



Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee

Agenda

Monday 12 March 2018

3.00pm

***Council Chambers,
Waimakariri District Council,
215 High Street Rangiora***

Members:

David Ashby (Chair)
Grant Edge (Deputy Chair)
Carolyn Latham
Judith Roper-Lindsay
Gary Walton
Cameron Henderson
Michael Blackwell
Arapata Reuben (Te Ngai Tūāhuriri Rūnanga)
Cherie Williams (Te Ngai Tūāhuriri Rūnanga)
Sandra Stewart (WDC Councillor)
Claire McKay (ECan Councillor)

Chairperson and Members

CWMS WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE

Agenda for the meeting of the **CANTERBURY WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE** to be held in the **WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA** on **MONDAY 12 MARCH 2018** commencing at **3.00PM.**

Adrienne Smith
Committee Advisor

Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as
Council policy until adopted by the Council

BUSINESS

PAGES

KARAKIA

1 **APOLOGIES**

REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Conflicts of interest (if any) to be reported for minuting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1.1 **Minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting – 11 December 2017**

5 - 10

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the circulated minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting, held on 11 December 2017, as a true and accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING

2 **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK**

3 APPOINTMENT OF A CHAIRPERSON, DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON AND REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE FOR 2018

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RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee

- (a) Appoints as the Chairperson for 2018
- (b) Appointsas the Deputy Chairperson for 2018
- (c) Appoints.....as the CWMS Regional Committee representative for 2018.

4 COMMITTEE UPDATES – Zone Committee Members, M Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan) A Arps (Waimakariri Zone Delivery Manager, Ecan)

12 - 13

- 4.1 **CWMS Regional Committee meeting, 12 December 2017** – Claire McKay, (Ecan Councillor)

14 - 15

- 4.2 **CWMS Regional Water Committee Working Groups meeting 13 February 2018** – Carolyne Latham, (CWMS Regional Committee representative)

16 - 17

- 4.3 **Infrastructure Working Group briefing paper presented on 13 February 2018** – Carolyne Latham (CWMS Regional Committee representative)

18 - 19

- 4.4 **Waimakariri Zone Delivery Updates** – Andrew Arps (Zone Delivery Manager)

- 4.5 **Communications Update December 2017 – March 2018** – Gina McKenzie, Real Communications

20 - 21

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receive** these updates for its information and with regard to the committee's 5 Year Outcomes, drafting of the Land and Water Solutions Programme recommendations, and 2018 community engagement priorities.

- 5 **DRAFT LAND AND WATER SOLUTIONS PROGRAMME - UPDATE**– Murray Griffith (ECan)

An update on progress towards the release of draft recommendations for the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Programme in June 2018.

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RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee

- (a) **Receives** and endorses the proposed schedule for drafting of the Land and Water Solutions Programme recommendations, and 2018 community engagement priorities

- 6 **WAIMAKARIRI QEII COVENANTS - UPDATE** – (Miles Giller, North Canterbury Representative for the QEII National Trust)

This briefing will provide an overview of the QEII covenants in the Waimakariri Zone, with a focus on the Lees Valley.

23 - 24

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee

- (a) **Receives** this update for its information and with regard to the committee's 5 Year Outcomes, drafting of the Land and Water Solutions Programme recommendations, and 2018 community engagement priorities.

- 7 **GENERAL BUSINESS AND FUTURE MEETING PRIORITIES** – Dave Ashby (Committee Chairperson)

- 8 **KARAKIA**

- 9 **NEXT MEETING**

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE CANTERBURY WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE HELD IN THE FUNCTION ROOM, RANGIORA TOWN HALL, 303 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA ON MONDAY 11 DECEMBER 2017 AT 4.00PM.

PRESENT

David Ashby (Chair), Grant Edge (Deputy Chair), Cameron Henderson, Carlyne Latham, Gary Walton, Michael Blackwell, and Claire McKay (Environment Canterbury Councillor).

IN ATTENDANCE

Brent Walton (General Manager, WIL), Jamie Hamilton (WIL), Des Winter (farmer), Dugald McLean (Environmental Consultant), Greg Bennett (Land Drainage Engineer, WDC), Janet Fraser (Utilities Planner, WDC), Owen Davies (Drainage Asset Manager, WDC), Mike O'Connell (Senior Policy Analyst, WDC), Mark Andrews (Civil Engineer, WDC), Mayor David Ayers from 5.35pm, James Ensor (Oxford-Ohoka Community Board), until 5.20pm, Anna Veltman (Land Management Advisor, ECan), Meredith MacDonald (Senior Planner, ECan), Jo Jagusch (ECan), Jason Holland (Planning Team Leader, ECan), Treena Davidson (TRONT), Catherine Kappelle (public), Linda Pocock (public), Larry Burke (NZ Salmon Anglers Association), Michael Bate (Kaiapoi), Gina McKenzie (Real Communications), Andrew Arps (Zone Delivery Team Manager, ECan), Murray Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan) and Adrienne Smith (WDC Committee Advisor).

1 **APOLOGIES**

Moved David Ashby seconded Claire McKay

THAT apologies be received and sustained from J Roper-Lindsay and N Harris for absence and for lateness from S. Stewart. S Stewart subsequently did not attend the meeting.

CARRIED

REGISTER OF INTERESTS

There were no updates to the Register of Interest

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1.1 **Minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting – 13 November 2017**

Moved Gary Walton seconded Grant Edge

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the circulated minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting, held on 13 November 2017, as a true and accurate record, with amendments as follows:
- Item 2, Michael Bate presentation: last sentence, change the word "creek" to "pond"
 - Item 3.5 CAREX report on Glyphosate: first paragraph, last sentence, change name from Michael Bate to Michael Blackwell.

- Item 3.5 CAREX report on Glyphosate: second paragraph, add to last sentence “..... are not adequate and that other solutions as outlined in the Henry Hudson Report need to be investigated”

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING

Regarding the ENC North Canterbury Business Awards for 2018, Andrew Arps said funds have been put aside to sponsor a category on behalf of the Zone Committee, and there will be discussions with Enterprise North Canterbury on this proposal.

2 OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK

Michael Bate

Michael Bate spoke about the recent media coverage of salt water intrusion in the Kaiapoi River. He suggested using the Cam flood gates could be an easy option to control this intrusion. The gates are manually controlled. He then confirmed there are freshwater weeds right down to the Courtney Stream for the first time in about five years, and commented if humans look after the river and be smarter, it will recover.

M Bate also presented a video of the water quality in Kaiapoi River, and some tributaries, including Lineside and Beach Road creeks. Two drains on Revells Road showed no signs of in stream life and not a lot of water running in either of the drains. The water quality of these drains and creeks is deteriorating as the water levels drop. M Bate noted it's not so much the presence of sediment, but what is in the sediment that is disturbing.

Greg Bennett, Land Drainage Engineer from WDC, offered some information on the Revells Road and Lineside Road drains between Bramleys Road. He clarified the water comes from the same source and explained the process the Council undertakes annually to clean out the drains. He also noted that this area between Lineside Road and Revells Road is a ponding area during heavy rain events and the fine sediment settles out in these drains.

Des Winter

As a farmer, Mr Winter is concerned with the rules and regulations being imposed and the impact of these on farming in the future. Mr Winter had heard speculation that if the water consented for farms is not being used, then the farmers will lose it, which would be a real concern for those farmers. Regarding low flows in rivers, the Courtenay Stream is not flowing and is choked with weed. He noted there are only three water takes from this river. Mr Winter noted that he had recently spent significant amount to get water supply for his property and suggested an alternative would have been to have subdivide this property into lifestyle blocks and for each of these blocks to have a well drilled, which wouldn't require a consent but represented a similar level of water take. He suggested this was something for the Zone Committee to consider in its decision making.

D Ashby mentioned the recent series of Water Quantity Workshops for consent holders and Mr Winter said these were useful. Mr Winter asked that common sense prevail, otherwise farmers will be in serious trouble.

Linda Pocock

Ms Pocock spoke on her concerns with river flows and suggested that everyone has to look at common sense. She asked that consideration be given to introducing

restrictions now in the Kaiapoi River, rather than waiting until the situation is an urgent one. To pre-empt an emergency situation, residents with water takes and farmers could be asked to reduce their irrigation use before the restrictions come into force. She concluded by stating people can't keep taking water from aquifers that have taken thousands of years to fill, it is not an infinite resource.

Following a question from Grant Edge on water metering, Ms Pocock said she expected the community wouldn't agree to metering, but it could become necessary to introduce in the future.

Brent Walton, Waimakariri Irrigation Limited (WIL)

B Walton confirmed WIL are investigating the salination in the Kaiapoi River noting that, as an irrigation scheme, they are quite prepared to take action early. He added WIL are well ahead on advances being made through farm audits,

He is also concerned with the emotive media coverage of these matters, without stories being based on factual information. There are real improvements in place and underway from farmers who are part of the WIL scheme.

After a question from Gary Walton, Brent advised that the scheme will be on restrictions by the end of this week, if there is no rainfall.

3 COMMITTEE UPDATES – Zone Committee Members, M Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan) A Arps (Waimakariri Zone Delivery Manager, ECan)

3.1 Regional Water Committee Working Groups meeting – 15 November 2017 (CWMS Regional Committee representative Carolyn Latham)

Carolyn noted the LAWA website (Land Air Water Aotearoa) which provides information to the public on the suitability of water for swimming at various popular recreation sites. Weekly water quality monitoring is about to start in Canterbury at popular sites and this information will be interpreted on the website: www.lawa.org.nz. Promotion of the website is important, as it is a central hub for water quality monitoring nationally.

Grant asked about the article on willow control at Te Waihora. Claire added this is focused on the removal of some crack, but mainly grey willow. With the fencing off for stock exclusion, this allows the willows to increase which is a concern. For the Te Waihora project, ECan are in partnership with DOC to do a three year trial setting up a dedicated weed control team. ECan are also hoping to attract some external funding support.

3.2 Media and Communications Report 7 November – 4 December – Gina McKenzie (Real Communications)

Andrew Arps hosted two video presentations on Ravenswood resource consents. The first video showed the work that has been undertaken to ensure the Taranaki Stream is functioning as expected following its realignment.

The second video showed the use of coconut matting lining the banks of the new Taranaki Stream, to reduce sediment trapping. This stabilises the soil as vegetation grows through the matting.

Andrew Arps spoke on the low flow gauging, noting it is important that this is a robust process. This has been discussed at the last two zone committee meetings. Andrew advised that the monitoring is now being recorded more frequently but also noted that ECan staff can't be everywhere all the time. There are priority catchments that staff work with and there are also visual assessments being done around the Zone. ECan staff also have

communication from members of the community, noting any possible unpermitted activities. There are some areas with lifestyle blocks where water takes are having an impact on water flows. An education brochure is being updated to inform residents on this issue. It is intended to distribute this brochure to approximately 500 letterboxes in the Ohoka area. It is also planned to have a version of this document published as a newspaper article.

Anna Veltman provided an update on land use consents for farms within the Zone. She clarified there are 67 irrigated properties, over 50 hectares, that are outside the Waimakariri Irrigation Scheme. Collected data since July 2017 indicated there is an improvement in the number of farmers who have either applied for consents, or are on track for a consent, or have clarified they do not require a consent at this time. In conclusion, the amount of work to acquire a consent was acknowledged.

3.3 Waimakariri Water Zone Committee e-newsletter November Update

A copy of the latest e newsletter was included in the agenda.

3.4 Regional Update – new consenting requirements for farmers

– ECan Communications

Moved G Walton seconded M Blackwell

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receive** these updates for its information and with regard to the committee's 5 Year Outcomes, drafting of the Land and Water Solutions Programme recommendations, and 2018 community engagement priorities.

CARRIED

4 TARGETED ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS IN NOVEMBER – SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS AT THE WATER QUANTITY CONSENT HOLDER WORKSHOPS

– (M Macdonald (ECan)

M Macdonald presented this report summarizing the discussions from the recently held at the water quantity consent holder workshops. Committee members were asked for feedback and comments on these workshops, each responding to the following questions:

1. *Are the response from these workshops what you expected?*
2. *Are there any responses, unexpected or otherwise, that you think need to be recognised?*
3. *As a result of these workshops, are there any gaps in knowledge or understanding the Zone Committee need more work on to inform the Zone Implementation Programme Addendum recommendations?*

Carolyne commented on the information from ECan which referred to the combined impact of lifestyle blocks, versus farm production and their respective water use. It was asked if this information could be provided to members of the zone committee. It was agreed to discuss this with ECan staff and information brought back to the Committee. Carolyne asked if maps can be provided to indicate what areas the comments are referring to.

Carolyn noted that even though the numbers attending the workshops had been small, the quality of discussion was worthwhile. Carolyn learnt a lot about irrigation on different soil types across the Zone. She added it is important to follow through with what was covered, for the next series of meetings. Hopefully those who did attend will take it to any neighbours or friends who wanted to attend but were unable to.

Claire – noted the feedback was in accord with what she was expecting. She also thought some farmers went away wanting to know more information.

Cameron – need to consider the comments going forward, particularly for the discussion on current minimum flows and how will this impact if there is changes to the minimum flows.

Michael – as Zone Committee members, we were there to listen. It would have been great to see a better uptake from the public. For the next round of workshops, Michael said it is important that the answers to the questions from these meetings are available.

Gary – was surprised at the level of reliability for down country farmers, as the up country farmers are already suffering. Pressure points in the district can be seen at the moment with no rainfall. Gary also commented on the knowledge gaps these meetings highlighted.

Grant – questioned if the Cust Main Drain has poor reliability? Dave clarified there is poor reliability for the Cust Main Drain, but it is managed properly. Grant added the responses were as he'd expected, but he didn't hear any unexpected comments, which he'd expected. He noted some people had mentioned they had introduced weirs on their properties, for water storage, and he questioned if this being monitored?

In addition he felt it is important to put this information into the sub-catchment format, and noted the turnout was poor for these workshop meetings. Meredith noted that staff had worked hard to get people along to these workshops with follow up phone calls and emails.

Dave – considered the engagement overall to be a very good result with these workshops being one of the best community engagement processes undertaken to date. He noted his concern that there are waterways in the district that are not telemetrically measured. These need to be identified and measured to make the improvements to the environment that are needed. Manual measuring is not sufficient. Dave would like to see more Water User Groups established, and to encourage farmers onto these groups.

Grant suggested if the process was repeated again in the near future, given the positive response to these meetings, there would likely be much better uptake of attendance.

5 **WAIMAKARIRI 2018 ON THE GROUND WORK PROGRAMME – UPDATE** – Andrew Arps (Waimakariri Zone Delivery Manager, ECan) and Murray Griffin (CWMS Facilitator – Waimakariri, ECan)

Andrew Arps provided an update on the Big Rocks document, advising that there is still discussions to be had with two Committee members to get their feedback. He also confirmed the \$30,000 committed by the committee to the First 500 Springhead Protection Programme has been allocated and information on this will be brought to the first meeting in 2018. Andrew noted that there is more community interest being generated for this programme and people are wanting to be involved.

It was agreed to arrange a site visit for committee members to the proposed "First 500" spring head project in the New Year. Dave noted the cultural sensitivity of these

spring heads and it is important to get the community to buy into these projects. The possibility of getting schools involved was also suggested.

Michael noted that the clean water from these spring heads is currently finishing up in a poor state downstream and all parties involved need to be encouraged to have the same ethos.

Carolyn asked on progress with the Salmon Hatchery at Silverstream. It was agreed that options and information will be brought back to the committee in the New Year, in relation to possibly sourcing deeper groundwater, and whether this will provide a more nitrate free water supply.

Moved D Ashby seconded C McKay

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receive** this update on the working draft of the 2018 On the Ground Work Programme as a basis for ongoing review and feedback.

CARRIED

6 **GENERAL BUSINESS** – D Ashby and Zone Committee members

Carolyn asked if there is results available from the survey from the Ashley Rakahuri Rive Care Group (ARRG). Andrew confirmed he will follow up on this with ARRG.

Grant sought an update on the lifestyle block meetings and information on this. Andrew advised they are waiting for confirmation on an application for funding to continue this project. Feedback from the workshops will be presented to the committee in the New Year.

Action List – Murray noted updates included in this and some actions already undertaken and matters that will be dealt with in the New Year.

7 **NEXT MEETING**

The Chairman thanked the committee for their input and work for the year and extended best wishes for Christmas and New Year. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday 12 February 2018.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 6pm.

CONFIRMED

Chairman

Date

AGENDA ITEM NO: 3	SUBJECT MATTER: Appointment of Chairperson, Deputy & CWMS Regional Committee representative for 2018	
REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee	MEETING DATE: 12 March 2018	
REPORT BY: Murray Griffin, Facilitator, ECan		

PURPOSE

The purpose of the agenda item is to assist the Zone Committee in the process of appointing a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson for 2018.

These appointments are in accord with the Zone Committee's Terms of Reference, which state that the committee make these appointments each year as part of the committee's refreshment process.

David Ashby is the current Chairperson, Grant Edge is the current Deputy Chairperson, while Carlyne Latham is the current CWMS Regional Committee representative. All three have confirmed they are happy to continue in these roles for 2018 should the committee be agreeable to this, and there are no other nominees for these positions.

- The committee shall first accept nominations for the Chairperson followed by nominations for the Deputy Chairperson.
- The committee shall then accept nominations for the role of CWMS Regional Committee representative

Should there be more than one nominee for any of these positions the appointment process shall be undertaken by a simple ballot vote.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Zone Committee appoints a Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, and CWMS Regional Committee representative for 2018.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 4	SUBJECT: Committee Updates
REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee	MEETING DATE: 12 March 2018
REPORT BY: Murray Griffin, CWMS Facilitator – Waimakariri, ECan	

PROPOSAL

This agenda item provides the committee with an overview of updates for review.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Zone Committee are asked to receive these updates for its information and with regard to the committee's 5 Year Outcomes, drafting of the Land and Water Solutions Programme recommendations, and 2018 community engagement priorities.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

The following updates are tabled for the committee:

1. CWMS Regional Committee Meeting – 12 December 2017

The last Regional Committee Working Groups meeting was held on Tuesday 12 December. The next Regional Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 13 March.

- Claire McKay, an ECan representative on the CWMS Regional Committee, has prepared a report on the 12 December meeting which is provided as **agenda item 4-1**.
- Carlyne Latham, the Zone Committee's CWMS Regional Committee representative, has provided notes on the 13 February Working Group meeting which is provided as **agenda item 4-2**. Also provided is the Infrastructure Working Group briefing paper presented on 13 February as **agenda item 4-3**.
- The link to the CWMS Regional Committee papers is provided below:
<https://ecan.govt.nz/data/document-library/?Search=regional+water+management+committee%2C+agenda&documentTypes=-1&pageSize=12&start=1&sortDir=desc>

2. Waimakariri Zone Delivery – Update

Zone Delivery Manager, Andrew Arps, will provided an update for the committee on current Zone Delivery team priorities and actions.

○ Biodiversity

IMS (Immediate Steps) & CBS (Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy Fund)

- White Rock Mains – fencing about to commence and additional funds have been made available from the CBS fund for weed control
- Wakeman Wetland – Agreement is signed and plant supply is being arranged.
- Morriss – plants are ordered and will be planted this autumn.

First 500 Project

- Wai-Eyre Farm planted – now in maintenance stage
- Second project currently under finalisation for planting this autumn
- Third project identified and being developed for planting in autumn

Other Priorities

- Ashley Estuary pest control – funds are being sought from Regional Committee fund for traps.
- Million Meters Project in Silverstream Reserve
- Kaiapoi River planting and confluence weed and willow clearance
- Pines Beach weed control has been held up by fluctuating water tables, so currently re-evaluating the areas to start in
- Mounsey's Stream Pokaka Block project is commencing (CBS fund)

○ **The SHiFT project**

The SHiFT project, or Sustainable Hill Farming Tool, is a project supported by ECan, Beef & Lamb NZ and South Canterbury Federated Farmers. Funded for 18 months by the Ministry for the Environment, the project is developing a tool to help hill country farmer's decision making on development with a particular focus on hill country winter feeding.

The project has commenced with a survey of hill country farmers, from across the region, being conducted in March and April.

○ **Waimakariri Big Rocks**

Andrew Arps will provide and update on the Waimakariri Big Rocks which relates to the priority on the ground actions for ECan Zone Delivery and the Waimakariri Land & Water Solutions Programme.

○ **Communications – December–March**

An update on communications is provided by Gina McKenzie of Real Communications as **agenda item 4-4**.

3. Action List

An updated list of action points from previous meetings will be tabled with the committee to confirm completed items and ongoing follow-up.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Zone Committee are asked to receive these updates for its information and with regard to the committee's 5 Year Outcomes, drafting of the Land and Water Solutions Programme recommendations, and 2018 community engagement priorities.

Regional Committee -12th December 2017

A. The Regional Committee received an update on the regional planning approach, from Jason Holland (Team Leader Land and Water Planning).

Issues covered:

- Evolution of the regional planning approach, noting that LWRP, incorporating PC4, fully operative early 2017. PC5 still in process. LWRP will act as default/starting point for sub regionals.
Council work programme:
 - shifted emphasis to “on the ground actions”,
 - looking to reduce costs with Joint notifications,
 - having an agile planning framework with “omnibus” every 2-3 years to tweak plans.
 - Focus collaborative process on the main issues.
- Role of consent reviews and plan changes in water management. Council will consider Consent reviews to align with plan changes where appropriate (e.g. flow regimes). Review of consents can be expensive, and outcome not always as intended. (from past experience). The ability to review will be dependant on the consent clause, with respect to review.
- The RC had queried if a planning response was required to protect allocation of our iconic Braided rivers. Advice was that Rakaia, Rangitata, and Ahuriri rivers are covered by Water Conservation Orders. The Waitaki has an allocation plan that was reviewed in 2016. Hurunui was reviewed in 2013. Ashley/ Rakahuri in 2012, and Waimakariri River in 2011.
- Update on OTOP sub regional process. Draft ZIPPA is out for consultation (as of 15/12), with ZC confirmation in April 2018, and notification mid 2018.

B. The RC, received an update on groundwater modelling and monitoring results, that had been undertaken as part of the Waimakariri sub-regional process adjacent to the Waimakariri River. This was the same information our ZC had received. *It is predicted likely nitrate levels in deep ground water in Belfast/ north Christchurch would increase over the next 50-100 years, due to land use activities on the north side of the river.*

C. A key threat to biodiversity around Te Waihora is the proliferation of grey and crack willow and the area with willows present has doubled since 2007. In early 2017 the Regional Committee asked Environment Canterbury staff to explore alternative models to funding work on the Te Waihora Flagship project. Staff have since developed a joint proposal with the Department of Conservation Mahaanui District office in the establishment of a Joint Weed Strike Force. This Weed Strike Force would improve the cost-effectiveness and efficacy of weed control efforts around Te Waihora, providing an opportunity to get greater impact at the same level of investment, while improving flexibility and use of staff time. Staff propose to pilot the approach for three years (FY2019-2021) and then evaluate levels of success.

The dedicated team would be based within the Department of Conservation, with a joint work plan developed annually between the two parties. Where time allowed, the team could also carry out weed control at other priority sites in the Selwyn-Waihora, Waimakariri and Banks Peninsula zones – enabling a level of flexibility not currently available.

The team will also be exploring expansion of the current level of work, new approaches with external partners, and seeking additional funding from external parties.

BEWG supported this approach and recommended that the Regional Committee commit \$110,00 per annum for FY2019-2021 from their Immediate Steps fund.

There was much discussion on the best approach to control weeds and willows on Te Waihora, such as chemical control versus long term strategic control.eg. with stock for grey willow control. It was

noted grazing of retired land would be in contravention of DOC and Ngai Tahu joint agreement for destocking. The RC recommended ECan fund an investigation of a suite of methods of alternative control with urgency.

D. Regional Committee Annual report.

The RC supported the draft outline of the proposed report.

The Committee agreed that the Biodiversity/ecosystem health section, of the Annual Report should include information from the draft annual reports for The Immediate Steps Flagship projects, of Te Waihora, Wainono and Braided Rivers. Highlights include progress on Black fronted tern habitat management on the Clarence River, and with respect to Willow control the success at Wainono Lagoon and challenges at Te Waihora.

E. An update on Braided river management and certainty for all- BRIDGE project.

The purpose is to provide:

- Community confidence that braided rivers are well managed.
- Certainty regarding the extent of river beds. The bed defines the areas of responsibility between Territorial Authorities(TA) and Environment Canterbury, and certainty for land managers about management of land. (TA controls land activity, ECan – activities in the river bed)
- Clarity on the values within braided river environments (per CWMS and Plans)
- Opportunity to work with community through ZC and landowners on managing for those values.

This 18month project, will involve engagement with TAs, Regional and zone committee /landowners and community. Rivers selected are Lower Waitaki, Ahuriri, Ashburton and either Waiau or Hurunui.

Report provided by Cr Claire McKay.

Regional Water Management Committee

Working Group notes

13th February 2018

1. Infrastructure WG

Refer to the attached infrastructure update.

- (a) Fish Screen Working Group - The sub-group have sought support and funding from Ecan. Nick Daniels from Ecan compliance is now involved in increased monitoring and compliance activities including fish screens, and will be able to provide information back to the WG in terms of whether the current technical standards are appropriate. He is drawing up terms of reference for the sub-group. Ecan will support as far as they can within current resources. Noted that the standards may actually be sufficient, but more designs that are proven to work are required so that the standards can be met. It can be difficult to tell if large screens are working, and it was noted that there are quite a few ineffective fish screens out there. Machined screens have a better burden of proof as they are engineered. So it's also the implementation and compliance with the guidelines, given more is now known about indigenous fish. Ecan may need to redefine effective exclusion of fish, as there is usually some mortality associated with screens, for example less than 5% loss might be reasonable. It was suggested that fish passage should also be included in the group's review.
- (b) Waimakariri Un-managed Aquifer Recharge – Following MAR discussions for other zones, the group discussed Waimakariri Zone's UMAR through WIL irrigation races and WDC stock water races, and how this should be considered in the WZ up-coming draft ZIPA. It was agreed that unless WDC and WIL can categorically state that they will never stop the water races or pipe the irrigation scheme, then the ZIPA needed to cover the UMAR in some way in its role to determine "Direction of movement". The question was posed, could the UMAR water be more effectively used if it became MAR? Cross boundary benefits in terms of who pays and who benefits was also a question for consideration. Loss of diversity if the races were piped and/or closed was also a potential issue. Engagement with WIL and WDC was required on the matter. It was thought that PC2 may be a useful reference, as a similar situation occurred in the Ashburton Zone.
- (c) Power generation / Irrigation – Discussion on how much better power generation and irrigation could work together than they currently are. A sub-group was identified to look into what is currently going on in this area, and whether further engagement with Government was needed to get support for or at least investigate these types of projects to achieve better water outcomes.

2. Braided River WG

Ecan are looking to achieve a step change for protection of braided rivers and wetlands. Estuaries are not part of this project but noted that they will be and need to be. LINZ are taking a different strategic direction with their weed control programmes. Land bordering (and within) braided rivers has been investigated and many would require costly land status checks to determine their ownership/status. Currently Ecan are auditing all their own land, leases and licenses to address these first.

It is difficult to identify the extent of riverbeds in relation to braided rivers and Ecan have a project to try and address this, working with landowners and the local Zone Committee (not

WZ) to try and identify the extent of a braided river bed. Other issues are dealing with the potential for the river to move, and consideration of flood control engineering.

A field trip may take place to help the RC understand concerns regarding flows on the Rakia River.

A new name had just been released for Waiau River, Waiau uwaha.

3. Recreation & Amenity WG

Ecan were congratulated on their successful summer LAWA campaign, promoting the LAWA web site as a source of information for water quality and other information at swimming sites across Canterbury.

Ecan had been approached by Scott Pearson and Doug Rankin to fund a very expensive omnibus study on recreation and amenity values in Canterbury. Ecan have scoped terms of reference for a much smaller report on where we are at the moment and what we've got, and agreed to fund that. This is to enable decisions on what should be done next with input from the ZC's and communities. It must be recreation relating to water and will lead to a 3 year work plan. The regional committee would receive the report, and sign off on the work programme. Two representatives from the WG made themselves available to oversee the project and completion is expected in June 2018.

There was some discussion on recreation and amenity information that had come back from the zone committees, and the need for more specific advice still to come based on what the communities sought.

Carolyne Latham
Waimakariri Water Zone Committee RC Rep

Infrastructure Working Group briefing paper – 13 Feb 2018

Portfolio	Canterbury Water Management Strategy
Portfolio Director	Stefanie Rixecker
Programme	CWMS Infrastructure
Authors	Brett Painter (Project Leader CWMS Assessments), Dennis Jamieson (Project Leader CWMS Infrastructure)
Endorsed by	Caroline Hart (Programme Manager – Strategy and Planning)
Peer-reviewed by	Dennis Jamieson

Purpose

To provide updates regarding CWMS infrastructure activities and opportunities.

- **HURUNUI-WAIAU/KAIKOURA**
 - Amuri Irrigation Corporation (AIC) [have completed their new pipeline project. Considering HWRR Plan Change application for Glenrae \(Zone B to Zone C\).](#)
 - Hurunui Water Project: [Lodgement of on-plains storage consent application imminent.](#)
- **WAIMAKARIRI**
 - Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd: [Wrights Road storage – Environment Court hearing delayed until early 2018.](#)
- **SELWYN-WAIHORA**
 - CPW: [Sheffield Scheme up and running. Stage 2+ on-going to September 2018.](#)
 - The Broadacres TSA project: [Final habitat enhancements awaiting spring to dry naturally. Mudfish ready for transfer once habitat enhancements are complete.](#)
 - Selwyn/Waikirikiri Near River Recharge project: [Land subdivision/purchase processes underway. Selwyn siphon construction underway. Detailed infrastructure and recharge area design underway for confirmation by Council. Initial baseline information \(climate, hydrology, species\) collected. DOC easement process underway.](#)
- **ASHBURTON ZONE**
 - Ashburton-Hinds Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) project: [Year 2 catchment scoping project underway. 11 new small-scale infiltration sites constructed with 3 ready for testing. Discharge consent granted. Discharge consenting processes underway for south Hinds Near River Recharge site and Pilot Site enhancements \(deep infiltration bore in recharge basin\).](#)
 - [New 18.5 km Ruapuna Pipeline \(Mayfield Hinds Valetta\) open.](#)
 - Ashburton Lyndhurst Irrigation (ALIL): [New pipeline complete.](#)
- **SOUTH CANTERBURY**
 - OTOPI Conceptual Infrastructure Design and Costing study: [Project concluding by late February 2018. Partial or full replacement of current groundwater consents. Less than 3% new irrigation due to nutrient limits. Technically feasible supply options and pipeline identified. Affordability question being addressed via case studies.](#)
 - Hunter Downs: [In late 2018, Hunter Downs Water confirmed the company had the shareholders needed to proceed with the \\$110 million scheme.](#)

- **REGION WIDE**

- Effective Use of Water (EUW). Funding support from the SFF was announced in December for a project involving industry and FAR which is linked to related work in the “Our land and water” science challenge.
- Fish screening. Environment Canterbury Operations-led approach firming up with a “GMP” theme involving compliance, better consent conditions, appropriate treatment of new major fish screen consent applications and support for RMO’s. Working party to be established under auspices of Regional Committee.
- “Understanding Rakaia/Coleridge flows”: This is a response to persistent concerns from several parties (including Rakaia Hut residents, landowners, salmon fishers and boat users) about flow outcomes from infrastructure operations. Environment Canterbury Science is undertaking work to improve information that will be a “User Case” for “Water data 2020”.

File reference	https://punakorero/groups/CWMS/WaterInfra/Council_InfrastructureUpdate13Feb2018.docx
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Waimakariri Water Zone Committee

Media and Communications Report – 4th December 2017 – 5th March 2018

Articles published

- December – Inside Dairy Magazine – Dave’s opinion piece on water quality in Waimakariri with link to video
- December 1st – Northern Outlook – Kaiapoi River opinion piece (Andrew Arps) – advertorial
- December 1st – Kaiapoi Advocate – Kaiapoi River opinion piece (Andrew Arps) – advertorial
- December 1st – Kaiapoi Advocate – “Heavy metals contaminate Rangiora stormwater”
- December 4th – NZ Farmer – Regen and WIL – working together to use technology to improve GMP around irrigation.
- December 7th – North Canterbury News – article on ARRG and upcoming breeding season
- December 7th – North Canterbury News – “water the grass, not the road” – article on efficient irrigation
- December 11th – NZ Farmers Weekly – Dave’s opinion piece on water quality in Waimakariri
- December 13th – Northern Outlook – Groundwater results – “water compromised but safe”
- December 14th – North Canterbury News – “WIL welcomes report into groundwater”
- December 14th – North Canterbury News – “Nitrates to climb over time”- groundwater report
- December 15th – Northern Outlook – “Check water before taking the plunge” – information on safe swimming spots
- December 15th – Kaiapoi Advocate – “Farming contaminates city, Kaiapoi water supply” – groundwater report
- January 11th -North Canterbury News – “Silverstream nitrates challenge committee” – update on priorities for WZC for 2018 based on interview with Andrew Arps
- February 2018 – Irrigation NZ magazine – Kaiapoi River opinion piece
- February 2018 – monthly update for Waimakariri water website to provide information on sub-regional process
- February 15th 2018 – North Canterbury News– profile on Michelle and Daniel Power re. learnings from lifestyle block project
- February 16th 2018 – Northern Outlook – profile on Michelle and Daniel Power re. learnings from lifestyle block project
- March 1st – North Canterbury News – article on zone committee’s priorities for 2018
- March 1st – North Canterbury News – article on Andrew Arps and the cohesive vision for improving the Kaiapoi River
- March 2018 Build magazine – Lifestyle Block Environment Plan workshop article (combined with a promo at Home Show) - encouraging lifestyle block owners to attend workshops and to consider their impact on the environment

- March 2018 – Harcourts Lifestyle quarterly magazine – Lifestyle Block Environment Plan workshop article – encouraging lifestyle block owners to attend workshops and to consider their impact on the environment

Upcoming articles

- March – Northern Outlook and North Canterbury News – opinion piece – Dave's update on progress with Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Programme.

Current Cinema Advertisement

- Lifestyle block workshops – encouraging lifestyle block owners to adopt GMP by showcasing the benefits that lifestyle block environment plan workshop participants have discovered.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 5	SUBJECT: Waimakariri Land & Water Solutions Programme – Update	
REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee		MEETING DATE: 12 March 2018
REPORT BY: Murray Griffin, CWMS Facilitator – Waimakariri, ECan		

PROPOSAL

This agenda item provides the committee with an overview of the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Programme schedule for review.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Zone Committee are asked to receive and endorse the proposed schedule for drafting of the Land and Water Solutions Programme recommendations, and 2018 community engagement priorities.

WAIMAKARIRI LAND & WATER SOLUTIONS PROGRAMME – UPDATE

The following milestones provide an overview of the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Programme schedule in 2018:

- Draft ZIP Addendum recommendations (for Solutions Programme) – June 2018
- Draft ZIP Addendum consultation – July/August 2018
- Final ZIP Addendum recommendations sign off – September 2018
- Final ZIP Addendum recommendations to ECan and WDC councils – October/November 2018
- Informing the community on the final ZIP Addendum and Solutions Programme – November/December 2018

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Zone Committee are asked to receive and endorse the proposed schedule for drafting of the Land and Water Solutions Programme recommendations, and 2018 community engagement priorities.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 6	SUBJECT: Waimakariri QEII Covenants – Update	
REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee		MEETING DATE: 12 March 2018
REPORT BY: Murray Griffin, CWMS Facilitator – Waimakariri, ECan		

PURPOSE

This agenda item provides the committee with an overview of QEII Covenants in the Waimakariri with a particular focus on the Lees Valley.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Zone Committee are asked to receive this update for its information and with regard to the committee's 5 Year Outcomes, drafting of the Land and Water Solutions Programme recommendations, and 2018 community engagement priorities.

BY WHO

- This briefing will be by Miles Giller, North Canterbury representative for the QEII National Trust

BACKGROUND

Queen Elizabeth II National Trust is an independent statutory organisation and a registered charity. It was set up in 1977 to 'encourage and promote, for the benefit of New Zealand, the provision, protection, preservation and enhancement of open space'.

Open Space (as described in the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust Act 1977) means any area of land or body of water that serves to preserve or to facilitate the preservation of any landscape of aesthetic, cultural, recreational, scenic, scientific or social interest or value.

What QEII Trust does

The Trust's core objective is to secure long-term protection of natural and cultural features on private land with covenants.

The Trust partners with landowners to achieve this objective. Landowners throughout the country are voluntarily protecting around 180,000ha (at 30 June 2014) of their land with covenants, an area similar in size to Rakiura/Stewart Island.

QEII Trust acts as the perpetual trustee to ensure the covenant remains protected forever.

The Trust works closely with the Department of Conservation, regional and district councils, Heritage New Zealand, Landcare Research, the New Zealand Farm Environment Award Trust, and many other groups, organisations, and individuals committed to protecting and enhancing New Zealand's landscapes and biodiversity.

The National Trust owns 27 properties, which collectively protect 1396ha of significant habitat. These have mostly been gifted to the Trust. Stewardship of these properties is greatly helped by local communities and management committees.

Features protected by National Trust 'open space' covenants:

- Landscapes
- Native forest remnants
- High country
- Wetlands
- Tussock grasslands
- Threatened species habitats
- Cultural sites
- Streams and water features
- Arboretums
- Coastlines
- Geological features
- Archaeological features
- Wildlife habitats

What does the National Trust offer to landowners?

- A relationship independent of other agencies
- Over 30 years' experience working in partnership with private landowners throughout the country
- Expertise in legal protection (open space covenants) and legal documentation
- Possible funding assistance e.g., partial fencing costs
- Survey arrangement and costs (but not in the case of subdivision)
- Lodgement of all necessary documentation with Land Information New Zealand to formally register the covenant on the property title
- Local representatives who monitor the health of covenants and provide practical management advice.

For more information

- go to: www.openspace.org.nz
- or contact Miles on: 03-313-5315, email: mgiller@openspace.org.nz

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Zone Committee are asked to receive this update for its information and with regard to the committee's 5 Year Outcomes, drafting of the Land and Water Solutions Programme recommendations, and 2018 community engagement priorities.