



**Waitaki**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL  
TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI



*Everything is connected*  
*Promoting quality of life through*  
*balanced resource management.*



**Notice is given of a Meeting of the  
Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee, and the  
Lower Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee  
to be held on:**

**Date: Thursday, 18 October 2018**

**Time: 11.00am**

**Location: Waitaki Rod and Gun Club Rooms, Hayes Road, Hakataramea Valley.**

# **AGENDA**

## **Joint Upper and Lower Waitaki Zones Water Management Committee Meeting**

**18 October 2018**

## Location of Meeting

Waitaki Rod and Gun Club Rooms, Hayes Road, Hakataramea Valley.

From Kurow turn on to the Hakataramea Highway, go over the bridges and turn left into Hakataramea Valley Road, then turn left into Hayes Road. The Rod and Gun Club is about 100-200 metres on the right.

From Waimate side on to the Hakataramea Highway, turn right into Hakataramea Valley Road, then turn left into Hayes Road. The Rod and Gun Club is about 100-200 metres on the right.

For those who wish to attend the Hakataramea Sustainability Collective's Field day further up the valley at Invercroy Station, it starts at 2:00pm.



**Order Of Business**

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**Upper and Lower Waitaki SCC Zone Committee Meeting**

**October 18th 2018 at 11:00am**

**Waitaki Rod and Gun Club Rooms**

**Hayes Road, Hakataramea Valley**

	<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda item Title</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Paper/Verbal</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>	Standing items 1 Welcome, Karakia and Introductions 2 Apologies 3 Register of Interests 4 Confirmation of Previous Minutes 5 Matters Arising 6 Correspondence	Kate White / Simon Cameron	Verbal
<b>2</b>	<b>11:25 am</b>	Kai Tahu presence in the Hakataramea Valley. (Questions welcome)	Suzanne / Sandra / Ranui	Verbal
<b>3</b>	<b>11:30 am</b>	Network Waitaki Presentation on transmission challenges in Waitaki Valley	Graham Clark, CE, Network Waitaki	Paper
<b>4</b>	<b>12:00 pm</b>	Braided River (BRIDGE) project update	Tania Harris	Verbal
<b>5</b>	<b>12:15 pm</b>	PC3 and Wainono Augmentation update	Zella Smith	Paper
<b>6</b>	<b>12:25 pm</b>	General Business	Kate White / Simon Cameron	Verbal
<b>7</b>	<b>12:30 pm</b>	Close meeting & Karakia	Kate White / Simon Cameron	Verbal
	<b>12:35 - 1:30 pm</b>	Zone Committee lunch		



- 1 OPENING**
- 2 APOLOGIES**
- 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 4 VISITORS**

## **5 REPORTS**

### **5.1 NETWORK WAITAKI - SECURITY AND RELIABILITY OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY**

**File Reference:** NA

**Author:** Dave Moore, Facilitator, Lower Waitaki Zone Committee

**Authoriser:**

**Attachments:** Nil

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Upper and Lower Waitaki Zone Committees receive the update and provide feedback.

### **Purpose**

To update the committees on the security and reliability of electricity supply in North Otago and to seek support for their application to Provincial Growth Fund.

### **Background**

A transmission problem needs to be solved to ensure a secure and reliable electricity supply essential for economic growth and development in North Otago. Graham Clark's (Chief Executive of Network Waitaki) presentation will explain the situation and request the Zone Committees' support of their application to the Ministry for Business and Innovation and Employment's (MBIE) Provincial Growth Fund as one possible way of solving the problem.

ARLENE GOSS  
**COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATOR (TEMP)**

**5.2 PLAN CHANGE 3 (PC3) AND AUGMENTATION OF WAINONO LAGOON**

**File Reference:** NA

**Author:** Zella Smith, Principal Consents Planner, Environment Canterbury

**Authoriser:**

**Attachments:** 1. Report on Augmentation of Wainono Lagoon [!\[\]\(83f22ed94ec5517769dd76d702c6bfd8\_img.jpg\) !\[\]\(58518edde73d42d67a35a8ed26134c7b\_img.jpg\)](#)

**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the zone committees receive the report.

ARLENE GOSS

**COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATOR (TEMP)**

<b>HUI/MEETING:</b> Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee	
<b>AGENDA ITEM NO:</b> 5	<b>KAUPAPA/SUBJECT:</b> Plan Change 3 (PC3) and Augmentation of Wainono Lagoon
<b>KAITUHI/AUTHOR:</b> Zella Smith, Principal Consents Planner, Environment Canterbury	<b>WĀ/MEETING DATE:</b> 18 October 2018

### **Purpose**

To update the Committee on the implications of no augmentation of Wainono Lagoon in regard to the South Coastal Canterbury Sub-Regional Chapter of LWRP (section 15A) (aka Plan Change 3 (PC3)).

### **Recommendation**

The Zone Committee receive the report.

### **Report**

#### Key Messages

Without augmentation, the Waihao-Wainono Catchment will not meet the water quality outcomes, due to current land use practices.

- An alternative augmentation option is required. If there is no “route” for the water to get to Wainono Lagoon then a plan change outlining a much stricter regime will be necessary in order to achieve water quality outcomes.
- Environment Canterbury is considering the options.

#### Background

South Coastal Canterbury spans from the Otaio catchment in the north to the Morven catchment in the south and to the Hunters Hills in the west.

It has been divided into three areas to manage freshwater quality:

- **Northern Streams Area**
- **Waihao-Wainono Area**
- **Morven-Sinclairs Area**



In general, in-catchment water use is at or beyond sustainable limits for both surface and groundwater, and water quality has declined. PC3 was developed to address these issues.

The package aims to reduce the Trophic Level Index (TLI) score for Wainono Lagoon from the current 6.5 to a TLI score of 6 or less, improve Waihao and other tributary flows over time, and provide the streams a protection level of 90% for nitrate toxicity; while the irrigated land area increases by 27,000ha via the development of consented, (but at the time the PC3 was developed, not yet operational) Waihao Downs Irrigation Scheme (WDI) (which is now operational) and Hunter Downs Irrigation Scheme (HDI).

For the Northern Streams Area, the package aims to improve flows and habitat over time, while maintaining freshwater nitrate-nitrogen concentrations at a level where there is no observable effect on 90% of species and providing for development at good farm practice.

For Morven-Sinclairs Area, the package aims to protect the current quality of surface water and groundwater.

#### PC3 – the general concepts

The intent behind the nutrient management regimes in PC3 is that high emitters have to decrease their nitrogen load (to the maximum cap), managed through a consent process. Low emitters can increase their nutrient load a little (to the flexibility cap) as a permitted activity<sup>1</sup>. The high emitters coming down allows the headroom for the low emitters to increase. The flexibility and maximum caps are hard numbers in the PC3.

From 1 January 2025, provided water quality outcomes are met, a higher flexibility cap will be accessible as a permitted activity.

It was identified that having hard numbers in PC3 could cause issues as new Overseer versions come out. For this reason, where consent is required, the PC3 includes methodologies for updating the flexibility (now and post Jan 2025) and maximum caps, which are then reflected in the consent conditions.

In terms of water flow and allocation regimes, PC3 increases some minimum flows and aims to reduce surface water allocations. The changes to minimum flows apply upon replacement or review of consents. Changes in allocations apply where a property can access irrigation scheme water or at 01 January 2030, whichever occurs first. Without the additional out of catchment water, abstractors may struggle to reduce their takes or maintain an acceptable level of reliability.

#### Where does Augmentation Fit

Augmentation is intended to serve two purposes; firstly, to improve the current state of Wainono Lagoon, and secondly to off-set additional nutrient losses from the development of WDI and HDI.

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<sup>1</sup> Except in the Morven-Sinclairs area.

Policy 15A.4.16 of PC3 aims to improve water quality of the Waihao-Wainono Area by enabling augmentation of Wainono Lagoon and catchment restoration activities<sup>2</sup>, and in the absence of either occurring require nutrient loss reductions beyond those achieved by good farm practice<sup>3</sup>.

Policy 15A.4.5 enables farming activities in the Waihao-Wainono area to access a higher flexibility cap only after 1 January 2025 and provided the freshwater outcomes in Tables 15A(a) and 15A(b) are being met. The methodology for updating the flexibility caps allows for a higher updated flexibility cap to be accessed in this instance.

It is implicit in PC3 that augmentation is required to achieve the water quality outcomes in the Wainono-Waihao Area, however if there are catchment restoration activities, and the freshwater outcomes are met, people will still be able to access the higher flexibility caps.

#### And if it doesn't happen?

If there is no augmentation, no catchment restoration, and water quality outcomes are not met, people will not be able to access the higher flexibility caps.

The scenario testing undertaken as part of the PC3 development showed that without augmentation, freshwater outcomes are unlikely to be met.

There is no method in PC3 for requiring activities that meet the permitted activity threshold (i.e. no consent required) to go beyond good farm practice. Therefore, we have no ability to impose more stringent measures.

If consent is required, it will typically be for a controlled or restricted discretionary activity. When an activity is so defined, we are limited in the matters we may consider. It is possible we may be able to look at imposing management measures beyond good farm practice (such as GMP) however it would be right on the edge of a legal interpretation of the matters we may consider<sup>4</sup>. There is no policy support for that interpretation, and analysis done as part of the development of PC3 demonstrated GMP alone would not achieve the intended outcomes.

#### Wider implications

If freshwater outcomes are not being met, PC3 will not be giving effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management. In this case PC3 (or at least parts of it) will need to be reviewed. There is no certainty on what the result would be, however it is likely to require reductions in on-farm nutrient losses.

#### Next Steps

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<sup>2</sup> Augmentation is defined in PC3; restoration activities are not.

<sup>3</sup> Good Farm Practice is defined in Schedule 24b of PC3. It is not the same as Good Management Practice (GMP), although there are similarities.

<sup>4</sup> Rule 15A.5.7 – matters 1&3; Rule 15A.5.8 – matters 2&4

1. We are organising communication to the community
2. ECan will discuss with the Zone Committee and rūnanga
  - where we sit in relation to augmentation; and
  - whether we consider a plan review is necessary, given a plan change is due to occur in 2027.