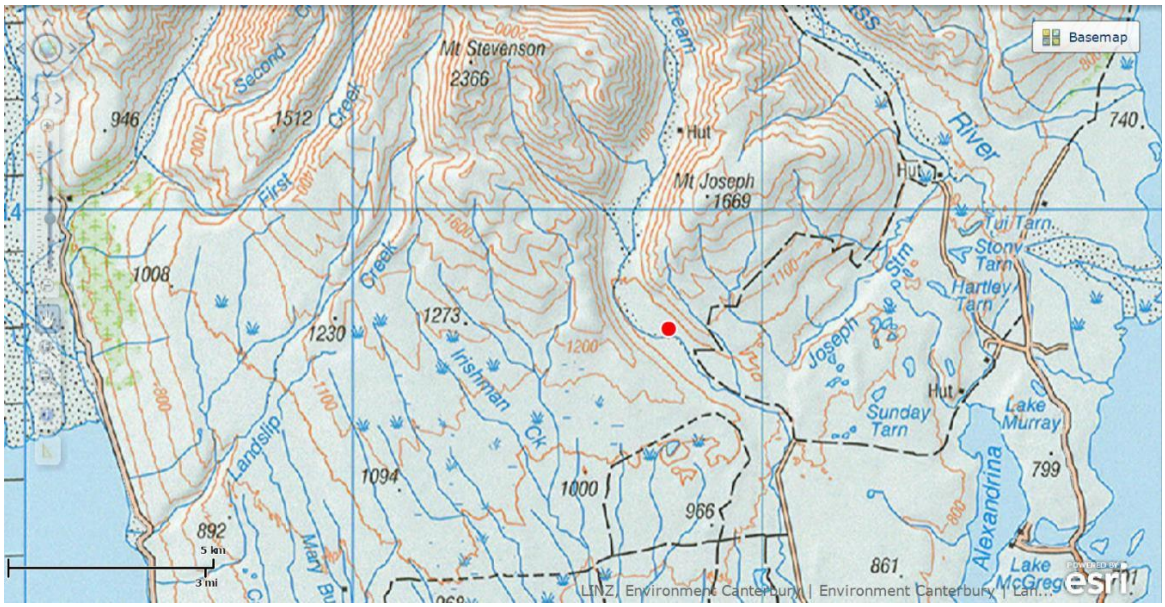
Purpose

To present an application for Immediate Steps funding to erect a fish barrier on a spring fed tributary of the Fork River.

Staff Recommendation:

That the Upper Waitaki zone committee agree to fund the establishment of a fish barrier on a tributary of the Fork River to the sum of $12,000.

Project Location:



Mt Joseph Fish Barrier

Proposed project*	Project details in brief	Land tenure	Ecological score	Funding requested (Total cost in brackets)
Erect a fish barrier on a spring fed tributary of the Fork River	This is a pristine spring fed waterway which largely comes from the base of a scree at the toe slope of the nearby hill. It then runs for around 1.5km before joining with the Fork Stream. The spring has been fished a number of times and contains Koaro (At Risk, Declining), Alpine galaxias (At Risk, Naturally uncommon), Canterbury galaxias (At Risk, Declining), Bignose galaxias (Threatened, Nationally Vulnerable), Upland Longjaw galaxias (Threatened, Nationally Vulnerable), Upland bully (Not threatened), Brown Trout and Rainbow Trout. The native fish in the waterway are vulnerable to predation and competition from trout. To protect them it is proposed to erect a fish barrier at the bottom of the waterway and relocate trout found above the barrier. Of the above native species all bar Koaro are non-diadromous so can complete their life cycle above the barrier. Koaro are amphidromous so will either be able to complete their lifecyle above the barrier or if not it is highly likely that juveniles will be able to climb the barrier and into the waterway. The surrounding land has been retired from cattle grazing for at least 3 years.	Pastural lease	36/39	$12,000 ($19,800) These are estimate costs based on a similar barrier. I am meeting with the contractor on site 10/11/17 so should have a confirmed price for the ZC meeting.

	All the necessary approvals for this project have been obtained including from Fish and Game, Te Rūnanga o Waihao and Te Runanga o Arowhenua.			

Recommendations: This is a great opportunity to protect a good length of waterway on the braid plain with diverse habitat to ensure the rare and threatened native fish survive and thrive there. It strongly aligns with the outcomes sought in the Upper Waitaki Zone Implementation Program especially:

3.10 Braided Rivers - indigenous species: Support existing work of DOC where it contributes to maintaining natural character and healthy ecological function of braided rivers and their associated species.

4.5 Native Fish - identify important areas to remain or become free of salmonids to protect native fish populations.

I recommend that this project be approved.

1. Proposed barrier location.
2. Example of a barrier on defence land.
3. Catching trout to relocate them.
4. What we are trying to protect (bignose galaxid (stripy) and Alpine galaxid (closest to camera)).
5. Trout for relocation below a barrier.
6. Location of proposed barrier.

AGENDA ITEM NO:	SUBJECT MATTER: Annual Report Upper Waitaki Zone Committee 2017
REPORT BY: Lesley Woudberg, CWMS Facilitator	DATE OF MEETING: 17th November 2017

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek feedback on the work the zone committee wish to highlight in the 2017 Upper Waitaki Zone Committee Annual Report.

Staff Recommendation:

The Upper Waitaki zone committee agrees to highlight in their 2017 Annual Report the following stories, challenges and opportunities

- Xxx
- Xxx
- xxx

Report

All zone committees are required to provide an Annual Report to councils and rūnanga highlighting the activities they have undertaken over the past year. The 2017 will be the third Annual Report. The 2016 Annual Report is attached.

Before Nic Newman left for the sunny Bay of Plenty he suggested the zone committee may wish to highlight the stories set out below.

Next Steps – Environment Canterbury to draft the Annual Report, receive feedback via email from the zone committee and finalise the report at the next meeting of the committee.

Nic's suggested highlights

Omarama Wetlands

The Zone Committee are supporting the restoration of the 50ha wetland at the head of Lake Aviemore. The Otematata Ratepayers Association have been working on the project for 11 years and the site has become a popular recreation area with families. The committee has supported the project with two grants of $15,000 and $12,000. This project helps deliver on two of the committee's outcomes for: enhancing wetlands in the zone and involving the community in catchment health.

CWMS Target: Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity. Restoring 2 significant wetlands in each zone.

Pics and text check from Rob Carson Iles/Kate Doran

Willowburn

The Willowburn stream has been prioritised for action by the committee. Initial work on this

project has included clearing the lower reaches of choking willows, individual farm visits to identify critical source areas, and on-farm actions to protect riparian areas. The objective is to improve the ecological health of the stream, including clarity and in-stream habitat.

CWMS Target: Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity. An action plan is in place for any high country steam with declining health.

Pics and text check from Ian Lyttle

Environmental Limits
The Zone Committee has now completed processes to recommend environmental limits for the zone for water quality. These recommendations are given effect to through Plan Change 5 to the Regional Land and Water Plan, and the plan change decision is currently under appeal. Water quantity is managed through the Waitaki Catchment Water Allocation Regional Plan.

Limits are only one piece of the puzzle to meet our outcomes and the targets of the CWMS. Other actions underway from wetland restoration, to management of critical source areas, to braided river habitat are crucial components too.

AGENDA ITEM NO:	SUBJECT MATTER: Communication (VART)
REPORT BY: Kate Doran and Lesley Woudberg ECan	DATE OF MEETING: 17th November 2017

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to highlight and discuss;

- What each of us has done to communicate our message
- Identify our communication focus for the next month
- Identify what the zone committee is going to do
- Identify what Environment Canterbury can do to support the zone committee

Staff Recommendation:

The Upper Waitaki zone committee agrees;

- To focus on xxx for its communication for the next month
- That xx will take photographs of xx
- That Environment Canterbury will xxx

Report

1. **Check Clean Dry – Campaign over summer**
   Check Clean Dry is a National behaviour change Program – Started in response to didymo incursion by MPI 2006. Environment Canterbury received $20K funding towards our freshwater programme. The 20K goes towards paying for an advocacy officer to conduct face to face advocacy in the Waitaki Lakes district in peak season and face to face advocacy in rest of region at other times. The advocacy officer will be checking and fixing Check Clean dry signs, conducting a national survey and face to face talking with holiday makers/freshwater users about Check Clean Dry ie. how to do it and what other freshwater aquatic pests to look out for. There are over 300 Check Clean Dry signs over the Canterbury region which are annually checked and maintained. There will also be radio ads on Port FM over Christmas New Year period. There is a national training event on the 28th November at Environment Canterbury for anyone interested.

2. **Omarama Gazette**

Improvement in swimming grade for Lake Aviemore and Loch Laird

Date: 02 Nov 2017
Category: **News** | Zone Committee | Environment | Water Quality | Water
Zone(s): **Upper Waitaki**

Improvements in two recreational swimming spots - Lake Aviemore and Loch Laird – were discussed as part of a presentation on water quality from Environment Canterbury to the Upper Waitaki Zone Committee meeting.

The results from three different water quality assessment criteria were presented to the community-led zone committee in Omarama last week, who meet monthly to develop actions and tactics to deliver on the Canterbury Water Management Strategy.

The 'recreation measure' showed that two sites in the zone that have previously been considered unsuitable for swimming - Lake Aviemore at Loch Laird and Lake Alexandrina- have improved in grade and are now considered suitable for swimming.

The grade at Lake Ruataniwha has also improved, and now has a "very good" grade. No sites had worsened in swimming grade. Assessment of the nutrient status of the lakes, where lower levels indicate better water quality, showed that the lakes have remained stable.

Out of the 10 lakes monitored in the Upper Waitaki zone, eight remained in the same 'trophic' band.

Lake Alexandrina moved to a mesotrophic (average) state and Lake Pukaki moved to a microtrophic state, which is classed as very good. 'LakeSPI' is an index of lake ecological condition – looking at the plant communities in the lakes.

LakeSPI results for most lakes have been stable and Kelland's Pond, Lake Ohau and Lake Tekapo have been improving.

Environment Canterbury said there were a number of potential reasons for the changes to the ecology in these lakes, including increasing water clarity and climate.

The Zone Committee agreed to look into some community signage at key lake locations to let the public know more about this water quality information.

Find out more about swimming water quality or read the last meeting's agenda.

2017/18 Suitability for Recreation Grades for sites in the Upper Waitaki zone

Lake Tekapo Beach	Very good
Lake Alexandrina at bottom huts	Fair
Lake Ruataniwha at camping ground	Very good
Twizel River at picnic area	Good
Lake Middleton at north end of lake	Good
Lake Aviemore at Loch Laird	Fair
Lake Benmore at Sailors Cutting	Good
Lake Benmore at Pumpkin Bay	Good

Waitaki Lakes water quality update

Trophic Level Index (TLI) results

TLI is an index related to lake productivity. Of the 10 lakes monitored in the Upper Waitaki zone, only 2 changed trophic bands this year compared to last year (Table 1). These were Lake Alexandrina and Lake Pukaki, which both went up a trophic level and returned to a state seen frequently in previous years. Lake Alexandrina returned to a Mesotrophic state and Lake Pukaki returned to a Microtrophic state.

Lake Benmore has been relatively stable over the last few years, but a graph of lake productivity shows an obvious pattern over time at all sites (Figure 1). We have observed this pattern in a number of lakes across the region.

Table 1: TLI in the Waitaki Lakes

Location	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Lake Middleton	n/s	n/s	3.52	3.60	n/s	n/s	n/s	**3.39**
Lake Alexandrina	3.09	2.93	3.00	2.96	3.15	3.14	2.90	**3.33**
Lake Tekapo	2.17	1.94	1.54	1.43	1.25	1.22	1.32	**1.05**
Lake Pukaki	2.00	2.01	1.59	1.32	0.99	1.84	1.00	**1.46**
Lake Ohau	2.08	1.96	1.46	2.07	0.87	1.12	1.42	**1.38**
Lake Benmore - Haldon	2.17	2.06	1.79	2.04	1.69	1.83	1.69	**1.73**
Lake Benmore- Ahuriri	2.55	3.03	2.50	2.80	2.06	2.56	2.11	**2.31**
Lake Benmore - Dam	2.23	1.97	1.97	1.71	1.61	1.75	1.72	**1.77**
Lake Aviemore	2.24	2.02	1.85	2.33	1.44	1.93	1.61	**1.74**
Kellands Pond shore	n/s	n/s	n/s	n/s	3.30	3.70	3.41	**3.49**

3. Love our Lakes (attached)

4. Key messages from the communication workshop 19 October 2017

TELLING OUR STORY

CONTEXT: 60% New Zealanders get their news from social media
We spend on average 15mins a day on print media and 2hrs 44 mins on social media

SHOW ME: Cut through with pictures
Take photos and videos – <u>we can all do this</u>
Talk in a way that describes something visual
Show evidence – show change

REAL: Tell it like it is
Show the good - show the bad – show what is happening
Be hopeful/optimistic – real people, real action, real change

TIMING: and timely
Pick a quiet time – be proactive, get out first
Lie low in noisy times – try to avoid becoming reactive

ENGAGE: Simple and interesting
Ask a question – did you know …where is the loo …
Heart – Home - Health

RISKS: Any concerns don't do it

Visual – **Action** – **Real** – **Takeout** (what is the message)
VART

LOVE
YOUR LAKES

Take all your rubbish and waste with you and use toilet facilities provided

LOVE YOUR LAKES

Take all your rubbish and waste with you and use toilet facilities provided

Canterbury Water

Environment Canterbury Regional Council
Kaunihera Taiao ki Waitaha

Take all your rubbish and waste with you and use toilet facilities provided

Canterbury Water

Environment Canterbury Regional Council
Kaunihera Taiao ki Waitaha

LOVE YOUR LAKES

Take all your rubbish and waste with you and use toilet facilities provided

LOVE YOUR LAKES

Canterbury Water

Environment Canterbury Regional Council
Kaunihera Taiao ki Waitaha