

ASHBURTON WATER MANAGEMENT ZONE COMMITTEE AGENDA

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

DATE: Tuesday 24 April 2018

TIME: 1.00 pm

VENUE: Council Chamber
2 Baring Square East
Ashburton

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

ATTENDEES: Mr Chris Allen
Mr Ben Curry
Mrs Angela Cushnie
Mr Gordon Guthrie
Mr Cargill Henderson
Mr Bill Thomas
Mr John Waugh
Mr Arapata Reuben (Te Ngai Tuahuriri Runanga)
Mr Karl Russell (Te Runanga o Arowhenua)
Cr Stuart Wilson (Ashburton District Council)
Councillor David Caygill (Environment Canterbury)

Zone Facilitator

Dave Moore

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Environment Canterbury

Committee Advisor

Louise Glennon

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Ashburton District Council

Tangata Whenua Facilitator

Vacant

Environment Canterbury



4 Register of Interests

Representative's Name and Interest	
Chris Allen	Farm owner of sheep, beef, lambs, crop Water resource consents to take water from tributary of Ashburton River and shallow wells National board member Federated Farmers of New Zealand with responsibility for RMA, water and biodiversity Member of Ashburton River Liaison Group
David Caygill	Environment Canterbury Councillor Chair - Business NZ's Energy Council
Ben Curry	Chief Executive Officer – Rangitata Diversion Race Management Limited Chair of Recreation and Amenities Working Group Committee
Angela Cushnie	Owner of Country Copy, a communication and promotion business based in Mid Canterbury Operates a very small lifestyle block in Eiffelton On the Communication Committee for Advance Ashburton Community Foundation Co-author of 'Water, Farming and Families' Freelance writer for Latitude Magazine Author of 'Project 4 Life' a document created with the objective of "Building trust, balance and goodwill through communication and education" and a vision to cultivate a shared vision of environmental, social and financial best practice in rural Canterbury.
Gordon Guthrie	CEO Electricity Ashburton Limited (t/a EA Networks) Farming partnership – Winchmore (Ashburton North branch)
Cargill Henderson	Environmental Manager – ANZCO Foods Ltd
Karl Russell	Arowhenua Marae Trustee
Arapata Reuben	Trustee – Tuahiwi Marae Trustee – Tuhono Trust Trustee – Mana Waitaha Charitable Trust Member - National Kiwi Recovery Group Rūnanga Rep and Chair – Christchurch – West Melton Water Zone Committee
Bill Thomas	Farm owner of Longbeach Estate Ltd (sheep, beef, lambs, arable, dairy) Member of Eiffelton Irrigation Scheme
Stuart Wilson	Ashburton District Councillor and Chair of Service Delivery Committee A son who is a Director of Mayfield Hinds Irrigation Co and RDR
John Waugh	Member of the Ashburton Branch of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society Member of Hydrological Society

5 Confirmation of Minutes

Unconfirmed Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of the **Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee** held on Tuesday 27 March 2018, commencing at 1.03pm in the Council Chamber, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton.

Present

Councillor David Caygill, Cr Stuart Wilson, Bill Thomas (Chair), Chris Allen, Angela Cushnie (1.12pm), Gordon Guthrie, Cargill Henderson, Karl Russell (1.09pm) and John Waugh

In attendance

Environment Canterbury: Olivia Smith (Facilitator), Ashburton District Council: Louise Glennon (Business Support Officer – minutes)

9 members of the public attended the meeting.

1 Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and the opening karakia was offered by David Caygill.

2 Apologies

Ben Curry and Arapata Reuben; and Karl Russell and Angela Cushnie (lateness)

3 Extraordinary Business

None

4 Register of Interests

None

5 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee meeting held on 27 February 2018, be taken as read and confirmed.

Thomas/Wilson

Carried

5.1 Matters Arising

- David Moore was introduced as the new Facilitator taking over from Olivia who is moving over to Christchurch.

6 Correspondence

Email received from Council to attend the Surface Water Strategy stakeholder feedback meeting, to be held on 11 April. Mel Renganathan, Senior Policy Advisor at Council, was introduced to the Committee and invited the Chair, Facilitator and any other interested members to attend. Olivia to discuss with Bill the 5 year working programme and ZIP and will take forward the relevant recommendations.

7 Public Contributions

None

8 Facilitator Update

- There was a planning meeting with the Hinds Drains Working Party on 5 March which discussed upcoming plan changes. They are meeting again in mid-April to refine what was discussed and the Committee will be involved in this in due course. ECan have scheduled an omnibus plan change to take place some point next year and this could be included. Olivia offered to send a copy of the HDWP recommendations to Committee members who do not have them.

- Olivia noted that there are actions from the Biodiversity Working Group meeting that are still outstanding. ECan will liaise with ADBAG once they have had their next meeting.

9 Zone Committee Communications 2018

Angela suggested that there is potential to build on what is currently on the ECan website. The communications team are happy to start work on a further video in the near future. Chris suggested a need to ensure that the dashboard information is kept up to date with relevant information. It was agreed that Angela, Bill and Olivia will discuss further.

It was suggested having an item on the agenda each month on communications, however the Committee agreed that what is currently in place works and that Committee members just contact Dave as they think of things that need included. It is good to look at options other than just the newspapers, and Angela noted that there was currently some great water articles in Latitude magazine.

10 OVERSEER 101

Leo Fietje spoke to his presentation.

11 Update on GMP Campaign

Janine and Sarah spoke to their presentation. Janine noted that compliance is close to 100% with only five out of the original 350 still be worked with.

New campaign to work in Hinds zone with those that weren't included first time around and letters going out to 162 properties next week.

12 Managing the demand for Nutrient Budgets – Update from Ravensdown Fertiliser

Tim Lissaman spoke to his presentation.

Committee broke at 2.53pm until 3.11pm for afternoon tea.

13 Recommendations from the Havelock North Drinking Water Enquiry

Mark Trewartha, Senior Hydrogeologist from ECan spoke to his presentation.

Andrew Guthrie, Asset Manager at Council then spoke regarding the outcomes from the Havelock North Drinking Water Enquiry report. One of the main recommendations was to remove the secure classification status. Council have now lost this status but were prepared for this to happen and had budgeted \$500k over four years to address this, with the installation of UV sterilisation equipment.

Council participate in the Canterbury Drinking Water Reference Group which was set up by the Canterbury Mayoral Forum. The key recommendation from this group was mandating universal treatment with a residual disinfectant. Council currently chlorinates the water which meets this recommendation and over time UV will be added. Currently have eight below ground bore heads which are fairly modern, and they need inspected every 5 years, which became due a few months ago. At present unable to find a supplier willing to certify them and therefore have lost this compliance. To lift bores Council have budgeted \$220k to carry out this work as soon as possible. Due to an increased reliance on operational data and continuous monitoring a further \$250k had been budgeted over next 5 years for capital and renewal costs. A proposal to amalgamate the current ten household water supplies was presented to Council and from 1 July 2018 there will be a unified water rate. No new below ground bore heads should be permitted as they are undesirable and introduce additional risk.

Cargill suggested running a targeted campaign to industry groups to do a quick well head check when out in the field. David felt that drinking water quality really falls to the local council, however agreed with Cargill's comments.

John also noted issues with old bores and whether they have been sealed off and decommissioned.

Gordon suggested that farmers should be treating their wells and Chris agreed but noted that they should also be ensuring they are secure.

Angela raised concerns that the message about high nitrate risks is not getting through to pregnant women and new mothers. Feedback to go back to CDHB regarding this issue with an invitation to speak with the committee about this.

14 River and Reach Options for the Braided River BRIDGE Project

Tania Harris spoke to her report.

Clarification required on what people could and couldn't lawfully do on a riverbed. This project is to help establish how best to do this. Once reviewed will come back to the Committee to discuss and see if there are gaps in the report. They will then work with the Committee to engage the community.

The Committee agreed to recommend that the area upstream of SH1 at Ashburton should be looked at.

Tania concluded by advising that they would look to hold a further discussion in May.

15 Reports for Committee Information

15.1 Consents Update

The consents will be provided by email.

16 General

E.coli update will be provided at the April meeting.

As Ben was not at the meeting there was no update from the Regional Committee. However it was noted that there is a campaign being run to encourage people to check water quality before going swimming and they are looking at extended this in 2018.

Angela noted at a recent Hui that there were a number of high school students who have no understanding of the environment. Ashburton College was the only one who attended that appeared to have had any understanding of this. She will discuss with the Mayor about further involvement with the schools and come back to the Committee in due course.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Ashburton Water Zone Committee will be held on Tuesday 24 April 2018.

The meeting closed at 4.19pm with a karakia from David Caygill.

Dated this 24 day of April 2018 _____ (Chair)

Ashburton Zone Committee Report

Date 24 April 2018
Report to Ashburton Water Zone Committee
From Dave Moore, Zone Facilitator
Subject Facilitators Update

8 Facilitators Update

Purpose

To update the Committee on actions from the previous meeting and upcoming engagement opportunities.

Recommendation

The Zone Committee receive the update

Update

Drinking Water

A concern was raised at the March Committee meeting that information regarding the risks to pregnant women and babies from High Nitrate levels in drinking water may not be communicated widely enough.

Canterbury District Health Board advise that there are several systems in place to inform medical professionals of the possible Nitrate risk in drinking-water. Information is sent to GPs, midwives, obstetricians, Plunket and other identified stakeholders – that have strong links, access and proximity to mothers who are formula feeding infants less than 6 months or women that are pregnant around every two years. Information was last sent out in September 2017. Denise Tully and Dr Alistair Humphrey, the Medical Officer of Health for the Canterbury region, have also recently delivered talks to midwives around Canterbury (including the Ashburton region) regarding this issue.

For GPs there is also a system referred to as Health Pathways, which provides an alert for the GP when dealing with a pregnant woman. The alert prompts the GP to ask the woman about her water supply and then suggests it should be tested for nitrate and E coli if the woman resides in certain rural areas (based on the ECAN risk maps).

ECAN are also currently developing a brochure on well head protection.

Watershed

Six members of the Zone Committee attended the Watershed event on 19 April which brought together those who are involved in the CWMS decision making process across the zones. Over 100 people attended, with sessions providing opportunities to reflect on progress with implementing the CWMS to date, share information on successes and challenges, and collectively envisage where we want to be in 2025 and what we need to do to get there. Young people, iwi representatives, and zone committee members formed panels to look at the issues, allowing ECAN staff and Councillors to listen. It was a great day to connect and to really look at what has been achieved, and for individual zones to be able to see what others have done through a collaborative process for water management. Environment Canterbury Chair Steve Lowndes summed up the day in three words: collaboration, education and

youth. ECan will be evaluating the event and collating ideas to ensure the CWMS is fit for the future needs of the region.

Two short video clips will be shown to the Committee:

- Protecting Mahinga Kai - Mananui Ramsden
- Following six days on the Untouched World Waterwise camp at Ngati Moki Marae Canterbury youth sum up their message for our future

Carters Creek Update

Carters Creek catchment is upstream from Tinwald and it discharges into Lake Hood. Flooding issues, rubbish in the creek and poor water quality have been a concern for the Zone Committee for some time.

With the long-term goal of making Carters Creek easier to maintain ECan recently cleared willows above lake hood, cleaned a substantial amount of rubbish from the creek and has had good results with chemical weed control. A new rubbish trap has also been installed in the West side of Tinwald. E coli levels going into Lake Hood are very high and ECan is investigating faecal Source tracking to endeavour to find the cause(s) over the coming months. Once more information has been obtained the Zone Committee will be updated on progress and options for improving water quality in Carters Creek.

Attachment

Omnibus Plan Change 2019 feedback on regionally significant topics

See attached paper this paper which highlights regionwide issues that would be included in the Omnibus plan change. This may also contain recommendations related to Hinds Drains Working Party.

Omnibus Plan Change 2019

Report by: Andrea Richardson, Senior Planner – Environment Canterbury

Purpose

1. To seek feedback from the Zone Committee on any new urgent regionally significant topics to be considered for inclusion in the Omnibus Plan Change to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan (*Omnibus Plan Change*), with a notification date of mid-2019.

Recommendation

2. That the Zone Committee:
 - a. Reviews the list of urgent regionally significant topics proposed for the Omnibus Plan Change (Attachment 1); and
 - b. Advises if there is any other urgent regionally significant topic that should be addressed in the Omnibus Plan Change, along with the following information:
 - i. Why is the issue significant for the Canterbury region;
 - ii. Who and/or what is affected because of the issue;
 - iii. What your Zone Committee considers should be done to address the issue; and
 - iv. How urgent is the issue (e.g. how would the effects of the issue change if it was addressed in 4-5 years' time rather than now?).

Report

3. The Omnibus Plan Change ensures the regional planning provisions in the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan (LWRP) are responsive to new directives from central government, emerging environmental issues, and changes in matters that are strategic priorities for Environment Canterbury. The Omnibus Plan Change will only make changes to the LWRP, and will not change any other Canterbury regional plan that control specific aspects of land and water separately. Key milestones for this project include engagement with Zone Committees on potential changes to the LWRP to address the regionally significant issues in the last quarter of 2018, public notification of the proposed plan change in mid-2019, a public hearing on submissions on the plan change in early 2020 and a decision to be notified by mid-2021.
4. We welcome your feedback as to whether there are any other regionally significant topics that your Zone Committee considers should be included in the Omnibus Plan Change. Please note that for each new topic added to the list, it is likely that a regionally significant topic listed in Attachment 1 would need to be removed in order to meet the mid-2019 notification timeframe.
5. Each new topic for Omnibus Plan Change needs to meet the following criteria:
 - a. It is an issue that is likely to apply to the whole Canterbury region (i.e. it is not only applicable to one sub-region); and
 - b. It is urgent and important for the sustainable management of natural and physical resources in Canterbury.
6. If your Zone Committee identifies a new topic that meets the above criteria, we would appreciate you providing the following information on the issue:
 - a. What is the issue and why is it significant for the Canterbury region;
 - b. Who and/or what is affected because of the issue;
 - c. What your Zone Committee considers should be done to address the issue; and

- d. How urgent is the issue (e.g. how would the effects of the issue change if it was addressed in 4-5 years' time rather than now?).
7. Once all Zone Committees have provided feedback, Environment Canterbury's Councillors will evaluate which regionally significant topics should be included in the Omnibus Plan Change 2019. One of the considerations that Councillors will take into account when evaluating which significant topics should be included is the technical analysis and reporting workload required to support the plan change. The workload and timeframes are such that for each new topic added to the list, it is likely that a regionally significant topic in Attachment 1 would need to be removed to meet the mid-2019 notification timeframe. A final decision on any changes to the regionally significant topics listed in Attachment 1 will be made by Councillors in the middle of this year after consideration of your feedback. We will advise of the outcome of that decision as soon as possible after this time.
8. Environment Canterbury staff would be happy to attend one of your Zone Committee meetings in the last quarter of 2018 to seek your feedback on potential plan change amendments to address the regionally significant Omnibus Plan Change topics.

Attachment 1: Proposed Regionally Significant Topics for Omnibus Plan Change 2019

Topics	Rationale and Implementation impacts
<p>Braided Rivers</p>	<p>There is an urgent need to define the edge of the 'bed' of Canterbury's braided rivers to ensure riverbed values are appropriately protected. Braided rivers have beds that are dynamic, with multiple channels creating a time series of recent and very old current and former channels across a 'braid plain' that extends well beyond that area that might now be described as the 'active bed' or even 'recently active bed'. Therefore, the features of braided rivers are not easily aligned with the definition of 'bed' in the LWRP.</p> <p>Priority for this amendment is high as there will be high implementation benefits.</p>
<p>Tangata Whenua values</p>	<p>There is an urgent need to amend provisions to ensure Tangata Whenua values are appropriately considered and provided for when making decisions on some controlled and restricted discretionary consent applications. For some activities (for example excavation of land) the ability of a decision maker to consider effects on tāngata whenua values is inappropriately constrained.</p> <p>Priority for this amendment is high as it will increase protection of Tangata Whenua values.</p>
<p>Increased protection of indigenous freshwater species and habitats, and habitats of other species with significant fishery values.</p>	<p>There is an urgent need to increase protection of habitat of indigenous species and other species with significant fishery values. Increased protection is sought for Canterbury Mudfish habitat and other critically endangered species and/or valuable but declining mahinga kai. Amendments to provisions are required to address incremental loss of stream habitat occurs through diversion, re-alignment, piping and reclamation. The Salmon Spawning Sites listed in the LWRP may not cover all identified spawning sites.</p>
<p>Implementing requirements of National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management</p>	<p>Region-wide provisions need to give effect (as far as practicable) to the 2014 and 2017 amendments to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS FM), which requires Councils to establish freshwater management units and limits to achieve freshwater outcomes.</p> <p>Implementation impacts are moderate-high in terms of benefits to water quality and recreational outcomes.</p>

Topics	Rationale and Implementation impacts
<p>Horticultural operations</p>	<p>There is an urgent need to amend LWRP provisions to ensure the particular constraints that apply to horticultural operations are recognised and provided for. To avoid soil-borne diseases horticultural operations must rotate the land they lease and the type of crop grown on the land. Compliance with the LWRP farming rules is challenging for these operations as the nitrogen loss limit that applies to the farm is restricted by the crop type grown during the nitrogen baseline period.</p> <p>Priority for this amendment is high as it will have high implementation impacts. No successful LWRP implementation pathway has been found to address the issue.</p>
<p>Implementing requirements of National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry</p>	<p>Review and (if necessary) amend LWRP provisions to ensure they are consistent with the National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry (NES-PF). The NES-PF prevails over LWRP rules except where the NES-PF specifically allows more stringent regional plan rules.</p> <p>Priority for these amendments (if any provision changes are identified) is high given the NES-PF takes effect on 1 May 2018.</p>

Ashburton Zone Committee Report

Date 24 April 2018
Report to Ashburton Water Zone Committee
From Ashburton Zone Delivery Team (Janine Holland)
Subject 5 Year Outcomes & Milestones Delivery quarterly update – January to March 2018

10 5 Year Outcomes & Milestones Delivery quarterly update – January to March 2018

Purpose

To update the committee on the progress towards delivering their 5 Year Outcomes & Milestones in the January to March 2018 quarter.

Summary

This is a quarterly report on progress towards the Ashburton Zone Committee 5 year outcomes for the period January to March 2018. The table below gives key actions against each milestone in the previous quarter, as well as proposed priority actions for the current quarter. The intention of this report is to include actions of all partners, not just Environment Canterbury, who contribute to the milestones as a coordinated way to keep the committee up to date on delivery towards their Outcomes.

Recommendation

The committee

- **note** the update

Attachments

- Table 1: An overview of the key progress and proposed actions for each of the Ashburton Zone Committees 5 Year Outcomes and Milestones.
- Table 2: Update on Status of Immediate Steps Biodiversity Projects funded by the Ashburton Zone Committee

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

Milestones	Contributors	Progress Update - Zone Committee – Oct to Dec 17	Priority Actions for Jan to March 2018
All farmers are operating at Good Management Practice (GMP) or better (Contributes to ZIP recommendation 3.2.7, 3.2.8, 4.2.1-4.3.3)			
Milestone 1.1 - Industry supported extension programme is developed to communicate and promote industry agreed GMP practices – August 2016	ECan	<p>Achieved Meeting with Mid Canterbury Independent Irrigators committee in December 2017.</p> <p>Regular contact with rural professionals, including real estate professionals.</p>	<p>Implementation of strategy is ongoing, key elements being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular 1-1 meetings with rural professional firms (farm advisors, bankers, real estate agents, etc) to discuss planning rules, tools and support available - Full open meetings with industry as required (i.e. major planning timeframes arrive, extension of new information) <p>Four staff members attended MPB workshops in March 2018 in conjunction with DairyNZ and Beef & Lamb. Opportunity to discuss winter grazing practice and on-farm biosecurity.</p>
Milestone 1.2 - Prioritise FEP support for higher N leaching farming activities	DairyNZ RDR BCI/Acton Irrigo Federated Farmers FAR Beef & Lamb	<p>On Track Good Management Practice campaign continues. Follow up visits for those who ask for them.</p>	<p>Staff attended Deer Industry Association/Landcare Trust FEP audit workshop to provide support.</p> <p>Staff attended Align Longfield Mayfield Hinds Valetta GMP/environmental best practice field day to network and offer support.</p> <p>Land Management Advisor field trip to South Canterbury to view sediment traps, winter grazing,</p>

			<p>run off and erosion control techniques. Information will be worked into GMP advertising over winter.</p> <p>Zone Committee presentations on Overseer and Ravensdown's management of waitlist.</p>
Milestone 1.3 - Prioritise FEP support for Arable properties, particularly those outside of irrigation schemes	FAR Environment Canterbury	<p>On Track</p> <p>Ongoing liaison with Mid Canterbury Independent Irrigators committee. Information provided in lead up to April 2018 AGM.</p> <p>Audit demystification workshop in December 2017.</p>	<p>Hinds campaign will capture many of these properties and support offered through depot drop in sessions 26 April and 2 May 2018 and follow up through to end of year.</p> <p>Investigation of follow up audit demystification workshop for arable audience now planned for spring 2018.</p>
Milestone 1.4 - All irrigated properties have an FEP- March 2018		<p>On Track</p> <p>- As per Milestones 1.2 & 1.3</p>	<p>Hinds campaign will capture many of these properties and support offered through depot drop in sessions 26 April and 2 May 2018 and follow up through to end of year.</p> <p>PC5 communications package being put together to cover remainder.</p>

<p>Milestone 1.5 - All irrigated properties to undertake an assessment of the efficiency of their irrigation system with action taken to implement any improvements identified – March 2018</p>	<p>ECan IrrigationNZ RDR BCI Fonterra Synlait Acton Irrigo ECGIS DairyNZ Beef & Lamb FAR Federated Farmers</p>	<p>On Track Development of ECan/DairyNZ extension initiative (one-on-one support) for roll-out.</p> <p>Behind Development of advice sheet based on key learnings from summer student programme. Case study profiling by IrrigationNZ.</p>	<p>Majority of properties within irrigation schemes have been assessed as part of their audit process.</p> <p>Independent irrigators will be picked up as part of ongoing FEP/land use consent process this year.</p>
<p>Milestone 1.6 - Identify opportunities for water user groups</p>	<p>ECan Irrigation consent holders</p>	<p>On Track - New website page for water users group set up.</p>	<p>After science work on the Ashburton River is delivered mid-year, opportunities will be identified for user groups with a connection to the river. User groups within the Hinds catchment will be contacted during the campaign process.</p>
<p>Landowners, rūnanga, stakeholders, local authorities and others are working together to protect and enhance biodiversity throughout the zone. (Contributes to ZIP recommendation 2.2.1, 2.2.10, 2.2.22, 2.2.29,2.2.30, 2.2.32,2.2.35, 2.2.36, 3.2.3)</p>			
<p>Milestone 2.1 - Ashburton District Council Biodiversity Working Group continues to provide a forum for coordination of biodiversity work programmes across the zone– Annually to 2021.</p>	<p>ADC Forest & Bird Fish & Game QEII DoC ECan Federated Farmers</p>	<p>On Track One meeting held with updates provided by all agencies regarding biodiversity related actions. Implementing plans for Wakanui Beach and Lake Camp biodiversity values. Roadside survey of indigenous vegetation being undertaken of Upper Plains.</p>	<p>Joint meeting between ADC, ZC and ZT on biodiversity initiatives in the district. Several actions resulted including; -investigation of signage/comms -greater alignment of ECan/ADC processes -improved collaboration between agencies on biodiversity priorities -focus on dryland vegetation opportunities</p>

Milestone 2.2 - Priority weed and pest control for braided river bird habitat in the Rakaia and Rangitata Rivers is implemented with support from Regional Immediate Steps funding – Annually to 2021	Upper Rangitata LCG CWMS RC OTOP ZC AshZC DOC ECan	On Track Staff member attended flight to identify areas of weed control carried out last year/looking at programme development for 17/18.	Finalisation of this season’s control operation results underway. Report will be released soon to interested parties.
Milestone 2.3 - Develop a programme to support the management of biodiversity values in two priority areas, including the foothills. Support on the ground changes via Immediate Steps funding – July 2017	AZC ECan Various landowners	On Track - Looking at all allocated funding being spent with increased projects on Harding Stream and many new projects in the foothills area.	5 Star Beef have a project in a donga on the coast. It has been difficult to get projects in this area so hoping this will give us a window of opportunity. Biodiversity advisor Donna Field attending a Botanical Society Field trip to the Dongas in April.
Milestone 2.4 - Two sites are primarily managed for mahinga kai, including one outside of Hinds catchment – July 2017 (incorporates HDWP Rec 4.12)	HDWP Arowhenua ECan	Behind Discussions to continue with Arowhenua as to preferred criteria for possible alternative mahinga kai sites. Investigation of further possible site. Our summer student will undertake spring walks with an eye to find a suitable mahinga kai site above state HW1.	Four potential sites for Mahinga Kai identified by summer student’s work. Next stage is to more fully investigate sites and liaise with Arowhenua once we have identified.
Milestone 2.5 - Increase community awareness of the nature and value of biodiversity	ECan Ashburton District Biodiversity Working Group partners	On Track - Advertisements in papers alerting people to trapping and rationale (river bird protection) Summer student’s work raised profile of spring heads along the Ashburton River.	Several articles on summer student’s work.

Milestone 2.6 - Trustpower funding is unlocked for Rakaia enhancement projects - 2016	TrustPower Rūnanga (Tuahuriri and Arowhenua) AZC SWZC ECan DoC	Achieved - Receive regular updates from zone committee representative on funding committee.	Major project being undertaken in the Rakaia Gorge with a recreational and biodiversity emphasis.
Improve the ecosystem health of the Hakatere/ Ashburton River. (Contributes to ZIP recommendation 1.2.1- 1.2.6, 1.2.8, 2.2.29-2.2.31, 3.2.1, 4.2.8-4.2.10, 4.2.14)			
Milestone 3.1 - Develop a strategy to ensure that the flow regime for the Ashburton River is achieved	AZC ECan ADC	On Track - ZC supported modelling of Ashburton River flow regime to be undertaken.	Technical work underway and expected to be delivered mid-year. Proposed LTP includes budget for potential consent review.
Milestone 3.2 - ADC develop and implement a strategy to reduce stock-water take to 2,900L/s by no later than 2023- date tbc	ADC	On Track Council provided an update on its progress toward meeting the reduction in stockwater take at October 2017 meeting. This presentation indicated it at or near the required target.	Continue with strategy as outlined in ADC Long Term Plan. Council is currently developing a surface water strategy which will encompass the stockwater activity as well as other surface water matters.
Milestone 3.3 - Identify source of spikes in E-coli at SH1 and determine if an action plan is required - May 2017	ECan	On Track - Continue faecal source tracking over summer months at SH1. Results presented to committee monthly.	EColi was monitored weekly over summer months. Elevated samples currently being selected for faecal source tracking.
Milestone 3.4 - Priority weed control work for braided river bird nesting habitat is completed with support from Zone Immediate	AshburtonZC ECan Forest & Bird DoC	On Track - No island creation due to high flows	End of season habitat protection meeting in March 2017 was well attended with favourable results for habitat and bird breeding, mainly due to high flows in river. People are looking forward to coming season and it was agreed to undertake island

Steps Programme – annually to 2021		<p>- Pest control carried out by volunteers at the Ashburton River mouth and by contractor at SH1.</p> <p>Black back gull cull by contractor in December 2017. Successful gull control exercise with 50% of colony (640 birds) culled.</p>	<p>creation and weed control as well as pest control. The trapping IMS funded project went very well with the funding for fuel much appreciated. Successful trapping season by volunteers with a high fledgling rates for gulls and terns.</p>
Milestone 3.5 - Develop a streamlined pathway to enable swaps from surface water/ hydrologically connected groundwater permits to deep groundwater or scheme water – Feb 2017	ECan	<p>Achieved</p> <p>- Consenting requirements known and applications being processed as received</p> <p>- Extra support provided with consent planners available in Ashburton monthly</p>	<p>Consent planner in Ashburton office every Wednesday.</p>
Milestone 3.6 - Understand the health of Carters Creek and identify opportunities to improve ecosystem health	AZC ECan ADC	<p>On Track</p> <p>ADC advise that they are upgrading selected stormwater sumps adjacent to Carters Creek (Grove St, Thomson St and McMurdo St) to include a debris/litter trap. Initially information on volumes of litter/debris collected will be recorded to determine maintenance frequencies and effectiveness of the system.</p>	<p>Stormwater sumps leading to Carters Creek in McMurdo, Thomson & Grove Streets have been upgraded and fitted with a litter bag. Contractor reports that after 8 months of operation the amount of material (grit and litter) being captured is negligible. Monitoring will continue in the meantime. May look to extend upgrade works to other road sumps in Melcombe Street to address discharges to Carters Creek and Regional Council drain as budgets permit. Further discussion needed with NZTA in regard to sumps on SH1 (Archibald Street).</p> <p>On site meeting held with stake holders, ECan’s River Engineering Field Services team and biodiversity representatives to discuss on going management. Major clean out of feeder drains into</p>

			Carters Creek by ECan staff will help with quality and flow. Follow up meeting initiated by ZC facilitator to discuss further science monitoring work.
Milestone 3.7 - ADC develop an integrated stormwater management plan	ADC	On Track Stormwater Management Plan has been developed. This will support ADC's application for an area-wide resource consent to be lodged in next few months.	ADC will shortly submit their new area-wide stormwater resource consent application. Council is currently developing a surface water strategy which will encompass the stormwater activity.
Hinds River and Drains are managed in a way that provides for multiple needs/interests. (Contributes to ZIP recommendation 2.2.3, 2.2.17,3.2.3, 4.2.3, 4.2.14, 4.2.9, 4.2.10)			
Milestone 4.1 - Managed aquifer recharge and targeted stream augmentation trials have been completed- 2021 (Incorporates HDWP Rec 4.7)	RDR ADC MHIS VIL BCI ECIS Golder MPI Lincoln Agritech CBH Tarbottons ECan	On Track - Year 1 pilot project complete - Near River recharge trial underway.	TSA scholarship underway via Waterways Centre for Freshwater Management. Actions from HDWP meeting in October 17 followed up. Zone facilitator provided brief report to committee on meeting. HDWP will present to a future meeting of ZC.
Milestone 4.2 - Next steps following the MAR and TSA trial are identified including funding mechanisms and the development of an ongoing programme- 2021		On Track - Consents for further trials being sought. Trials will then be initiated in 2018.	- 18 trials underway and Governance Group focus on building business case for catchment scale scheme.

Milestone 4.3 - Programme to identify and remove, where appropriate, fish barriers – annually to 2021	ECan Fish & Game DoC	On Track - Staff have undertaken field trips to assess barriers and identify ones for removal. Focused on one drain. More research required into where these are appropriate.	
Milestone 4.4 - Develop a programme to increase community awareness of the importance of well head protection - July 2019	ECan	Achieved - Joint letter with CPH to help users understand risk & actions to minimise risk distributed.	Consider further actions to increase number of landowners undertaking water quality testing.
Milestone 4.5 - Habitat extent of known mudfish populations is quantified. In addition, surveys are conducted to identify new habitats and populations and assessments are subsequently made to determine if remediation/enhancement of sites is appropriate – July 2018	DOC	On Track - Resurveying of drains for juvenile fish by DOC.	
Milestone 4.6 - Develop a streamlined pathway to enable swaps from surface water/ hydrologically connected groundwater permits to deep groundwater or scheme water – June 2017	ECan	Achieved - Extra support provided with consent planners available in Ashburton monthly.	
HDWP Rec 4.3 – Adaptive Minimum Flow Habitat Trial – Boundary Drain	Boundary Drain landowners F&G ECan Arowhenua	On Track - Trial consent has been exercised for this irrigation season.	Implementation of monitoring plan for trial.

<p>The urban and rural community understand the environmental, economic and social trends occurring in the zone and there is widespread ownership of catchment health. (Contributes to ZIP recommendation 2.2.6, 2.2.11, 2.2.24, 2.2.34, 3.2.2)</p>			
Milestone 5.1 - Receive an annual update on the economic and social trends occurring in Ashburton Zone	ECan ADC	On Track - Report complete and online.	
Milestone 5.2 - Receive quarterly reporting on water quality and quantity monitoring results	ECan	On Track - Recently received update on nitrate levels. Fish and Game to present fish monitoring and habitat enhancement monitoring results in early 2018.	Science to report on water quality and ecosystem health monitoring.
Milestone 5.3 - Create opportunities to involve schools in waterway and wetland enhancement and/or monitoring projects	AZC ECan	On Track Stdents involved in community planting day on Ashburton River. Ash College students attended Environmental Hui at ECan.	ZC to have conversation with Ashburton College about involving their students in environmental management in 2018.
Milestone 5.4 - Regular media articles from ZC to profile zone implementation work	AZC ECan	On Track - 12 articles relating to ZC work	Three month communications plan includes two to three articles/advertisements per month.
Milestone 5.5 - Landowners in north Ashburton area understand the catchment health in their area and know what actions can be taken to make improvements – July 2019	AZC ECan Primary industry bodies	Started - Review of science to date. Technical team established and project manager appointed.	Sub regional project for North Ashburton area has been delayed. Scheduled for 2022 in LTP.

Milestone 5.6 - Improve community understanding of drinking water supplies, including actions to minimise risk	CPH ECan	On Track - Joint letter with CPH to help users understand risk & actions to minimise risk distributed.	Consider further actions to increase number of landowners undertaking water quality testing in tandem with awareness-raising initiative.
HDWP Rec 4.15 – Undertake a quality and habitat monitoring programme until Hinds Plan review period to determine the effects of actions taken	HDWP F&G ECan DairyNZ FAR Beef & Lamb DoC	On Track - Sampling on going	Sampling ongoing.

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

Project Name	Brief description	IS funding allocation	Status (30 June 2017)
Approved 2011			
Glenariffe Stream	Fencing	\$20,000	Completed.
Lake Heron	Fencing	\$14,000	Completed.
Upper Rakaia River - Whitcombe Landcare Group	Weed control	\$10,800	Completed.
Approved 2012			
Gawler Stream and Wetland	Fencing, weed control	\$26,644	In progress. Ongoing maintenance, weed control & infill planting.
Pudding Hill	Fencing, weed control	(\$8,133)	Funding retracted as landowner decided not to go ahead with QEII covenant.
Pudding Hill - Kahikatea Wetland	Fencing	\$3,500	Completed.
Swamp Grass and Track Paddock Wetlands	Fencing	\$14,475	Completed.
Upper Rangitata River - Department of Conservation	Weed control	\$20,000	Completed.
Vehicle Management Upper Rakaia	Signage	(\$4,500)	Funding placed back in the pool (see previous updates). May be reviewed in the future, the current signage not considered sufficient.

Approved 2013			
Ashburton/Hakaterere River Vehicle Gates	Install vehicle access gates	\$4,359	Completed.
Black Hill Station Blackberry Control	Weed control	(\$12,000)	Applicant withdraw from funding
Glenfalloch Wetlands	Fencing, planting	\$20,250	In progress.
Harris Scientific Reserve Plantings	Plant propagation, planting	\$5,320	Project completed. Awaiting audit.
Lincoln Hills Wetland	Fencing, planting	(\$13,700)	Applicant withdraw from funding
Mount Hutt Wetland	Fencing, planting	\$33,800	Fencing & planting completed. Ongoing maintenance.
Mount Somers Biodiversity Project	Fencing, planting	\$26,605 \$21,605	In progress. All fencing completed. Planting funding removed from agreement as wanting to see what natural regeneration occurs.
South Rakaia Huts Domain	Weed control, planting	\$4,000	Completed
Upper Rakaia River Phase 2 - Whitcombe Landcare Group	Weed control	\$20,650	Contracting and weed control work in progress.
Woodvale Road Wetland	Fencing, planting	\$5,000	Completed
Approved 2014			
CaREx Waterway Rehabilitation - Ashburton Forks	Planting	\$11,220	In progress. All planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
CaREx Waterway Rehabilitation - Harris C Drain	Planting, weed control, re-battering	\$23,380	In progress. All earthworks and planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
CaREx Waterway Rehabilitation – Boundary Drain	Planting	\$3,962	In progress. All planting completed, ongoing maintenance.

Woodvale Road Wetland Stage 2	Fencing, planting	\$8,860	In progress. All planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Flynn Stream Enhancement	Fencing, planting	\$8,250	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Darra Downs Restoration	Fencing, planting	\$8,293	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Somerview Restoration	Fencing, planting	\$8,038	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Approved 2015			
Coldstream and Wetland	Fencing, planting, earthworks	\$5,605	In progress. Fencing, bank battering and planting completed. Ongoing maintenance.
Taylor's and Windermere Drains Habitat Enhancement	Instream enhancement	\$5,400	Completed. Ongoing monitoring only.
Okawa Wetland	Planting	\$12,925	Project completed. Awaiting audit.
Upper Rangitata River Predator Control Project	Predator control	\$23,000	In progress.
Staveley – Westray Farm Poaka Kahikatea Bush Protection	Fencing	\$9,520	In progress.
Coldstream Creek and Coastal Wetland	Fencing, planting, weed control	\$3270	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Upper Flynn Stream Enhancement	Fencing, planting	\$8,800	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Harding Creek Riparian Restoration	Fencing, planting	\$7,288	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Yatemans Waterway Rehabilitation	Fencing, planting	\$32,078	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Mt Harding Creek Enhancement	Planting	\$5,970	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Silverstream (Anama) Planting	Planting	\$24,300	In progress. Year 1 planting completed.

Approved 2016			
Coldstream and Wetland Stage 2	Fencing, planting, weed control	\$20,450	Landowner agreement completed. Seed eco-sourced for planting in autumn 2017.
Flynn Stream Stage 2	Weed control, planting	\$8,688	Completed
Upper Flynn Stream Stage 3	Fencing, planting	\$10,000	In progress. Fencing completed.
Smith River Terrace	Fencing, planting	\$10,000	In progress. Fencing & planting completed. Ongoing maintenance
Limestone Creek Wetland	Fencing	\$5,000	Landowner agreement completed. Fencing in progress.
Lincoln Hills – Mudfish Habitat	Fencing, planting	\$9,510	Landowner agreement in progress.
Surrey Hills Mudfish Project	Fencing	\$1,950	Landowner agreement in progress.
Okawa Wetland Stage 2	Planting	\$10,000	In progress. Planting completed, ongoing maintenance.
Somerville 2 Wetland Dryland Terrace	Fencing, Planting	\$3,000	Completed
Approved 2017			
Wilkins Road Spring	Planting	\$8,455	Landowner agreement in progress
Halford Harding Stream	Planting	\$7,798	Completed
Thornton Wetland	Planting/weed control	\$22,495	Landowner agreement in progress.
Harding Creek Riparian Restoration – Stage 2	Planting	\$5,376.15	Completed
Staveley Bush Camp Weed Control	Weed control	\$5,600	Completed with on going funding will be requested
Lower Ashburton River Trapping Programme	Trapping	\$7,475	Completed with on going funding will be requested

Blink Bonnie Restoration Project	Fencing, planting, weed control	\$22,520	Implemented
Davies Limestone Creek – Stage 1	Fencing, planting	\$9,980	Landowner agreement in progress
Green Acres Bowyers Stream planting	Planting	\$6630	Completed
Staveley Petrie trapping	Trapping	\$2764	Completed
Upper Rangitata River Predator Control project	Trapping	\$13,333	Completed
Mee’s stream planting – stage 4	Planting	\$5000	Landowner agreement in progress
Upper Rakaia River Predator Control project	Trapping	\$13,333	In progress
TOTAL at 28 November 2017	48 Projects	\$648,554	From available funding of \$100,000 – \$51,446

Ashburton Zone Committee Report

Date 24 April 2018
Report to Ashburton Water Zone Committee
From Ian Lyttle, Senior Land Management Advisor, Environment Canterbury
Subject Sustainable Hill Farming Tool (SHiFT)

12 Sustainable Hill Farming Tool (SHiFT)

Purpose

To provide an overview to the Committee on the Sustainable Hill Farming (SHiFT) project.

Recommendations

That the Ashburton Zone Committee receives the presentation and provides feedback

Background

Environment Canterbury is working with Federated Farmers and Beef & Lamb to help farmers through the process of managing risks of sediment loss on hill country land, and to mitigate the subsequent loss of sediment into waterways running through this land.

This project has received endorsement and funding from the Ministry for the Environment. Some farmers will begin to hear about it from March 2018.

Called SHiFT (Sustainable Hill Farming Tool), it is expected that the project will culminate in the creation of a decision tool that will aid farmers as they consider development of their hill country development blocks.

Research company UMR will shortly begin a series of face to face interviews followed by telephone surveys, reaching a random sample of hill country farmers.

The 16 in-depth interviews will cover the decision-making process involved in the farmer's previous hill country developments, as well as the outcomes of recent developments. The objective is to ascertain what the main influences are in decision making, whether farmers have access to all the relevant information, and how the project can support that decision making through the development of an effective tool.

This qualitative survey will be followed by a telephone survey to around 150 farmers (across Canterbury and Horizons), chosen randomly from Agribase. This will occur in late March/early April.

The next stage of the project will be a Literature Search to identify:

1. What factors affect soil loss from hills
2. What the short term and longer-term impacts of sediment loss have on pasture production and persistence
3. What the mitigations may be to prevent/significantly reduce that sediment loss

The project will use the information from the surveys and the literature search to develop the decision tool. It is expected that the tool will provide a much better idea of the benefits and costs associated with development that are not included in a farmer's usual financial evaluation.

Ashburton Zone Committee Meeting

Tuesday 24 April 2018

Timetable	
Time	Item
1:00 pm	Meeting Commences
2.45 pm	Afternoon Tea

Order of Business

- 1 Welcome, Karakia and Introductions
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Extraordinary Business
- 4 Register of Interests.....1
- 5 Confirmation of Minutes3
- 6 Correspondence
- 7 Public Contribution
- 8 Facilitators Update.....6
- 9 ADC Surface Water Strategy Meeting – Update
- 10 5 Year Outcomes & Milestones Delivery quarterly update – January to March 2018.....12
- 11 Hinds Drains Working Party - Update
- 12 Sustainable Hill Farming Tool (SHiFT).....28
- 13 Reports for Committee Information
 - 13.1 Ashburton River E.coli Results – to be tabled at meeting
 - 13.2 Consents Update – to be tabled at meeting