

Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee

Agenda

Monday 11 February 2019

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)
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 11 FEBRUARY 2019** commencing at **3.00PM.**

Adrienne Smith
Governance Coordinator

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

BUSINESS

PAGES

KARAKIA

1 **APOLOGIES**

REGISTER OF INTERESTS

6 - 7

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 –10 December 2018**

8 - 17

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting, held on 10 December 2018, as a true and accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING

2 **OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK**

3 **WAIMAKARIRI LAND AND WATER SOLUTIONS PROGRAMME - UPDATE** - Murray Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan)

18 - 20

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receive** this update on the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Programme planning process for their information.

4 **WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL STOCKWATER BYLAW AND ASSOCIATED POLICIES REVIEW- BRIEFING** – Owen Davies (Drainage Asset Manager), Sophie Allen (Water Environment Advisor) and Libica Hurley (Technical Assistant)

21 - 29

4.1 **DRAFT Jan 2019 Stockwater Race - Closure Policy**

4.2 **DRAFT Jan 2019 Stockwater Race Pond Policy**

4.3 **DRAFT Jan 2019 Planting of Trees and Shrubs Alongside Stockwater Races**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receives** these draft Stockwater Race Bylaw policies for review,
- (b) **Provides** feedback on the three bylaw policies presented to the committee for this briefing.

5 **WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL ROLE AND FUNDING OPTIONS SUPPORTING ZONE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME ADDENDUM (ZIPA) IMPLEMENTATION – BRIEFING** - Gerard Cleary (Manager Utilities and Roding) and Sophie Allen (Water Environment Advisor)

30 - 59

5.1 **Copy of Report to WDC meeting of 29 January 2019 recommendations role and funding** – Gerard Cleary (Manager Utilities and Roding) and Chris Brown (Manager Community and Recreation)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receives** this update report about WDC role and funding options supporting Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA) implementation for the committee's information and planning.

- 6 **ECAN ZONE DELIVERY QUARTERLY REPORT – UPDATE** – Andrew Arps (Zone Manager) and Murray Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan)

60 - 68

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receive** this quarterly report for its information and in support of the committee's 2019 work programme priority setting.
- (b) **Confirms** its priority catchments for advancing management plans in 2019.

- 7 **COMMITTEE UPDATES** – Zone Committee Members, Murray Griffin, (CWMS Facilitator, ECan) and Andrew Arps

69 - 80

- 7.1 **CWMS Regional Committee update**, – Carolyn Latham, (Waimakariri Zone Regional Committee Representative)

- 7.2 **CWMS Fit for Future Project - update**

- 7.3 **Media and Communications – Update** – Gina McKenzie (Director – Real Communications)

Copy of WWZC eNewsletter

- 7.4 **Zone Committee Refresh 2019**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receive** these updates for its information and regarding the committee's 5 Year Outcomes and community engagement priorities for 2019.
- (b) **Approves** the current appointments of Chair, Deputy Chair and CWMS Regional Committee representative continuing through to the completion of the Zone Committee refresh scheduled for June/July 2019.

8 **GENERAL BUSINESS**

9 **WORKSHOP – WWZC 2019 WORK PROGRAMME**

81

Workshop will focus on:

- 1) Committee schedule to prioritize and implement a work programme for 2019
- 2) Zone committee engagement in the planning schedule to June 2019
- 3) Solutions Programme Implementation – WC and ECan

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Review** their schedule and confirm time and priorities to June 2019 to advance the committee's work programme.

10 **KARAKIA**

11 **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the CWMS Waimakariri Water Zone Committee will be held on Monday 11 March 2019 commencing at 3.00pm.

WAIMAKARIRI WATER ZONE COMMITTEE

Register of Interests – at December 2018

Name	Committee Member Interests
David Ashby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director/shareholder: Pineleigh Farm Limited - Director/shareholder: Dave Ashby Rural Consultants Limited - Shareholder: Waimakariri Irrigation Limited - Member: Cust Main Drain Water User Group
Michael Backwell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director/ Shareholder Blackwells Limited , Kaiapoi - Treasurer, North Canterbury Clay Target Association - 4HA property, Tuahiwi.
Grant Edge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director: Edge Landscape Projects Ltd, Edge Plants Ltd, and Edge Products Ltd - Member: NZ Institute of Landscape Architects - Member: Urban Design Forum - Member: QEII National Trust - Member: NZ Forest & Bird - Member: Heritage NZ - 1ha property Fernside (shallow bore user)
Cameron Henderson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dairy Farmer - Groundwater irrigator - Member - NZ Institute of Primary Industry Management - Member - NZ Dairy Environment Leaders Forum - Chairman - DairyCan - Canterbury Dairy Environment Leaders Forum - Chairman - North Canterbury Federated Farmers
Carolyn Latham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farmer: Sheep, beef - Director of Latham Ag Ltd Consulting - Shareholder: Silver Fern Farms, Farmlands - Registered Member: New Zealand Institute of Primary Industry Management
Claire McKay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dairy Farmer - Irrigator and shareholder: Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd - Holder of Groundwater take and use consents in Cust groundwater allocation zone - Holder of Effluent discharge consents - Member: Federated Farmers - Member: DairyNZ Dairy Environmental Leaders forum
Arapata Reuben	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chair – Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga - 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 - Rūnanga Rep – Ashburton Water Zone Committee
Judith Roper-Lindsay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director/ecologist: JR-L Consulting Ltd. - Land-owner/small-scale sheep farmer, Ashley downs - Fellow: Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ)

Sandra Stewart	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Self-employed journalist - Land-owner, 4ha Springbank – sheep & dogs
Gary Walton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director, Walton Farm Consulting Ltd - Chairman & Shareholder, Loburn Irrigation Co - Trustee, Rugby World Heritage Trust - Life Member, Ashley Rugby Football Club (Inc.) - Farmer, sheep & cattle, Loburn - Registered member NZIPTM New Zealand Institute of Primary Industry Management

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE CANTERBURY WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE HELD IN THE WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA ON MONDAY 10 DECEMBER 2018 AT 3.00PM.

PRESENT

Dave Ashby (Chairperson), Grant Edge (Deputy Chairperson), Carolyn Latham, Gary Walton, Michael Blackwell, Claire McKay (Environment Canterbury Councillor) and Sandra Stewart (Councillor, Waimakariri District Council).

IN ATTENDANCE

Owen Davies (Drainage Asset Manager, (WDC), G Meadows (WDC Policy Manager), Janet Fraser (WDC Utilities Planner), Ben Pearce (WDC Project Engineer), Gina McKenzie (Real Communications Ltd), Jason Butt (ECan), Diane Shelander (Christchurch City Council), Danny Kimber (Department of Conservation, Christchurch), Brent Walton (Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd), James Ensor (Oxford-Ohoka Community Board and resident), Michael Bate, (Kaiapoi resident), Graham Rouse (District Resident), Murray Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan) and Adrienne Smith (Governance Coordinator).

APOLOGIES

Moved G Edge seconded G Walton

THAT apologies for absence be received and sustained from Committee Members Cameron Henderson and Judith Roper-Lindsay.

CARRIED

REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Gary Walton advised some updates to the Register of Interests in his name, to read:

- Director, Walton Farm Consulting Ltd
- Chairman and Shareholder, Loburn Irrigation Co
- Trustee, Rugby World Heritage Trust
- Life Member, Ashley Rugby Football Club (Inc)
- Farmer, sheep and cattle, Loburn
- Registered member NZIPTM New Zealand Institute of Primary Industry Management

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1.1 Minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting – 19 November 2018

Moved M Blackwell seconded G Walton

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting, held on 19 November 2018, as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING

Regarding the concerns of Robert Johnston and the subsequent report, C McKay advised that Ecan will be responding and there is likely be some action underway early in the new year.

Regarding the presentation from Craig McIntosh – the Chair has agreed to meet with Mr McIntosh in the coming weeks and any other members of the committee are welcome to attend to hear Mr McIntosh's concerns. Members G Walton, C Latham and M Blackwell expressed interest in being able to attend. The Chair will circulate the time and venue for this meeting to all members who may wish to attend.

G Edge noted the following matters:

Stockwater races: comment from Mr Johnston that one of the original conditions of Waimakariri Irrigation, was that the stock water races would remain.

Budget funding for spraying in the Ashley River: there will be an update from Andrew Apse at this meeting.

Biodiversity issues – G Edge sought confirmation that there will be a report to the committee in February on biodiversity. S Stewart advised that there is a report from WDC staff to the District Planning and Regulation Committee meeting of 11 December (tomorrow) titled "Improving Council's approach to Biodiversity". G Edge suggested this is a joint committee of both ECan and Waimakariri District Council and questioned why these two Councils aren't dealing with this matter together to come up with a common goal and for gains within the Zone. G Edge suggested it would be nice to know in a report to the February Zone committee meeting, how the two organisations plan to promote and coordinate biodiversity within the Zone.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

Graham Rouse

Graham Rouse, a resident of Halls Road, West Eyreton addressed the meeting expressing his concerns with the quality of drinking water. Mr Rouse has attended several of the community meetings and pointed out the current nitrate levels in their water supply. The big concern is the speed that these levels have risen.

A neighbouring property owner, with their own well, had tested their water in February for nitrate levels which had a reading of 10.4 and when tested again in October was over 12. Mr Rouse has a well on his property, which is 11.3 metres deep and readings done from this supply back in October 2014 had nitrate levels of 11, in February this year they were 11.2, in November now 12.3, which is well above the MAV. Mr Rouse is concerned about how high these levels will go. They have installed a reverse osmosis filter which has been successful at this stage. Mr Rouse suggests the whole Eyreton community will be effected by these rising nitrate levels.

Mr Rouse commented on recent media article on portable nitrate testing kits that Mike Joy is using and suggested that ECan could have something like this so that many wells could be monitored and have information available on the nitrate levels. This monitoring could be regularly at three, or six, monthly intervals.

Councillor McKay commented that ECan are aware of these concerns as are Waimakariri District Council. Pointed out that seasonal peaks need to be taken into account - wet weather events can have an impact on nitrate level readings. If there is a trend of increases in readings, there will need to be more regular testing, but this is still to be determined.

D Ashby noted that WDC offer a water testing service and there is a testing service available at Hills Laboratories. Mr Rouse noted that their water testing has been undertaken by Hills Laboratories.

S Stewart noted that the nitrate levels in private water supplies has come up for discussion and how these can be monitored. Noted that land use practices have caused the high levels of nitrates and this is highlighted in the ZIPA as an issue.

Mr Rouse questioned the systems that have been put in place to try to reduce nitrate levels and is there any data available to indicate that these have been effective or not? Councillor McKay said this information could be provided and brought back to a future meeting in the New Year by an ECan scientist. There is information that has been gathered, showing that water quality in some streams is improving. Councilor McKay advised that there is some work being undertaken in Canterbury on technology for real time nitrate testing and some is currently being trialed. Mr Arps said there is a monitoring site in the vicinity of Harris Road.

G Edge noted with concern the nitrate levels rising and that the issue is the cause of the problem, being the high nitrate infiltration from dairy industry on the light soils. There has already been scientific information provided to the committee during the formation of the draft ZIPA and noted that the levels will increase, with positive result not expected for 30 to 40 years. The other issue is what is the extent of this problem, and how far and how fast is it spreading, which is a monitoring exercise. Another issue is who is going to pay for this, whose responsibility is it to be able to drink clean water. This Committee can't address these issues, but ECan through public pressure will probably need to address these, suggesting this should be sooner rather later.

Regarding the reverse osmosis filter, Mr Rouse advised that this took the nitrate reading down to 2.2, from 11.2, but as these filters need to be replaced every 18 months to two years, the effectiveness of the filter may diminish as it gets filled up

C Latham suggested that this data could be provided to the District Health Board to keep them up to date with these readings. Mr Rouse advised that Alistair Humphreys is aware of it.

G Edge said there needs to be some urgency in advising the public, especially the Eyreton community and it was confirmed that this was the responsibility of the District Health Board. Mr Rouse said there needs to be more information spread to the public on the availability of this water testing and there could be far bigger health implications than is currently realized.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Rouse for speaking to the meeting, confirmed that the committee is aware of this issue with the sharp increase in nitrate levels in drinking water, and is a concern to the committee.

Michael Bate

Mr Bate spoke of the portable nitrate testing machines, which cost \$25,000. These are used by Michael Joy (freshwater ecologist) and suggested that the Waimakariri District Council and Environment Canterbury could purchase one of these machines. This would allow for regular monitoring of the water in all wells in the district to be conducted as each test only takes 30 seconds, and a good picture could be built up of any changes to the water quality over a few months.

Regarding the spraying, the continued use of heavy spraying is still a concern. On speaking with fishermen from both Australia and England, they expressed surprise at the amount of spraying that is undertaken here in New Zealand around waterways. There is some done in both these countries, but not to the extent that it is done here. Mr Bate referred to his presentation from last month meeting, reinforcing his concerns that weed spraying in waterways needs to stop. Though acknowledging the possible financial burden on farmers, Mr Bate said there needs to be more urgent action on this matter, if not there will be no changes in 20 or 30 years from now.

1 **WAIMAKARIRI FINAL ZIP ADDENDUM UPDATE** – David Ashby (Committee Chairperson) and Murray Griffin (CWMS Zone Facilitator)

D Ashby spoke to a PowerPoint presentation on the draft ZIPA which was presented to the Waimakariri District Council on Tuesday 4 December and was approved 7 votes to 3, with one Councillor abstaining. It will go to the Environment Canterbury Council meeting on Thursday 13th December for their consideration. Of the general feedback received, those who aren't supportive of the ZIPA, is because it is not moving fast enough or hard enough and there are some feelings that the ZIPA does not embrace the cultural feedback that had been received, in terms of minimum flows and also in regard to the speed.

Over the timeline in the planning process, it was noted that the committee members had attended some 60 additional meetings and 22 ordinary committee meetings over the past two years. As was noted by Mayor Ayers at the Waimakariri District Council meeting last week, this has never been asked of a committee of community members before, and the Chairman extended thanks for this commitment from all members. This has been challenging work and it was important to note that all members have different views on these matters and to come up with a document that the community wants. D Ashby also said it was important to note that it will be 2022 before some of these recommendations become rules in a Plan. It is important that there is progress on the non-statutory items coming through before the Plan is in place. This will be challenging for the farming community – noting what is proposed particularly with the nitrate priority area, is:

- Base line GMP by 2025
- 15% reduction by 2030
- A further reduction of up to 15% by 2040
- A further reduction of up to 15% by 2050

There will also be ongoing measuring and monitoring of the water resource which will be done on a regular basis. There is already issues with levels of nitrates, and it was pointed out the development of land that has happened over the last 100 years or more, from native, to farming, and more intensive farming. With a combination of science and enhancements it is hoped to make this plan work and find solutions to the surface waterways. There is good science available now and other activities happening to enhance and speed up the process, and not wait until 2022. The ZIPA documents attempts to reflect what the people of the community want, though some may not be happy where things are at, but this is the start of the process. The Chair sought comments from the committee members.

Claire McKay

- Noted that there is further opportunity to submit as part of the RMA process.
- Noted disappointment that not all the Waimakariri District Councillors voted in support of this Addendum.
- Noted the good relationship with the Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd farmers.
- Noted the concerns of Graham Rouse, who spoke earlier at the meeting, and residents, on the health of drinking water.
- Extended thanks to the Chair D Ashby for leading the committee through the draft ZIPA process.

Grant Edge

The “on the ground actions” will need to get underway next year, which will mean some investment by both ECan and WDC.

At this time the Chair thanked G Edge for his input through the entire ZIPA process and also standing in as Chair when required.

Sandra Stewart

Endorses comments from the all members and noted the extraordinary community process that this has been to improve water quality.

Voted against the adoption of the draft ZIPA at the Waimakariri District Council, along with three other Kaiapoi councillors, because she believes it doesn't go far enough, fast enough and aligns with Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga who have expressed the same concerns. The Rūnanga also has not endorsed the document. S Stewart added the mechanisms for delivery of all the recommendations is not spelt out and she has major concerns with how this recommended work will be undertaken with no funding associated with it.

S Stewart thanked C McKay and G Edge for their input into the process over the entire eight years of the committee and acknowledged and congratulated everyone involved on the process and delivery of this document. She also noted the issues with the private shallow well water supplies and there is no mechanism to address this as yet. S Stewart concluded stating the challenge is enforcing the regulations through the Plan Change. This is the first step, and the second step is funding it and delivering it.

At this time C Latham asked B Walton from Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd, what is WIL able to do to encourage farmers in the scheme with particularly high nitrate losses to make reductions over and above the 15% by 2030? B Walton responded that the consent was issued in 2016 and noted that if evidence is suggesting that it's tracking along, consistent with the modelling, then it will be good to carry on this track. In the time since consent, some considerable improvements have taken place. For a farm to go from a C grade to B or A, some capital investment is required, in the form of Regen and installing pivots. B Walton suggests that in five years' time there will be significant farms that will move from B grade to A grade. Farmers in the WIL project have made massive steps and there is a young generation with good support and has confidence in the continued improvement.

Moved G Edge seconded M Blackwell

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receive** this update on the feedback received on the amended recommendation of the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Programme Draft ZIP Addendum 2018.

CARRIED

2 **WOODEND STORMWATER NETWORK DISCHARGE CONSENT APPLICATION** – Janet Fraser (Utilities Planner, WDC), Owen Davies (Drainage Asset Manager, WDC) and Ben Pearce (Project Engineer, WDC)

Janet Fraser spoke to a PowerPoint presentation and provided an update on the preparation of the Woodend Stormwater Network Discharge Consent Application. The consent is sought for a term of 35 Years. The Council is lodging stormwater network discharge consents for the major towns in the district, where there is reticulated networks. The first application lodged has been for Rangiora and the Council is soon to lodge the Woodend application, which includes the new development areas of Ravenswood and east Woodend. The Kaiapoi consent application is currently a work in progress and will be the next to be lodged. Each network requires a comprehensive Stormwater Management Plan by 2025. This will identify how the Council will manage urban stormwater to meet water quality standards by 2040. There is a budget of \$2.6m to implement the proposals being developed for Woodend, a budget of \$9m for Rangiora and \$7.7m for Kaiapoi.

The consent application shows no significant flood risk for urban Woodend. The application also includes fish and invertebrate surveys and ecology surveys and how the urban stormwater discharges effect the health of the streams in Woodend. The discharges are predominantly to McIntosh Drain, Taranaki Stream, Tuahiwi Stream, Cam River and Kaiapoi River.

Ben Pearce provided information on the water quality monitoring results sampling that was undertaken in 2016 in eight different sub-catchments – Ravenswood North, Ravenswood South, Taranaki Stream, Waiora Stream, Box Drain, McIntosh Drain, Transit Drain and Pankhurst Subdivision. Some of the contaminants recorded high readings and likely issues relating to urban stormwater noted were sediment from local constructions sites from the movement of trucks, zinc from metal roofs (unpainted galvanized) and zinc from tyres. Ongoing monitoring will be required now to identify the sources of these contaminants and J Fraser spoke on the proposed monitoring plan.

A Cultural Impact Assessment will be undertaken, as was done for the Rangiora consent, noted that the Stormwater Bylaw requires pre-treatment for industry of its stormwater discharges. There are currently trial innovations being undertaken at the University of Canterbury with oyster/mussel shell based filters to remove dissolved heavy metals, and iron filings in sand filter to remove dissolved reactive phosphorous.

J Fraser explained that there will also be some ecological monitoring undertaken by the Council for its own information, though this is not a requirement of the consent.

The Council also work with Ngāi Tūāhuriri develop and implement a landscape planting plan using plant species which would have historically occurred within current urban limits.

The Council will be developing a basic metal contaminant source model by 2020 have several steps planned to be included as part of the consent. This includes:

- Sample TSS/ clarity & dissolved metals twice a year
- Which sub-catchment discharges continue to exceed the standards?
 - Further investigation into problem sites
- Develop basic metal contaminant source model by 2020
- Model zinc & copper sources by sub-catchment
- Roof surface survey in sub-catchments with demonstrated zinc exceedances (more data needed)

- Investigate potential wastewater overflow urban sources
- Implement stormwater bylaw provisions for high, medium risk and construction sites
- Investigate options to reduce or control source contaminants
- Trial & report on effectiveness of LID options
- Wherever practicable, investigate diverting stormwater to ground
- With Government, lobby industry to reduce copper brake pad use

G Edge noted that there is the potential for stormwater to go to the ground without any treatment – will there be some monitoring of this, to confirm it meets the standard. O Davies noted that best practice currently, is for roof water to go into the ground. There is potential for Zinc contamination and this is something that will be looked into in the future. This is the reason that the Council have allowed a reasonable amount of time for implementation. There is still a lot of work being undertaken to identify the sources of contaminants and also the correct products to use to reduce contaminants. There is also further education to remind people about what does go down the drains (noted the recent use of blue plastic fish beside stormwater drains, to remind people that this water does into the rivers and streams. O Davies also added that it may be in time that copper brake pads are banned by the Government.

Moved M Blackwell seconded C Lathan

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receives** this briefing paper.
- (b) **Notes** the pending application for stormwater discharge consent for the Woodend stormwater network to be lodged shortly with Environment Canterbury.

CARRIED

3 **CWMS FIT FOR THE FUTURE PROJECT**– Chris Wikstrom, (ECan) and Murray Griffin (CWMS Facilitator, ECan)

Murray Griffin spoke to this report and it was noted there is significant amount of information included in this for members to digest. G Meadows noted that this is to go to the Mayoral forum in May and asked members to look at this document and suggest any items that they considered should be included in the attached work programme. ECan staff have been working on this document aligning with the ZIPA recommendations. The agreed approach was that members are to review this individually and provide any feedback.

Moved G Edge seconded C Latham

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receives** this report.
- (b) **Encourages** members to provide individual feedback to the Zone Facilitator (M Griffin) by January 14, 2019.

CARRIED

4 **COMMITTEE UPDATES** – Zone Committee Members, Murray Griffin, (CWMS Facilitator, ECan)

4.1 **CWMS Regional Committee update,** – Carolyn Latham, (Waimakariri Zone Regional Committee Representative)

The Regional Committee has not met since the last meeting of the Waimakariri Zone Committee on 19 November. The next meeting of the Regional Committee is scheduled for tomorrow (11 December 2018)

4.2 **Auditor-General Letter regarding the Regional Zone Water Management Committees**

The letter from the Auditor-General dated 13 November 2018, provides a renewal of the declaration that members of all the Zone Water Management Committees and the Regional Water Management Committee can participate in all discussions and decisions despite any pecuniary interests that members may have in those matters. (under section 6(4) of the Local Authorities (members Interests) Act 1968). This declaration applies for five years from date of the letter.

4.3 **Waimakariri Zone Delivery Update on current priorities in the Zone** (Andrew Arps)

A Arps spoke on Zone Delivery and provided an update across all the 12 Solutions Programmes of work. A report will come to the February 2019 meeting of the Zone Committee on the Clean and Green Silverstream, showing progress on this area.

The 12 programmes include:

- ZIPA Recommendations
- Supportive Regional Plan
- Relationships, Respect and communication (important to go out and consult with the members of the community in relevant areas and keep people informed, noting that this all takes time)
- GMP Showcase
- Compliance and Alliance
- Waimakariri Corridor
- Clean and Green Silverstream
- Coastal Corridor Extension
- Caring for the Cam
- Te Aka Aka Connection
- Ashley Rakahuri Stepping Stones (includes the concerns of Robert Johnston)
- Lees Valley and the foothills

Billion trees project update – this is an opportunity for funding which is being applied for, with the project to be greening the banks of all of the lowland streams of Canterbury, also in the downs and wetlands and the Pest Free Banks Peninsula.

A Arps noted that there is a lot of work happening over a lot of projects and a full report will come back to this committee in the February meeting.

4.4 **Waimakariri Immediate Steps Overview – December 2018 – Jason Butt (ECan)**

J Butt advised that this is his last meeting as the Biodiversity Officer in Waimakariri as he has taken on a Regional Support role. J Butt spoke to a slide showing the amount of outstanding funds for biodiversity projects in the zone. These were not just Immediate Steps Funds, but also from the Biodiversity Regional Initiatives (BRI) and Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy Fund (CBS). It was noted that some of these are older projects have been underway for some time (four years). Also in the agenda is a current position of the Immediate Steps Position in Waimakariri, and an overview of current projects some of which are spread over several years. It was noted that the wet weather that has been experienced in the district over the past several months has delayed the completion of some of these biodiversity projects. The projects highlighted that have been delayed were White Rock Mains QE11 Covenant, Mounseys Stream and the Pines Beach Wetland weed control projects.

A presentation will come to the February 2019 meeting of the Zone Committee and this will include a map showing location of projects. S Stewart also requested information on historic IMS grants.

G Edge added that the weather has also impacted on progress of the Easterbrook Road Project. There was also discussion on the consenting process for work and the need to ensure that there is not doubling up of the consent process.

The Chair thanked Jason Butt for his input into the committee and extended best wishes in his new role.

4.5 **Media and Communications – Update 1- 30th November – Gina McKenzie (Director – Real Communications)**

G McKenzie presented this report and suggested the trial of the denitrification wall at Silverstream as a possible field trip for the Committee members. Information on the results of the trial would be of interest to committee members. G McKenzie had earlier in the week been to the site for filming.

G McKenzie has met with the recently appointed Communications Manager at Waimakariri District Council, discussed the sharing of content and working together, and noted that the Council has good resources available. There will be a further meeting in the New Year with both WDC and ECan communications staff.

The Chair extended thanks to Gina for her work, especially over recent months.

Moved C McKay seconded G Walton

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receive** these updates for its information and regarding the committee's 5 Year Outcomes and community engagement priorities for 2019.

CARRIED

5 **GENERAL BUSINESS**

The Chair asked members for comments on any matters of interest.

C Latham, G Edge and M Blackwell all saw the need for priority work to start in the New Year on catchment management plans.

C McKay noted that a Resource Package has been put together by ECan on mahinga kai.

Regarding Plan Change 5, this is to go to Council on Thursday this week (13 December) to make the Plan Change operative from 1 February 2019. C McKay noted that there has been delays and issues with how the Farm Portal works for consent applications.

S Stewart suggested a field trip to include the Cam River work which is occurring now. She is also in agreement with catchment management plans being a priority and suggested that there needs to be joint discussion between ECan and Waimakariri District Council to discuss funding.

S Stewart was concerned to learn that the Silverstream Hatchery is moving out to another location as there is not enough water flow to raise the adult fish.

D Ashby spoke about attending the Next Generation Farmers meeting that he had recently attended in Mandeville. This had been an informal meeting with this group, along with several other members of the Zone Committee and also present were representatives from industry groups. D Ashby noted that it was important to get all members of these group on board and stressed this involves both on-farm and outside the farm gate work.

6 **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the CWMS Waimakariri Water Zone Committee will be held on Monday 11 February 2019 commencing at 3.00pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.15pm.

CONFIRMED

Chairperson

Date

AGENDA ITEM NO: 2	SUBJECT: Waimakariri Land & Water Solutions Programme – update
REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee	MEETING DATE: 11 February 2019
REPORT BY: Murray Griffin, CWMS Facilitator – Waimakariri, Environment Canterbury	

PROPOSAL

This agenda item provides an update on the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions programme with a focus on:

- The 2018 Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA),
- The plan change process conducted by Canterbury Regional Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That the zone committee:

Receive this update on the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Programme planning process for their information.

The Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Programme schedule for the period from September 2018 until September 2019 includes the following milestones. The current milestones are highlighted below in bold.

2018

- Draft ZIP Addendum & recommendations for the Waimakariri Land & Water Solutions Programme approved for public consultation – 10 September 2018
- Draft ZIP Addendum consultation – September/October 2018
- Zone Committee sign-off final recommendations for Solutions Programme – 19 November 2018
- Final Solutions programme recommendations to ECan and WDC councils – December 2018

2019

- **The planning process shifts to the draft of the Waimakariri sub region plan change to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan. This drafting phase is scheduled to produce a notified plan change in mid-2019.**
- **Zone Committee to confirm Land and Water Solution Programme priorities for 2019/21 – Feb to Mar 2019**
- **Informing the community on the Final ZIPA and the sub-region plan change scheduled for notification in June 2019 – February to mid-2019**
- Zone Committee to oversee the implementation of the Solutions Programme priorities for 2019/21 – Mar 2019 onward.
- Notify a sub-region plan change to the Land and Water Regional Plan in response to the ZC's recommendations – mid 2019.
- Submissions will be welcomed on the notified plan change once it is notified, as scheduled for mid-2019.

- Hearing on the plan change is likely to follow in either late 2019 or early 2020.

Background to Waimakariri sub-region planning process for the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan (LWRP)

The following provides an overview of key points of clarification about the Waimakariri sub region planning process:

- Canterbury Regional Council (CRC) has now received the Waimakariri Final ZIPA. In response to the statutory recommendations, the Regional Council will now commence the preparation of two plan changes (one being the Waimakariri sub-region) and supporting documents, including a section 32 evaluation and supporting technical reports.
- The plan changes will be CRC documents. The process for preparing those documents is strictly dictated to CRC by the Resource Management Act (RMA) (Schedule 1), with some modification by the ECan Act.
- The main stages of the process include:
 - Consultation with the iwi authority (Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga) and other First Schedule parties (including the District Council, DOC and others),
 - Public notification,
 - Public hearings and appeals.
- The public will have an opportunity to submit on the plan changes when they are publicly notified. The current target date for public notification will be the mid-2019.

Reasons for this date include:

- The Regional Council's Long Term Plan level of service target (i.e. notification of this plan change in 2018/19)
- The benefits of ECan Act (e.g. no merit appeals to the Environment Court) accelerates the planning process, meaning CRC can implement plan changes considerably faster and accelerate the achievement of environmental outcomes sought.
- Following submissions, the process will move towards a public hearing at which a panel of independent hearings commissioners will consider submissions and make a recommendation to CRC. The timetable for that has yet to be determined, but it is likely that the hearing itself will not commence until late 2019 or early 2020. We will talk more about the period post-notification closer to the time.
- A brief description of the two plan changes (including Waimakariri) to be prepared:
 - The most significant of the two plan changes will be a sub-region plan change to the LWRP, which will include:
 - A range of freshwater outcomes and water quality limits, and policies and rules to achieve those outcomes / manage to those limits
 - Surface water flow and allocation limits, and groundwater allocation limits, and policies and rules to manage to those limits
 - A range of other provisions addressing other matters, such as stock exclusion
 - We note that change will not occur for change's sake. Where existing region-wide or sub-region provisions are suitable, they will continue to be applied and so will not form part of the plan change. For example, it may be unnecessary to introduce new water take rules.
 - It is also notable that farming rules will be based on the PC5 rule framework, which is now operative.

- There will also be a plan change to the Waimakariri River Regional Plan (WRRP). The intention is to simplify the regional planning framework for the area covered by this River Regional Plan and Waimakariri Water Zone:
 - Currently two separate regional plans apply to this zone covering different matters concerning land and freshwater management.
 - This will be a relatively small plan change which will have the effect of reducing the spatial area that the WRRP will apply to – so that the LWRP can be a one-stop shop for controls on freshwater management
 - The main implications of changing from the WRRP to the LWRP, such as moving to the LWRP way of managing stream depletion, have already been discussed with the zone committee as part of preparing ZIPA recommendations.

For more information – on the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Programme, or to review the Final ZIP Addendum, go to: www.ecan.govt.nz/waimakariri-water

AGENDA ITEM NO: 4	SUBJECT: WDC Stockwater Bylaw and associated policies review – briefing
REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee	MEETING DATE: 11 February 2019
REPORT BY: Murray Griffin – CWMS Facilitator, Waimakariri	

PROPOSAL

This briefing provides the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee with an update on the WDC Stockwater Race Bylaw, and specifically, associated policies with this Bylaw.

Three reports are provided for the committee to review, and provide feedback:

- **Agenda item 4-1: DRAFT Jan 2019 Stockwater Race - Closure Policy**
- **Agenda item 4-2: DRAFT Jan 2019 Stockwater Race Pond Policy**
- **Agenda item 4-3: DRAFT Jan 2019 Planting of Trees and Shrubs Alongside Stockwater Races**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receives** these draft Stockwater Race Bylaw policies for review,
- (b) **Provides** feedback on the three bylaw policies presented to the committee for this briefing.

Considerations for the committee's feedback include:

- The stockwater race closure policy, which has previously received the most attention
- The zone committee's direction on fencing.

BY WHO

This briefing is provided by:

- Sophie Allen – WDC Water Environment Advisor, 3 Waters Team
- Owen Davies – WDC Drainage Asset Manager
- Libica Hurley – WDC Technical Administrator



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POLICY

Water

STOCKWATER RACE - CLOSURE POLICY

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Stockwater races in the Waimakariri District have supplied water for stock since the system was first introduced in 1896. Since then water has been supplied to livestock on a continuing basis throughout the District. There have been few closures of races over that time however with changes in land use, particularly due to rezoning and encroaching urbanisation there has been the need to close several water races. This policy set outs the procedures to be followed when further applications for closures of water races are received.

2 Policy Context

- 2.1 This policy has been designed to follow the steps as set out in legislation in the *Local Government Act 2002* (LGA) on decision making in the context of water race closure.
- 2.2 Generally the Council will not allow race closures where they may affect the viability of the water race network.

3 Policy Objective

- 3.1 The objective of this policy is to ensure that all closures are carried out in a systematic fashion and to ensure that effective consultation is carried out.

4 Policy Statement

- 4.1 The steps to closing a water race are initiated once a reason for a closure has been established and investigated. This may be due to an external request or as a result of an internal Council staff review. Once a water race has been identified for closure, a decision process is then to be undertaken as set out in the LGA, specifically Part 6 which deals with decision making.
- 4.2 The first step is to determine if the closure is a matter of significance as set out in the Council's Significance Policy (refer to Financial Management section of the Long Term Plan) and based on the following questions:
- Would the level of service for the supply and delivery of stockwater be significantly affected if the race were closed?
 - Is the race being considered for closure a strategic asset?
 - Would closure significantly affect Council's ability to supply water?
 - Would closure significantly affect the cost to Council and ratepayer to undertake this activity?
- 4.3 If the answer is yes to any of the above questions then the special consultative procedure as set out in Section 83 of the LGA should be initiated. This should include reporting to the Utilities and

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STOCKWATER RACE - CLOSURE POLICY

Roading Committee, Water Race Advisory Group and relevant Community Board or Advisory Board on the proposed consultation process and subsequent decision.

- 4.4 If the answer to the questions under Clause 4.2 are no then the decision making process as set out in Sections 77 and 78 of the LGA should be followed.
- 4.5 Whether the process is a Special Consultative Procedure or not, the consultation undertaken may include:
- i. Letters to residents and other affected parties e.g.: developers
 - ii. Consultation with the Heritage New Zealand regarding structures such as culverts, weirs and flumes, Historic Places Trust and Runanga
 - iii. Consultation with Environment Canterbury and Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga.
 - iii-iv. Public notices in papers and/or on the WDC website
 - iv-v. Proposal open for consultation for at least one calendar month
 - v-vi. Report to affected Community Board or Ward Advisory Board and Water Race Advisory Group
 - vi-vii. Public meeting
 - vii-viii. Closing date for proposal submissions
 - viii-ix. Send acknowledgement letter to submitters
 - ix-x. Complete report based on the submissions and deliberations
 - x-xi. Report to Management Team
 - xi-xii. Report to Council Committee (U&R) then Council
 - xii-xiii. Letter to residents with Council decision where appropriate

5 Links to other policies and community outcomes

- 5.1 This policy links with the Stockwater Race Bylaw 201907, Stockwater Race Pond Policy and Planting of Trees and Shrubs Alongside Water Races Policy. In addition it is linked to the following Community Outcomes:
- *The demand for water is kept to a sustainable level*
 - *Harm to the environment from the spread of contaminants into ground and surface water is minimised.*

6 Adopted by and date

- 6.1 This policy was adopted by the Council on the 24 AprilSeptember 20192

7 Review

- 7.1 The review of this policy will be aligned with the Stockwater Race Bylaw 201907 review programme by June 202917.

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POLICY

Water

STOCKWATER RACE - POND POLICY

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Stockwater Race Pond policy specifies the rules and conditions for the private land-owner use of stockwater race water for an off-race pond or development of an ornamental pond. It should be read in conjunction with the Stockwater Race Bylaw 201907, in particular Section 6 "Diverting of Water".

2 Policy Context

- 2.1 This policy has been formulated in the context of the efficient management of stockwater resources to ensure a plentiful supply of water for stock is available at all times of demand.
- 2.2 Compliance with this policy and the Stockwater Race Bylaw 2007 does not necessarily imply compliance with the regional rules of the Waimakariri River Regional Plan and the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan ~~Natural Resources Regional Plan~~ and resource consent may be required.

3 Policy Objective

- 3.1 The objective of this policy is to provide a standard approach for approving and recording applications for the private establishment and operation of ponds associated with stockwater races.
- 3.2 A landowner applying for a permit to take stockwater from a race other than for immediate stock use must comply with the provisions under Section 4 of this policy.

4 Policy Statement

- 4.1 The applicant and subsequent owners are responsible for ensuring that all applicable Acts, Regional and District Plans and Bylaws are followed when constructing and operating the pond.
- 4.2 All applications to construct ponds connected to stockwater races must be made in writing on the appropriate form: QS-U580 Stockwater Application Form to the Waimakariri District

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STOCKWATER RACE - POND POLICY

Council's Drainage Asset Manager. This can be downloaded from the Council's web site or obtained from any of the Council's Service Centres in Oxford, Rangiora or Kaiapoi.

- 4.3 A written response will be made by the Council to the application within 10 working days setting out the conditions to be met if the application is granted.
- 4.4 A copy of the application and Council reply will be put on the applicant's property file for future reference. The Race Manager will also be advised of the application and decision reached.
- 4.5 In general only one pond connected to a stockwater race will be permitted per property.
- 4.6 The nearest inside edge of a pond shall be constructed no closer than 5 metres from the nearest stockwater race.
- 4.7 Ponds should be no greater than 50-m² in area. In certain circumstances the Council may approve ponds no greater than 100-m² in area, where the flow in a water race is sufficient.
- 4.8 Pond depth shall not exceed 400mm and shall preferably be fitted with an overflow weir at a depth of 380mm, so as to control the depth of water that it will not exceed 400mm at any time. The overflow weir shall return flow back to the water race. The 400mm limit is a requirement of [the Building \(Pools\) Amendment Act 2016](#)~~the fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987~~.
- 4.9 Ponds shall be lined with either a PVC membrane overlying a 50mm compacted sand layer or with a clay lining. With either option it will be required to show that the pond is impermeable to leakage and if necessary a test will be requested to be carried out to check permeability.
- 4.10 A plan of the proposed pond (dimensions, locality etc.) shall be supplied to the Council's Drainage Asset Manager for approval prior to work being undertaken. Please note that a pond within the grounds of a dwelling may be required to be fenced under the [Building \(Pools\) Amendment Act 2016](#)~~Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987~~.
- 4.11 The work is to be carried out under the supervision of the Race Manager, who must be notified at least ten working days in advance by the applicant, once a permit to construct a pond has been given in writing by the Council.
- 4.12 Inlet and outlet pipes to connect with the race system shall be with fitted valves of 100mm diameter.
- 4.13 Water for the pond may be supplied from the race provided there is sufficient to do so. If water is in short supply or a notice of insufficient water supply has been given, then the supply of water to the pond must cease until you are notified otherwise. This will be achieved by turning

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STOCKWATER RACE - POND POLICY

off the valve until water supply can safely return. On no account can water be taken so as to cause a reduction in flow downstream of the pond.

- 4.14 No dam shall be installed in a race in order to raise water level so as to allow water to be diverted.
- 4.15 Pond owners will be required to ensure that the quality of the water discharging from the pond shall be no less than that entering the pond from the race. The pond shall not be a source of polluted water diverted back to the stock water race system.
- 4.16 The Council reserves the right to withdraw permission for the taking of water if it is found that any of the clauses in Section 4 have not been complied with.
- 4.17 The pond owner shall be responsible for all inspection and compliance costs.

5 Links to other policies and community outcomes

- 5.1 This policy links to a companion policy on the Planting of Trees and Shrubs Alongside Stockwater Races and the following Community Outcome:

There is sufficient clean water to meet the needs of communities and ecosystems

- *The demand for water is kept to a sustainable level*
- *Harm to the environment from the spread of contaminants into ground and surface water is minimised*

6 Adopted by and date

- 6.1 This Policy was adopted by the Council on the 2 April 2019 4-September-2012

7 Review

- 7.1 The review of this Policy will be aligned with the Water Race Bylaw 201907 review programme by June 2029+7.

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POLICY

Water

PLANTING OF TREES AND SHRUBS ALONGSIDE STOCKWATER RACES

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Planting of Trees and Shrubs alongside Stock Water Races policy specifies the rules and conditions for a private land-owner wanting to plant adjacent to stock water races. It should be read in conjunction with the Stockwater Race Bylaw 2019⁰⁷, in particular Clause 3.4. Prohibited Uses sub-clause 3.4.19 (c) and Section 5 Cleaning.

2 Policy Context

- 2.1 This policy has been formulated in the context of ensuring races are kept free from vegetation and debris that could impede a races function in delivering water to stock.
- 2.2 Compliance with this policy and the Stockwater Race Bylaw 2019⁰⁷ does not necessarily imply compliance with the regional rules of the Waimakariri River Regional Plan and the Natural Resources Regional Plan and resource consent may be required.

3 Policy Objective

- 3.1 The objective of this policy is to provide a standard approach for approving and recording applications for permission to plant trees or shrubs alongside water races.
- 3.2 A landowner applying for a permit to plant alongside a water race must comply with the provisions under Section 4 of this policy.

4 Policy Statement

- 4.1 Trees and shrubs may be planted within 10 metres of a water race only after written permission has been received from the Council's Drainage Asset Manager. Permission to plant trees and shrubs applies only to those outlined in the application and not for any subsequent planting not mentioned except for the replacement of dead plants.
- 4.2 The applicant and subsequent owners are responsible for ensuring that all applicable Acts, Regional and District Plans and Bylaws are followed when planting trees and shrubs (for example if planting near power wires).
- 4.3 All applications to plant trees or shrubs alongside stock water races must be made in writing on the appropriate form QS-U580 Stockwater Application Form to the Waimakariri District Council's Drainage Asset Manager. This can be downloaded from the Council's web site or obtained from any of the Council's Service Centres in Oxford, Rangiora, or Kaiapoi.
- A written response will be made by the Council to the application within 10 working days setting out the conditions to be met if the application is granted.
 - A copy of the application and Council reply will be put on the applicant's property file for future reference. The Race Manager will also be advised of the application and decision reached.
 - The particular species of trees or shrubs shall be stated on the application. Species such as pinus radiata, poplar and willow will not be permitted. The Council reserves the right to prohibit other tree species if they are determined to be an issue if planted alongside water races.

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PLANTING OF TREES AND SHRUBS ALONGSIDE STOCKWATER RACES

- d. Trees and shrubs shall be planted and maintained at a height that is less than or equal to the distance from the outer edge of the race to the inner edge of a mature trunk, see Figure 1.
- e. Shrubs can be planted on the side of the race from which is maintained, but must be maintained to less than 1.5 metres high and cannot extend more than 2 metres from the outer edge of the race.
- f. Trees can only be planted on the opposite side of the race from which is maintained.
- g. The lateral (side) growth is to be maintained in the shape of a trimmed hedge so as not to encroach on the water race. The purpose of this requirement is to allow for race maintenance.
- h. All tree trimmings in the vicinity of the race are to be moved sufficient distance away to avoid wind-blown material entering the race. Any loose tree material in the race is to be removed. This is to be done immediately following trimming.
- i. Any dead or loose material entering the race from the trees as a result of adverse weather such as north-west gales is also to be removed.
- j. Waimakariri Irrigation Limited shall be advised before any planting or tree maintenance work is carried out so as to avoid any conflict with water race operations.
- k. Please note that the Waimakariri District Council reserves the right to request the removal of the trees or shrubs if they are found at any time to be a problem with the operation of the water race system.
- l. The Council reserves the right to withdraw permission for the planting of trees and shrubs if it is found that any of the clauses in Section 4 of this policy have not been complied with.

5 Links to other policies and community outcomes

- 5.1 This policy links to a companion Stock Water Race Bylaw 2019~~07~~ and the Community -Outcome that there is sufficient water to meet the needs of communities and ecosystems.

6 Adopted by and date

- 6.1 This policy was adopted by the Council on the ~~24 April~~ September 2019~~2~~

7 Review

- 7.1 The review of this policy will be aligned with the Water Race Bylaw 20019~~7~~ review programme by June 2020~~17~~.

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PLANTING OF TREES AND SHRUBS ALONGSIDE STOCKWATER RACES

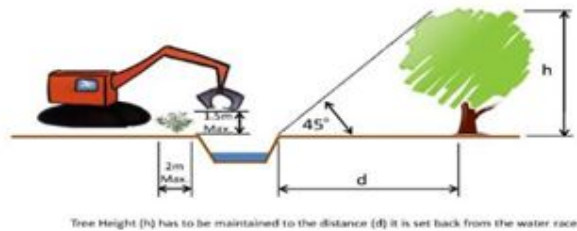


Figure 1 Tree setback distance from race

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AGENDA ITEM NO: 5	SUBJECT: WDC role and funding options supporting Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA) implementation – briefing	
REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee		MEETING DATE: 11 February 2019
REPORT BY: Murray Griffin – CWMS Facilitator, Waimakariri		

PROPOSAL

This briefing provides the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee with an update role and funding options supporting Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA) implementation.

The full report is provided for the committee's reference.

- **Agenda item 5-1: Complete Report to Council 29 January 2019 ZIPA recommendations role and funding**

This report outlines options for Waimakariri District Council (WDC) to fund and resource its contribution to the recently adopted Waimakariri Water Zone Implementation Plan Addendum (ZIPA) recommendations. The option of providing for a Biodiversity Officer is also included.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Zone Committee:

- Receives** this update report about WDC role and funding options supporting Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA) implementation for the committee's information and planning.

BY WHO

This briefing is provided by:

- Gerard Cleary, WDC Manager – Utilities and Roading, and
- Sophie Allen, WDC Water Environment Advisor, 3 Waters Team.

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL**REPORT FOR DECISION****FILE NO and TRIM NO:** EXT-01-35 /181217148924**REPORT TO:** Council**DATE OF MEETING:** 29 January 2019**FROM:** Gerard Cleary – Manager Utilities and Roading
Chris Brown – Manager Community and Recreation**SUBJECT:** Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA) implementation –
WDC role and funding options**SIGNED BY:**
(for Reports to Council,
Committees or Boards)_____
Department Manager

Chief Executive**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report outlines options for Waimakariri District Council (WDC) to fund and resource its contribution to the recently adopted Waimakariri Water Zone Implementation Plan Addendum (ZIPA) recommendations. The option of providing for a Biodiversity Officer is also included.
- 1.2 The Waimakariri District Council is identified as a contributing party in a number of the recommendations in the ZIPA. There are three options for roles that WDC could play outlined in this report as follows:
- Option 1 is for a primary role of educator and advisor, with limited new projects coordinated and delivered by WDC. This is the option that is currently allowed for in the WDC Long Term Plan (LTP).
 - Option 2 is a coordination role, in addition to the role of educator and advisor. Leadership of the majority of ZIPA implementation would sit with Environment Canterbury, and/or other agencies. This option includes allowing funding to employ a Biodiversity Officer.
 - Option 3 is an expanded coordination role, with more staffing resourcing and project funding. Leadership of the majority of ZIPA implementation would still sit with the Environment Canterbury, and/or other agencies. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for funding from Environment Canterbury is recommended if this option is pursued. This option includes funding for the Biodiversity Officer as well as an additional Water Environment Advisor.
- 1.3 The rating impact of each option is an increase of \$4.51, \$13.77 and \$32.27 per average rateable property per year for Options 1, 2, and 3 respectively.
- 1.4 The recommended option is Option 2, at a total cost of \$305,000 per annum, be funded for ZIPA Implementation, with a review after two years.
- 1.5 A budget of \$100,000 in 19/20 and \$100,000 in 20/21 was approved in May 2018, in the Long Term Plan (LTP), under the District Drainage account (previously referred to as the

Flood Response account) for minor capital works (TRIM 180514052798). Therefore an additional \$205,000 is requested in the 19/20 Annual Plan.

Attachments:

- i. Improving Council's approach to biodiversity- Report to District Planning and Regulation Committee, 11 December 2018. (Trim 181029126064)
- ii. Waimakariri ZIPA final recommendations WDC role and funding (Excel spreadsheet, Trim 181207145168)

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the Council:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 181217148924.
- (b) **Adopts** Option 2 presented in this report for consultation as part of the 19/20 Annual Plan. This is primarily for WDC to provide an education/advisor role, with a limited coordination role for ZIPA implementation. A primary leadership role in implementation is to be taken by Environment Canterbury and/or other agencies.
- (c) **Approves** the funding of Option 2: Implementation of the ZIPA at an additional cost of \$205,000 for 19/20 and 20/21 from the general rates, for inclusion in the Draft Annual Plan.
- (d) **Notes** \$100,000 per annum for 19/20 and 20/21 for ZIPA Implementation has already been approved from the District Drainage account in the Long Term Plan, which is funded from the general rates.
- (e) **Notes** Option 2 funding would bring the total ZIPA implementation funding to a total of \$305,000 per year for the 2019-21 financial years. Option 2 additional funding includes primarily creation of the role of a WDC Biodiversity Officer, who would have a dual role i.e. also implementation of biodiversity regulations under the WDC District Plan.
- (f) **Notes** that WDC will continue an existing leadership role for drainage maintenance, urban waterway education and monitoring, and stockwater race management (ZIPA Recommendations 1.4 (j), 1.14, 1.25 and 4.12.)
- (g) **Endorses** WDC approaching Environment Canterbury to discuss an agreement mechanism, which could include a Memorandum of Understanding, in which WDC would receive funding for ZIPA implementation, if a targeted rate for Waimakariri ZIPA implementation was under consideration, or levied, by Environment Canterbury.
- (h) **Endorses** a review within two years of the ZIPA funding allocation and resourcing, in line with Long Term Plan and Annual Budget processes, to reassess the role of the Council and whether ZIPA objectives are being met.
- (i) **Notes** that a report on the governance and operational structure for the on-going implementation of the ZIPA will be presented to Council before the end of this Financial Year.
- (j) **Circulates** this report to Community Boards and Waimakariri Water Zone Committee.

3. **BACKGROUND**

Role of WDC in freshwater management

- 3.1. The Resource Management Act (RMA, 1991) defines the roles of Regional Councils and Territorial Authorities in regards to freshwater management. Both authorities have a role, which could be argued to be overlapping in the legislation. A function of the Territorial

Authority is 'the establishment, implementation, and review of objectives, policies, and methods to achieve integrated management of the effects of the use, development, or protection of land and associated natural and physical resources of the district', as well as 'the control of any actual or potential effects of the use, development, or protection of land, including for the purpose of the maintenance of indigenous biological diversity' (Section 31). The RMA states that it is the function of the Regional Authority 'to control the use of land for the purpose of the maintenance and enhancement of ecosystems in water bodies' (Section 30).

- 3.2. The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM, amended in 2017), states it is the role of Regional Councils to maintain or improve water quality within Freshwater Management Units (FMU). The NPS-FM is currently under review, with an amended version due in 2020. This latest amendment is examining the inclusion of urban contaminants management, such as copper and zinc, which could be potentially a role of Territorial Authorities as well as Regional Councils.
- 3.3. For this report, the 3 Waters has led internal WDC discussions with Policy and Strategy (Geoff Meadows and Veronica Spittal), Development Planning Unit (Shelley Milosavljevic), and Green Space (Chris Brown) regarding the role of WDC, and implementation of the ZIPA, particularly regarding the protection and enhancement of indigenous biodiversity.

ZIPA Development

- 3.4. The Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) Waimakariri Zone Committee developed a Zone Implementation Programme in 2011, and has now, after both extensive consideration of the best available science and extensive consultation with the public, developed an addendum (ZIPA). This ZIPA, or alternatively named the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Package, with both statutory and non-statutory recommendations for action, is aimed at setting water quantity and water quality limits to improve the condition of fresh water resources in the Zone.
- 3.5. The Waimakariri Water Zone Committee approved the final ZIPA on the 19 November 2018. WDC Council approved the ZIPA on the 4 December 2018, and Environment Canterbury (Canterbury Regional Council) approved the ZIPA on the 13 December 2018.
- 3.6. The ZIPA Recommendations are divided into five chapters:
 - 3.6.1. Improving Stream Health;
 - 3.6.2. Protecting and Enhancing Indigenous Biodiversity;
 - 3.6.3. Reducing Nitrates;
 - 3.6.4. Managing Surface water – Flows and Allocations;
 - 3.6.5. Managing Groundwater – Allocations.
- 3.7. The ZIPA chapters with the majority of Recommendations for WDC are 'Improving Stream Health' and 'Protecting and Enhancing Indigenous Biodiversity'. For example, there is a specific Recommendation regarding increasing resourcing of WDC biodiversity capability and capacity (Recommendation 2.2).

Wider Biodiversity Considerations

- 3.8. The national policy context for indigenous biodiversity is under review, with the current development of a new national biodiversity strategy and a draft National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB).

- 3.9. The Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy, released in 2008, established a strategic approach to biodiversity in the region, with a vision to protect, maintain and restore Canterbury's indigenous biodiversity. The 19 signatories include Environment Canterbury, eight district councils (including WDC), two central government departments, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, and others. The Strategy sets out a series of goals and targets that aim to halt the decline of biodiversity across the region. This strategy is currently undergoing a refresh, with support sought for this from the Mayoral Forum.
- 3.10. The Development Planning Unit (Shelley Milosavljevic) reviewed the Council approach to biodiversity in a report to the District Planning and Regulation Committee on 11 December 2018 (TRIM 181029126064). There are wider considerations for biodiversity, under the current and draft District Plans, such as terrestrial biodiversity, that were addressed in that report. Tool 3 in the December biodiversity report identified the role for a Biodiversity Officer, which is allowed for in Options 2 and 3 of this ZIPA implementation funding report.

4. ISSUES AND OPTIONS

- 4.1. With adoption of the ZIPA by Council, the status quo role of the WDC and funding for freshwater management is required to be reviewed by WDC staff to ensure its successful implementation. Three options are presented here; Options 1, 2, and 3. Note that the Option 1 could be considered as the status quo, due to funding already allocated from the Drainage budget within the Long Term Plan process in 19/20 and 20/21.
- 4.2. No prioritisation or ranking is given between the ZIPA Recommendations. Therefore, the Recommendations that are funded in each Option is based on WDC staff assessment of relative priorities.
- 4.3. WDC will continue to lead for certain Recommendations that are currently led by WDC; namely 1.14: drainage maintenance in WDC areas, 1.4 (j) and 1.25: education and monitoring of urban stormwater, and 4.12 changes to the stockwater race network.

Option 1

- 4.4. Option 1: WDC would take on primarily an educator and advisor role, with existing staffing resources, and limited CAPEX projects. This option does not require additional funding as \$100,000 per annum for 19/20 and 20/21 for ZIPA Implementation has been approved from the District Drainage account in the Long Term Plan.
- 4.5. These proposed CAPEX projects are:
 - 4.5.1. Fish passage projects, such as possible weir remediation and trout barrier installation, \$20,000 (Recommendation 1.8).
 - 4.5.2. Drainage maintenance for instream and biodiversity values in particular, such as habitat creation of riffles and pools, \$20,000 (Recommendation 1.14).
 - 4.5.3. Fencing and amenity improvements along waterways on WDC land (e.g. walkway creation) and biodiversity works, \$40,000 (Recommendation 1.26).
 - 4.5.4. Tidal planting on the Kaiapoi River for earthquake effects mitigation, \$10,000 (Recommendation 1.27).
 - 4.5.5. Īnanga (whitebait) spawning area development, \$10,000 (Recommendation 2.11).

Option 2

- 4.6. Option 2: WDC would coordinate partial implementation of the ZIPA, however leadership would sit with Environment Canterbury and other agencies, at a total cost to WDC of

\$305,000 per annum. This comprises the existing \$100,000 allocation along with an additional \$205,000 of new funding.

- 4.7. Option 2 includes projects in Option 1, plus the additional projects listed below:
 - 4.7.1. A review report on drainage maintenance practices (both chemical and physical) and recommendations for improvements, \$10,000 (Recommendation 1.7).
 - 4.7.2. Urban waterway education and publication creation, \$20,000 (Recommendation 1.25).
 - 4.7.3. Fencing and amenity improvements along waterways on WDC land (e.g. walkway creation) and biodiversity works, an additional \$30,000 (Recommendation 1.26).
 - 4.7.4. Biodiversity Officer role creation and overheads, \$110,000 (Recommendation 2.2).
 - 4.7.5. Report on incorporating climate change impacts on indigenous biodiversity, \$10,000 (Recommendation 2.4).
 - 4.7.6. Ecological support for staff and contractors e.g. for survey work, \$10,000 (Recommendation 2.5).
 - 4.7.7. Water quality testing in private wells (i.e. for nitrate) – partial programme support only, and production of guidance information for well-owners, \$10,000 (Recommendation 3.16).
 - 4.7.8. Technical guidance of well depth and well head security to provide better water quality protection, \$5,000 (Recommendation 3.17).
- 4.8. Option 2 would provide a substantial commitment from the Waimakariri District Council to the implementation of the ZIPA. There would be increased benefits, including provision of biodiversity capability and capacity, through a Biodiversity Officer, that could be utilised across many departments, such as Greenspace, Utilities and Roading, Development Planning Unit and Plan Implementation Unit.
- 4.9. The Biodiversity Officer role would help to build relationships with landowners and public by providing advice and support. The Biodiversity Officer would be able to work across Council departments to support biodiversity initiatives, and also coordinate efforts with relevant agencies to raise the profile of Biodiversity. This would also have the potential to generate funding (for example via applications to Central Government), with the potential to fast track a number of already existing biodiversity initiatives on Council land and provide additional resource to implement new initiatives.
- 4.10. The WDC Biodiversity Officer role is intended to complement, not supersede current biodiversity resourcing, such as the Environment Canterbury Biodiversity Officer role for the Waimakariri Zone. With this intent, the functions to be carried out by the role on behalf of the WDC Council would be clearly defined.
- 4.11. Part of the Biodiversity Officer role would be active monitoring of Significant Natural Areas (SNAs). To date, without this monitoring, there has been a decline and loss in these areas as outlined in the December 2018 report (TRIM 181029126064) to the District Planning and Regulation Committee.

Option 3

- 4.12. Option 3 WDC would coordinate implementation of the ZIPA, however leadership would sit with Environment Canterbury and other agencies, at a total cost to WDC of \$705,000 per annum.

- 4.13. Option 3 includes projects in Options 1 and 2, plus the additional projects listed below:
- 4.13.1. Catchment management plan partial funding, \$50,000 (Recommendation 1.1).
 - 4.13.2. Enhanced urban stream monitoring, \$20,000 (Recommendation 1.4).
 - 4.13.3. Fish passage projects, such as possible weir remediation and trout barrier installation, an additional \$20,000 (Recommendation 1.8).
 - 4.13.4. Drainage maintenance for instream and biodiversity values, such as habitat creation of riffles and pools, \$20,000 (Recommendation 1.14).
 - 4.13.5. Education and guidance for landowners on riparian setbacks and planting on drains and waterways managed by WDC, \$10,000 (Recommendation 1.18).
 - 4.13.6. Support implementation, as required for Territorial Authorities, of the National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry, such as on WDC forestry land and working with the wider forestry sector to identify, and mitigate, high-risk periods for earthworks and harvesting, \$20,000 (Recommendation 1.19).
 - 4.13.7. Water quality and biodiversity projects in the Upper Ashley / Rakahuri catchment, including Lees Valley, for example of any Significant Natural Areas and wetland protection, \$20,000 (Recommendation 1.24).
 - 4.13.8. Urban waterway education and publication creation, an additional \$20,000 (Recommendation 1.25).
 - 4.13.9. Fencing and amenity improvements along waterways on WDC land (e.g. walkway creation) and biodiversity works, an additional \$60,000 (Recommendation 1.26).
 - 4.13.10. Water Environment Advisor role expansion (1 FTE role creation) and overheads \$130,000 (Recommendation 2.2).
 - 4.13.11. Waimakariri Biodiversity Action Plan (partial support for development), \$10,000 (Recommendation 2.3).
 - 4.13.12. Provision of support, such as administrative support, coordination with WDC and technical advice, to community groups, \$20,000 (Recommendation 2.8).
 - 4.13.13. Publication of education material for landowners regarding biodiversity, \$10,000 (Recommendation 2.9).
- 4.14. Option 3 would provide comprehensive support for the WDC toward the implementation of the Zone Committee recommendations. The benefits from the additional Option 3 funded items include those listed in Option 2 along with a number of other benefits. With a Biodiversity Officer and two Water Environment Advisors the WDC would have dedicated capacity and capability to carry out further initiatives.
- 4.15. The December 2018 biodiversity report to the District Planning and Regulation Committee (TRIM 181029126064) identified the need to take a strategic approach to the taking of esplanades and the management of them in order to provide for the opportunity ecological corridors and enhanced biodiversity values. Option 3 would provide significant resourcing (\$60,000 per annum) to enable this.
- 4.16. Option 3 would also provide partial support for implementation planning such as Catchment Management Plans and the Waimakariri Biodiversity Action Plan.

Additional funding considerations

- 4.17. Option 4, for the full implementation of the ZIPA recommendations relevant to WDC, is not presented in this report, however has been estimated at a cost of around \$1 million/year for WDC.

- 4.18. Options 2 and/or 3 could be progressed only on the condition of an enduring MOU with Environment Canterbury for funding, for example through an Environment Canterbury targeted rate for the District. The intention of this would be to minimise rate increases for ratepayers long-term. A funding MOU has not been explored as a possibility with Environment Canterbury to-date, and is recommended in this report for WDC to progress.

Staff resourcing

- 4.19. For Option 1, there are with current staff resources within 3 Waters, Planning, Policy and Greenspace. However, dedicated staff resourcing for implementation of ZIPA recommendations would only be available through the Water Environment Advisor role, within the 3 Waters team. Option 2 maintains current staff resources within 3 Waters, Planning, and Policy teams. Dedicated staff resourcing for implementation of ZIPA recommendations would continue to be through the Water Environment Advisor role, and with creation of a Biodiversity Officer role, recommended to sit within the Green Space team. The creation of this position is supported by ZIPA recommendation 2.2 (c). It is recommended for Green Space and 3 Waters teams to coordinate closely, to ensure clarity of roles and responsibilities.
- 4.20. The proposed Biodiversity Officer role would be a permanent full-time contract commencing after 1 July 2019. The funding for the Biodiversity Officer, requiring a qualified and experienced ecologist, with organisational overheads and costs would be in the order of approximately \$110,000 per annum. After discussion within WDC Departments, the Biodiversity Officer is recommended to sit within the Green Space team.
- 4.21. A Biodiversity Officer role has also been proposed by the Development Planning Team (TRIM 181029126064) for responsibilities under the District Plan, namely protection and monitoring of Significant Natural Areas, and coordination with other agencies, such as Environment Canterbury and the Department of Conservation. It is recommended that the Biodiversity Officer is a suitably trained ecologist, for capacity to be able to carry out monitoring of SNAs. These role functions align well with functions to implement the ZIPA. The apportionment of this role to District Plan functions and ZIPA implementation is recommended to be 50:50.
- 4.22. Option 3 proposes the extension of the Water Environment Advisor role from 1 full-time equivalent (FTE) to 2 FTE. This second FTE would be a permanent full-time contract commencing after 1 July 2019. The funding for the role, with organisational overheads and costs, would be in the order of approximately \$130,000 per annum. This additional Water Environment Advisor is recommended to sit within the 3 Waters team.
- 4.23. The Management Team have reviewed this report and support the recommendations. Noting that the Council has the discretion to decide what is the appropriate level of funding, and subsequently how much commitment WDC should provide to the ZIPA implementation.

5. COMMUNITY VIEWS

5.1. Groups and Organisations

- 5.1.1. The Waimakariri Water Zone Committee (WWZC) drafted the ZIPA through a collaborative process with appointed community members. Though there was not always agreement, a consensus viewpoint was reached, which was adopted as the final ZIPA by the WWZC.

5.2. Wider Community

- 5.2.1. The ZIPA version that was released for public feedback in September 2018 has been amended by the Zone Committee in relation to a range of matters raised in feedback from the public including minimum flows, target dates for achieving reduction in nitrates to groundwater, and improving stream health.
- 5.2.2. The community has shown strong support for protecting and enhancing biodiversity in the Waimakariri District via the District Development Strategy and District Plan Review 'Issues and Options' consultation feedback in 2017.

6. **IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS**

6.1. **Financial Implications**

- 6.1.1. \$100,000 per annum for two years (19/20 and 20/21) has already been allocated in the Long Term Plan process. Funding for each Option is per annum (to be adjusted for inflation) under the end of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy in 2040. See Table 1 for the rating impact for each Option.
- 6.1.2. Table 1: Rates impact of funding options 1-3

	Option 1 (default option already allowed for in the LTP)	Option 2 (recommended option)	Option 3
Cost per annum	\$100,000	\$305,000	\$715,000
Increase in rates for the average rateable property per annum (incl. GST)	\$4.51	\$13.77	\$32.27
Rates increase (based on FY19 rates)	No Change	0.35%	1.04%

6.2. **Community Implications**

- 6.2.1. Option 1 & 2: There will be more visible WDC restoration projects, such as inanga spawning area improvement and for fish passage, which will improve ecosystem values, and increase awareness of biodiversity issues in the District.
- 6.2.2. Option 3: There will be significantly visible WDC restoration projects. There would be more support available from the Council, such as ZIPA implementation planning, educational materials and technical advice, particularly for indigenous biodiversity for landowners with water bodies on, or bordering, their properties.
- 6.2.3. There would be a sustained increase from 19/20 onwards in rates for the ratepayer, either through a targeted Environment Canterbury rate and/or a WDC general rate increase.

6.3. **Risk Management**

- 6.3.1. The legislative framework for freshwater management and biodiversity is in a transitional phase, with current drafting of a National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity, and also further amendments to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management. With this shifting environment, it is therefore recommended to plan for the implementation of the ZIPA only in the short term, with a review after two years.

- 6.3.2. There is a risk that increased funding by WDC for ZIPA implementation may lead to an unintentional consequence of decreased funding and resources allocation by other agencies. This risk has been mitigated, for example, by the adoption of the ZIPA by Environment Canterbury Council, however should continue to be actively mitigated with inter-agency discussions and clear definition of roles and responsibilities of each agency.
- 6.3.3. There is a risk, through lack of financial investment that the ZIPA will not be implemented sufficiently for freshwater outcomes to be met, after much planning investment by community members, Environment Canterbury and WDC staff. Example of objectives that might not be met include protection and enhancement of mahinga kai species and restoration of special places such as the Cam River.

6.4. **Health and Safety**

- 6.4.1. The creation of the new role of WDC Biodiversity Officer could raise health and safety considerations, such as fieldwork in remote areas, which are addressed by the existing WDC 'Safe Working in the Field' manual.

7. **CONTEXT**

7.1. **Policy**

- 7.1.1. This matter is not a matter of significance in terms of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

7.2. **Legislation**

- 7.2.1. Resource Management Act (1991, Sections 30 and 31). The RMA defines the roles of Regional Councils and Territorial Authorities in regards to freshwater management.
- 7.2.2. National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (2011, with amendments in 2014 and 2017) outlines the process for setting community objectives for freshwater (i.e. the National Objectives Framework) and sets National Bottom Lines for water quality attributes.
- 7.2.3. New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy (2000, currently under review) and National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (in draft) set the policy framework for biodiversity management in New Zealand.

7.3. **Community Outcomes**

There is a healthy and sustainable environment for all

- 7.3.1. Harm to the environment from the impacts of land use, use of water resources and air emissions is minimised.
- 7.3.2. Cultural values relating to water are acknowledged and respected.
- 7.3.3. The demand for water is kept to a sustainable level.
- 7.3.4. Harm to the environment from the spread of contaminants into ground water and surface water is minimised.

There are areas of significant indigenous vegetation and habitats for indigenous fauna

- 7.3.5. Conservation and restoration of significant areas of vegetation and/or habitats is encouraged.

Public spaces and facilities are plentiful, accessible and high quality

- 7.3.6. People enjoy clean water at our beaches, rivers and lakes.

7.3.7. There is a wide variety of public places and spaces to meet people's needs.

7.3.8. There are wide-ranging opportunities for people to enjoy the outdoors.

7.4. **Delegations**

7.4.1. The Council has delegation to include service level budget provision in the Draft Annual Plan.

WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT FOR DECISION

FILE NO and TRIM NO: DDS-06-10-02-05-17 / 181029126064

REPORT TO: District Planning and Regulation Committee

DATE OF MEETING: 11 December 2018

FROM: Shelley Milosavljevic

SUBJECT: Improving Council's approach to biodiversity

SIGNED BY:

**(for Reports to
Council, Committees
or Boards)**

Department Manager



Chief Executive

1. SUMMARY

- This report: (a) outlines options for how Council could improve its approach to maintaining the Waimakariri District's indigenous biodiversity. It sets out the context for this, the current approach taken by Council, and the various tools that could be used to improve this current approach (including benefits and costs of each) and form a Council biodiversity management programme.
- (b) Provides background for the Committee to consider and give direction on the options it would like further investigated (and included in the budgetary considerations as part of the Annual Plan process) in order to improve the Council's approach to biodiversity.

2. RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee:

- (a) **Receives** report No. 181029126064.
- (b) **Endorses** the approach of continuing to protect Significant Natural Areas as part of the District Plan Review.
- (c) **Endorses** staff to further consider regulatory approaches to protecting and enhancing indigenous biodiversity (within and outside of Significant Natural areas) as part of the District Plan Review.
- (d) **Notes** that national and regional policy in relation to indigenous biodiversity is likely subject to significant change and the Council's role and resourcing in this area will likely be subject to external direction in coming years.
- (e) **Notes** that the full impact of the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA) has yet to be assessed and will require consideration beyond Draft 2019/20 Annual Plan preparation in January 2019.
- (f) **Notes** that subject to consideration and direction from the Committee on the non-regulatory tools it wishes to be investigated further, staff will bring another report in January 2019 for Annual Plan budgetary purposes.

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 A number of reports¹²³ have indicated that, similar to the rest of New Zealand, the District's indigenous vegetation and habitat for fauna has been significantly destroyed or modified over time and what is left is potentially threatened.
- 3.2 The community showed strong support for protecting and enhancing the Waimakariri District's biodiversity via during the draft District Development Strategy (DDS) and District Plan Review 'Issues and Options' consultation in 2017.
- 3.3 Section 6(c) of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) requires the '*protection of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna*' as a matter of national importance. Section 31(1)(b)(iii) states a function of territorial authorities includes '*the control of any actual or potential effects of the use, development, or protection of land, including for the purpose of the maintenance of indigenous biological diversity*'.
- 3.4 A proposed National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity² (NPS IB) was released in October 2018 and sets out a policy framework to significantly improve current approaches to maintaining indigenous biodiversity. Consultation is planned for mid to late 2019, with the NPS IB expected to come into effect in March 2020. District Plan's must give effect to national policy statements. The release of the proposed NPS IB indicates that indigenous biodiversity is a matter of national significance that must be addressed by Councils. The draft NPS IB contains relatively detailed objectives and policies that aim to maintain indigenous biodiversity while recognising the kaitiaki role of Māori with indigenous biodiversity management.
- 3.5 Environment Canterbury is gearing up as an organisation to improve biodiversity, making it one of its top priorities. The Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy (which WDC is a signatory to) is currently being reviewed, with particular focus on the implementation plan. An updated version is expected in late 2019. Throughout the Waimakariri District, Environment Canterbury has a number of biosecurity projects underway, along with the 'Immediate Steps' programme which involves a range of biodiversity projects. Relevant objectives of the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement 2013 (CRPS) include halting the decline of Canterbury's ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity, restoration or enhancement of ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity, and protection of significant indigenous vegetation and habitats. The Waimakariri District Plan must give effect to the CRPS.
- 3.6 The Waimakariri Water Zone Committee released the draft ZIPA in September 2018. Following consideration of public comments, a final version was released on 8 December 2018. A number of non-regulatory initiatives for protecting and enhancing indigenous biodiversity are included, which WDC will be involved in implementing. Note that this report does not outline the relevant biodiversity initiatives in the final version of the ZIPA as it was released after the agenda for this report was published.

¹ Our Land 2018 Report (April 2018), Prepared by Stats NZ & Ministry for the Environment (Ref: ME 1350). Available at: <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/environmental-reporting/our-land-2018>

² Report of the Biodiversity Collaborative Group (October 2018), Prepared by New Zealand Biodiversity Collaborative Group. Available at: <https://www.biodiversitynz.org/> (Note: This report contains the draft National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity)

³ Current State Biodiversity Assessment for the Waimakariri Canterbury Water Management Strategy Zone (September 2016), Prepared by Environment Canterbury. Available at: <https://apps.canterburymaps.govt.nz/WaimakStoryMap/Waimak.html>

4. **ISSUES AND OPTIONS**

- 4.1. The Management Team have reviewed this report and support the recommendations.
- 4.2. There are a number of regulatory and non-regulatory mechanisms available to help achieve Council's function of maintaining indigenous biodiversity. Table 1 below outlines the various mechanisms that form Council's current approach to maintaining biodiversity.

Table 1: Council's current approach to biodiversity

Tool	Details
Waimakariri District Plan (Regulatory)	<p>There are currently 111 Significant Natural Areas (SNAs) listed in the operative District Plan (called 'Vegetation & Habitat Sites'). These areas were listed by landowners voluntarily. The District Plan has rules that restrict the reduction of vegetation cover, earthworks, planting, access tracks and the reduction of the health and abundance of certain rare plants within SNAs. There are also general rules regarding the clearance of indigenous vegetation anywhere in the district.</p> <p>A review of the District Plan's effectiveness in 2016 indicated that most monitoring relating to SNAs was not carried out, primarily due to resourcing constraints. As part of the District Plan Review process, aerial photos were reviewed in early 2018 to identify which SNAs were still present. This exercise showed that four sites had clearly disappeared. Site V117 which was cleared by Netherland Holdings Ltd; whom WDC prosecuted in the Environment Court. The three other sites (V103, V116 and V137) have been passed on to Council Compliance & Enforcement Team to investigate. A total of 62 sites were selected where it was unclear whether the site was still there in its entirety. These 62 sites are being reviewed by ecologists at present. The remaining 45 SNA sites, which aerial photos showed to clearly be still present, will be rolled over into the new District Plan.</p> <p>The District Plan also has rules allowing Council to take (if it wishes) esplanades strips or reserves during subdivision from land adjoining 'priority waterbodies' or from created lots less than 4ha adjoining rivers with a width of at least 3m wide. Esplanades can be taken for a range of purposes including the protection of conservation values. A strategic approach to the taking of esplanades and the management of them is needed in order to better provide for the opportunity of ecological corridors and enhanced biodiversity values.</p>
Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw (Regulatory)	Restricts certain activities (e.g. 4WD vehicles) thereby protecting biodiversity values.
Contestable Fund (Non-regulatory)	Contestable funding of \$15,500/year for District Plan listed 'Vegetation and Habitat' sites (SNAs), Heritage Items and Notable Plants (protected trees). Current balance of account is \$143,679. Changed to discretionary fund in June 2017. Not actively publicised however will be soon.
Council-Community partnership planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taranaki Reserve – native stream side plantings (\$2k per year). • Kaiapoi Lakes – minor additional native plantings. • Kaiapoi Regeneration area – Honda Forest will commence planting next autumn. Total of 15,400 native seedlings to be planted in Honda

Tool	Details
initiatives (Non-regulatory)	<p>Forest (additional to the retention basin plantings being undertaken by the Council 3 Waters team).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pegasus Bay dune plantings – minor areas planted to encourage dune stabilisation. • Te Kohaka o Tuhaitara Trust - plantings along Tuhaitara Trail including areas of pines recently harvested. • Silverstream - Matariki Tu Rakau (Te Uru Rakau Forestry NZ) 660 kanuka planted in 2018 to have enrichment plantings once established. Also Million Metres Streams Project raised \$20k for 1.5ha of riparian planting. • Whites Road (ex-quarry) – school planting project.
Enviro-schools (Non-regulatory)	Involves a sustainability education programme. There are 16 Enviroschools within the Waimakariri District. Council is a funding partner.
Drain management biodiversity considerations (Non-regulatory)	Incorporating stream/drain bank planting, along with methods for drain cleaning that reduce impact on instream fauna, into Council's lowland streams and drain maintenance work.

- 4.3. As shown in Table 1, there are a number of mechanisms in place at Council to maintain biodiversity however given the indications that biodiversity is declining, they are clearly not sufficient to address the biodiversity challenge. These current mechanisms form a good basis for maintaining biodiversity so should be continued, provided they are deemed to be working as effectively as possible. Additional regulatory and non-regulatory tools are recommended to enhance the effectiveness of Council's approach to maintaining biodiversity and better met statutory obligations.
- 4.4. Table 2 below outlines additional regulatory and non-regulatory tools for consideration, which could be used to improve Council's approach to maintaining and enhancing biodiversity.

Table 2: Additional regulatory and non-regulatory tools to improve biodiversity for consideration

Tool	Costs & Benefits
<p>1. District Plan incentives (Regulatory)</p> <p>Provide development bonus incentives such as a bonus lot of any size (so could be below the zone's minimum lot size for subdivision) with opportunity to build a dwelling on the created lot for the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection (legal and physical) of an SNA; • Enhancement and protection (legal and physical) of an SNA; or • Enhancement of an area within an 'Ecological Corridor Priority Area' or other such identified area. <p>Ecological management or enhancement plans would be required.</p>	<p><i>Benefits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help to switch the perception of SNAs being a burden to being an asset. • Biodiversity gains. • Encourages protection of remnants which is a top priority. • Bonus lot provisions could help increase property values. <p><i>Costs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for fragmentation of rural areas, and increased density (effects on character, servicing, transport, rural settlement patterns) however this would be on a very small scale. • Introduction of domestic pets that could predate on native fauna. • Monitoring requirements (regularised monitoring would be required e.g. by a Council Biodiversity Officer) and the fact that the biodiversity benefit needs ongoing monitoring while the bonus lot incentive is one-off. • Changes in land ownership can bring issues with ongoing management requirements.
<p>2. Require ecological protection or enhancement as resource consent conditions (Regulatory)</p> <p>Either via direct resource consent conditions, covenants, consent notices or bonds where possible to do so (conditions must relate to managing the effects of an activity).</p>	<p><i>Benefits:</i></p> <p>Applicant funded.</p> <p><i>Costs:</i></p> <p>Monitoring requirements.</p>
<p>3. Council Biodiversity Officer (Non-regulatory)</p> <p>Key functions would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with landowners (particularly landowners of SNAs) to educate them on biodiversity values and management practices. • Coordinating efforts with other agencies (ECan, DoC, QEII, Forest & Bird etc) • Providing general support and advice to the public regarding protecting and enhancing biodiversity values. 	<p><i>Benefits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build relationships with landowners and the public by providing advice and support. • Coordinated efforts with relevant agencies. • Raise profile of biodiversity. • Implement biodiversity initiatives on the ground. • Potential to generate more funding (via applications) for protection or enhancement works. • Active monitoring of SNAs.

Tool	Costs & Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring SNAs (and any enhanced Ecological Corridor Priority Areas if present). Applying for funding for protection or enhancement works. Undertaking protection works (e.g. fencing) enhancement works (e.g. plantings). Running public biodiversity awareness campaigns. 	<p><i>Costs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full-time, permanent salaried employee.
<p>4. Funding (additional to contestable fund currently available) (Non-regulatory)</p> <p>Increasing the amount of funding available, and making it available for protection and enhancement works for both SNAs and non-SNAs would be valuable. Funding or subsidies for protection or enhancement works (e.g. fencing, pest control, buffers, indigenous plantings). Current funding available is \$15,500 per year however this is shared between heritage items, protected trees and SNAs. Any funding must be well publicised, with a clear criteria for eligibility, and easy to apply for.</p>	<p><i>Benefits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incentivises protection and enhancement works. Encourages good will in the community by rewarding biodiversity efforts. <p><i>Costs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of additional funding. Staff time to administer fund.
<p>5. Rates rebates for landowners with SNAs (Non-regulatory)</p> <p>Landowners with SNAs on their property could be eligible for rates rebates for the area of their property covered by an SNA in order to acknowledge the landowners restrictions on the use of that part of their land.</p>	<p><i>Benefits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> While the actual rebate may be minimal, it is an effective way of providing an ongoing incentive for protection that provides a more direct linkage. Acknowledges the restrictions landowners face on the use of their land covered by an SNA. <p><i>Costs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of rates on areas of land covered by SNAs.
<p>6. Biodiversity initiatives on Council land (Non-regulatory)</p> <p>Adopt an indigenous planting priority policy for Council reserves (E.g. Auckland Council has a 'Design Manual Guide for Parks' with the following motto: <i>'Plants are great, natives are better, eco-sourced is best'</i>)</p> <p>E.g. The coastal strip (administered by Council) between Mean High Water Springs and the Te Kohaka O Tuhaitara Trust land could be actively enhanced with dune</p>	<p><i>Benefits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council takes the lead on showing the importance of indigenous biodiversity on its reserves. <p><i>Costs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some members of the public prefer exotic plantings (e.g. oak trees).

Tool	Costs & Benefits
plantings (currently Council only restricts 4WD use).	
<p>7. Council strategy on taking of esplanades in order to prioritise ecological corridor linkages (<i>Non-regulatory</i>)</p> <p>Establish a strategic, district-wide approach to riparian management and ecological linkages. Such a strategy would have the aim of closing gaps, and prioritising esplanades where Council should focus its land purchases when they become available via subdivision, or by working with landowners.</p>	<p><i>Benefits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a network of esplanade linkages along waterways available for enhancing biodiversity values and/or providing public access for recreation and cultural purposes. <p><i>Costs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of purchasing esplanade reserves (vested in Council). Cost of maintenance and enhancement of reserves.
<p>8. Council Urban Forest Strategy and/or District wide canopy cover % goal (<i>Non-regulatory</i>)</p>	<p><i>Benefits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourages urban forests. Encourages enhancing canopy cover throughout the district. <p><i>Costs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff time to prepare strategy / canopy cover goal.
<p>9. Council nursery with discounted indigenous plants of local provenance (<i>Non-regulatory</i>)</p>	<p><i>Benefits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourages public to plant indigenous vegetation of local provenance. <p><i>Costs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of discounting plants. Cost of establishing and operating a Council nursery.
<p>10. Community biodiversity initiatives - increased involvement and financial contribution to community projects (<i>Non-regulatory</i>)</p>	<p><i>Benefits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourages community initiatives. <p><i>Costs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of staff time or Council resources. Cost of any financial contribution.
<p>11. Provide free ecological assessments to landowners (<i>Non-regulatory</i>)</p>	<p><i>Benefits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourages landowner interest and knowledge of biodiversity. <p><i>Costs:</i></p>

Tool	Costs & Benefits
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council staff time (if there is a Biodiversity Officer) or consultant ecologist's time to undertake ecological assessment.
12. Community 'Biodiversity Awards' (Non-regulatory) to celebrate successes	<p><i>Benefits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrates successes. • Incentivises community initiatives. <p><i>Costs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost of awards and associated communications.

4.5. Recommended approach

Overall, this report recommends that Council improve its overall approach to maintaining indigenous biodiversity through a formal and coordinated biodiversity management programme. Utilising a combination of regulatory and non-regulatory tools is the best way to achieve this.

Improving the role of regulatory tools, such as the District Plan, is important, however this can come with its own set of challenges. Many other territorial authorities do not go this far, however this will likely change when the NPS IB comes into effect. There are broad range of non-regulatory tools available, as outlined in Table 2. If the recommendations of this report are adopted, staff will consider the relative merits of these tools in more detail in order to develop a recommended tool combination that can form a Council biodiversity management programme.

5. COMMUNITY VIEWS

5.1. Groups and Organisations

The potential role of a Biodiversity Officer at Council was discussed with Chris Brown, Manager Community & Recreation. It was determined that there would be a wide range of responsibilities for such a position. Possible biodiversity initiatives on Council reserves were also discussed.

The role of regulatory and non-regulatory tools for improving biodiversity was discussed with Chris Keeling, Team Leader Strategy & Planning at Environment Canterbury. Chris emphasised the importance of early engagement with key stakeholders such as Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society and Fish and Game.

5.2. Wider Community

As noted above, the community has shown strong support for protecting and enhancing the Waimakariri District's biodiversity via DDS and District Plan Review 'Issues and Options' consultation feedback in 2017.

6. IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

6.1. Financial Implications

Once direction is given for what approaches the Committee would like to pursue, the budget implications can be estimated and outlined in a report for January 2019 in order to align with Annual Plan requirements.

It should also be noted that \$100,000 per annum for the next three years has been included in the Long Term Plan to assist implementation of the ZIPA.

6.2. **Community Implications**

The potential implications for the community would be a greater level of protection and enhancement of biodiversity values within the Waimakariri District. However there would potentially be rates increases associated with this. As noted above, the extent of any such increase can be estimated once direction is given on the various additional tools Council would like to pursue.

6.3. **Risk Management**

There are no risks associated with the recommendations of this report which do not in themselves bind the Council to a changed course of action.

6.4. **Health and Safety**

There are no health and safety implications associated with the recommendations of this report.

7. CONTEXT

7.1. **Policy**

This matter is not a matter of significance in terms of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

7.2. **Legislation**

As noted above, Section 6(c) & Section 31 of the Resource Management Act 1991 are relevant.

7.3. **Community Outcomes**

The following community outcomes are relevant to this matter:

- *There are areas of significant indigenous vegetation and habitats for indigenous fauna. Conservation and restoration of significant areas of vegetation and/or habitats is encouraged.*

7.4. **Delegations**

The District Planning and Regulation Committee has delegated authority for this matter as it relates to resource management.

Waimakariri ZIPA - Final version (26 November 2018)		WDC role			WDC Funding					Notes
Recommendation	Text	Lead	Coordinate	Educate and advise	Option 1 Current LTP funding/ per annum (K) 19/20, 20/21	Option 2 Low WDC funding (K)	Option 3 Medium WDC funding (K)	Option 4 High WDC funding (K)	WDC Department	
1.1	That Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council support the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee to prioritise catchments and develop at least two Catchment Management Plans per year. These plans will provide specific catchment management goals and actions, priorities and monitoring programmes to support the implementation of ZIP Addendum recommendations.	N	Y	Y	0	0	50	100	All	Need to scope cost and scope of Catchment Management Plans first before funding
1.4	That Environment Canterbury implement a comprehensive waterway monitoring plan for the Waimakariri Water Zone, including: a. Monitoring water quality and ecological health of waterways. b. State of the Takiwā monitoring, including the health and wellbeing of mahinga kai species. c. Measuring diversity and distributions of freshwater fish, invertebrates and aquatic vegetation throughout the zone. d. Identifying critical sources areas and measuring deposited sediment extent and character, particularly in spring-fed plains streams. e. Including important bathing sites in Schedule 6 of the Land and Water Regional Plan and assessing primary recreational water quality at: – Ashley River/Rakahuri at Gorge – Ashley River/Rakahuri at Rangiora-Loburn Bridge – Ashley River/Rakahuri at State Highway 1 – Kaiapoi River at Kaiapoi township – Pegasus Lake at Motu Quay – Cam River at Bramleys Rd f. Continuing to share information and integrating monitoring programmes between organisations, and promoting community-based monitoring of waterways (citizen science) and education initiatives g. Investigating the ecosystem health of hill country waterways to identify issues and catchment-specific management options as required. h. Supporting ongoing research into emerging contaminants, including endocrine disruptors, in the Waimakariri Water Zone. i. Investigating tidal waterbodies related to: I. Sediment deposition and salt water intrusion in: – Ashley River/Rakahuri – Saltwater Creek Estuary – Tidal reaches of Kaiapoi River, Saltwater Creek and Taranaki Creek II. Aquatic habitat shifts associated with climate change and sea level rise, including changes in inanga spawning areas. j. Monitoring water quality and ecological health in urban streams and rivers in conjunction with Waimakariri District Council	Y - (j) only	Y	N	0	0	20	20	3 Waters	(j) only - Urban stream monitoring together with ECan. Covered under existing budgets?
1.5	That Environment Canterbury and Waimakariri District Council investigate the impact of commercial forestry practices and wilding pines on downstream freshwater ecosystems.	N	Y?	Y	0	0	0	0	3 Waters?	Required under the National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry?
1.6	That Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council support further research into factors that influence and/or control toxic cyanobacteria growth in the Ashley River/Rakahuri.	N	N	Y	0	0	0	0	3 Waters	Research would require substantial funding or a third party e.g. Cawthron Institute. It would be better to advocate for central government research
1.7	That Environment Canterbury, Waimakariri District Council, and Ngāi Tūāhuriri review the waterway management and maintenance methods used in the Zone. The review which should be publicly reported, would include: a. Preparation of an inventory of the main methods, including chemicals and mechanical methods, used by public and private land and water managers in the Zone; b. The findings of recent work by EPA, MfE or other relevant New Zealand organisations reviewing the potential effects of the listed chemicals on waterway ecosystem health and of other methods; c. An assessment of the risk to soil biodiversity and waterway ecosystem health in the Zone from use of chemicals or other methods.	N	Y	Y	0	10	0	0	3 Waters	Could fund 140 hours by WDC Water Environment Advisor, or WDC contractor. ECan staff support/contractor funding required as well.

1.8	That Environment Canterbury, Waimakariri District Council, Department of Conservation, Fish and Game, and Ngāi Tūāhuriri review the presence and effects of barriers to indigenous and introduced fish migration on waterways in the Zone in consultation with stakeholders and land owners. The review should: a. Identify locations where there are barriers to migrating indigenous fish and salmonids b. Consider the purpose of specific barriers (e.g. tidal control, flood management, drainage) c. Determine and prioritise options for removing or retrofitting barriers appropriate to different species at specific sites.	N	Y	Y	20	0	20	0	3 Waters	Fish passage projects e.g Trout barrier on North North Brook. Hunter River at Boundary Road weir
1.14	That Environment Canterbury and Waimakariri District Council ensure waterway management and maintenance activities minimise contaminant losses to downstream waterbodies and loss of aquatic life, while maintaining flood carrying capacity.	N	Y	Y	20	0	20	0	3 Waters	WDC under waterway consent. Funding for habitat creation, animal salvage works, erosion and sediment controls above BAU. ECan lead as the
1.18	That Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council support landowners with education and guidance on appropriate riparian set back distances and plantings for different situations.	N	N	Y	0	0	10	0	Green Space, 3 Waters	Publication material production and printing-provided by ECan. BAU with 70 hours Water Environment Advisor/ Biodiversity Officer
1.19	That Environment Canterbury and Waimakariri District Council work with the forestry sector and MPI to: a. Identify high risk periods over the next 5 years when earthworks and harvesting will take place within the Waimakariri Water Zone, so resources can be targeted to ensure potential environmental effects are mitigated or avoided. b. ensure that implementation of the NES is effective within the zone.	N	Y	Y	0	0	20	0	Planning?	With ECan / External Contractor and work with forestry industry?
1.20	That Ngāi Tūāhuriri, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Environment Canterbury, and Waimakariri District Council work together to identify areas and waterways of high cultural value and options for protecting those values including providing for mahinga kai and the protection of wāhi tapu and wāhi taonga within the Waimakariri Water Zone.	N	Y	Y	0	0	0	0	External	Already done? State of the Takiwa, Wahi Tapu and Wahi Taonga reports from MKT. If needing more, get MKT to scope price.
1.22	That Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council recognise the Ashley River/Rakahuri for its important natural landscape values, braided river characteristics, and braided river bird (nesting and feeding) habitat.	N	N	Y	0	0	0	0	Planning, External	through Biodiversity Officer role with 30 hours/year? Braided river work currently funded by ECan. WDC Bylaw through Policy and Planning to
1.24	That Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council recognise the Upper Ashley River/Rakahuri catchment, including Lees Valley, for its high natural landscape and ecosystem values, and protect its waterways from degradation by: • avoiding increased contaminant losses to waterways. • preventing the removal or degradation of any existing wetlands. • preventing the expansion of wilding pines.	N	Y	Y	0	0	20	0	Planning, Green Space, 3 Waters, External	Protect wetlands as SNAs in District Plan? BAU with 140 hours Water Environment Advisor/ Biodiversity Officer for compliance
1.25	That Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council initiate public education and awareness campaigns aimed at improving the water quality and health of urban waterways.	Y	Y	Y	0	20	20	20	3 Waters, External	Urban waterway education (stormwater incentives e.g. water tanks for industries maybe). With ECan Stormwater Superheros campaign/ Community
1.26	That Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council support projects that have enduring benefits for improved stream health, Ngāi Tūāhuriri values, and improved recreational amenity in the North Waimakariri River tributaries.	N	Y	Y	40	30	60	50	All	Fencing, walkways on WDC land. Biodiversity and stream health projects.
1.27	That Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council prioritise on-the-ground projects in the Cam River/Ruataniwha and Kaiapoi/Silverstream, including but not limited to: • Reducing and removing sources and legacies of deposited fine sediment. • Improving the quality of habitat for mahinga kai. • Removing barriers to native fish passage.	N	Y	Y	10	0	0	0	3 Waters	Kaipoi river plantings. Supplemented by funding from Cam River Enhancement Fund possible. Linkage to Catchment Management Plans and Waimakariri Biodiversity Action Plan
1.28	That Environment Canterbury and Waimakariri District Council investigate options to fund plants for riparian or wetland planting on land managed in accordance with an FEP or a Management Plan. (see also Rec 2.9)	N	N	Y	0	0	0	10	External	Support Environment Canterbury to find funding-could be external funding.
2.1	The zone committee recommends that Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council work with Ngāi Tūāhuriri, landowners, agencies and stakeholders to integrate indigenous biodiversity in a whole of waterway, Ki Uta Ki Tai, approach to managing catchments in the Waimakariri Water Zone.	N	Y	Y	0	0	0	0	Planning	Captured in District Plan and Catchment Management Plans

2.2	The Waimakariri Water Zone Committee endorses and supports the implementation of the Canterbury Regional Biodiversity Strategy as it applies in the Waimakariri Water Zone. In particular: a. The zone committee endorses the vision, goals, targets, and actions of Canterbury Regional Biodiversity Strategy; b. The zone committee recommends that Environment Canterbury support the appointment of a regional co-ordinator for the Canterbury Regional Biodiversity Strategy c. The zone committee recommends that Waimakariri District Council increase its biodiversity capability and capacity	Y (c) only	Y	Y	0	110	130	0	Green Space, 3 Waters	1 X Biodiversity Officer at 80k/yr plus 30K overheads, 1 X Water Environment Advisor (new role) at 90K plus 40K overheads
2.3	The zone committee recommends implementing the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy, at the water zone level, with a Waimakariri Biodiversity Action Plan to enable the following actions: • Developing and illustrating a vision for indigenous biodiversity (and related values) across the zone • Mapping indigenous habitats, vegetation and, as appropriate, threatened plant and animal species in the zone • Identifying actions for protection and enhancement of indigenous habitats, vegetation types and plant and animal species • Identifying priority sites, waterways, springheads, wetlands, reaches or locations for protection • Identifying priority habitats and vegetation for management actions • Setting targets for biodiversity protection and enhancement in the zone • Working with willing landowners to action indigenous biodiversity protection and enhancement projects • Developing strategies and actions that incentivise indigenous biodiversity protection and enhancement on private land.	N	N	Y	0	0	10	0	External	No support for Waimakariri Biodiversity Action Plan until scoped further?
2.4	That Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council consider climate change and sea level rise impacts on indigenous biodiversity in the Waimakariri Water Zone.	N	N	Y	0	10	0	0	3 Waters	Budget for reporting. BAU with Water Environment Advisor/ Biodiversity Officer
2.5	That Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council integrate indigenous biodiversity and instream ecological values into councils' planning and operational activities, including in work carried out by consultants or contractors.	N	Y- biodiversity only?		0	10	0	0	3 Waters 0 External	Ecology surveys to assist planning and operational. Relates to rec. 1.7
2.6	That Environment Canterbury and Waimakariri District Council investigate further ways to protect braided river-bed breeding bird habitat and bird populations from the impacts of vehicles.	N	N	Y	0	0	0	0	Policy, 0 Planning	BAU Planning tools e.g. a Bylaw
2.7	That Environment Canterbury, Waimakariri District Council and the Department of Conservation work with, and support, Ngāi Tūāhuriri Fenton Reserve Trustees in the Land and Water Solutions Programme project to reconnect coastal ecosystems between the Lower Ashley River/Rakahuri, the estuary and Te Aka Aka Fenton Reserve to provide for mahinga kai benefits for Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga.	N	N	Y	0	0	0	0		Support with scope for funding later
2.8	That Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council work with community groups to address indigenous biodiversity protection and enhancement by means such as: • Provision of administrative support; • Provision of financial assistance; • Identification of funding sources; • Provision of technical advice; and • Endorsement of projects.	N	Y- fund	Y	0	0	20	20	Green Space, 3 Waters	Funded through Rec 1.26 partially already
2.9	That Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council work with Ngāi Tūāhuriri, Department of Conservation and other agencies to assist landowners/land managers by: • Establishing a biodiversity advisory service (e.g. advice on appropriate plant sources or riparian planting) • Advising on indigenous biodiversity management as part of farm management planning within catchment plans • Publicising positive biodiversity actions, events and news • Promoting and raising awareness of biodiversity values and protection or enhancement opportunities • Investigating the development of a system to ensure appropriate sources of plant material for revegetation and enhancement projects • Promoting and advising on appropriate wetland habitat and waterway protection	N	Y	Y	0	0	10	10	Green Space, 3 Waters	Funded through Rec 2.2 already. Publication materials 10K. 70 hours (10K) Water Environment Advisor/ Biodiversity Officer

2.10	That Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council explore consenting options to enable landowners to undertake indigenous biodiversity initiatives including, but not restricted, to: • habitat protection and enhancement • wetland creation or restoration • predator control of high values sites • revegetation projects	N	Y	Y	0	0	0	50	Planning, ECan Planning	Planning tools (green consenting) e.g. permitted activities, and/or WDC provides access to global consent in partnership (50K)
2.11	The zone committee recognises the importance of the tidal reaches of waterways as inanga habitat and recommends that Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council support the development of habitat at inanga spawning sites and riparian planting.	N	Y	Y	10	0	0	0	3 Waters	One site annually
2.12	The Waimakariri Water Zone Committee acknowledges the Ashley Estuary (Te Aka Aka) as a taonga within the Waimakariri Water Zone; and acknowledges the current project in relation to the Fenton Reserves (see Rec 2.7); and recommends the establishment of a working group comprising representatives of Ngāi Tūāhuriri, Environment Canterbury, Waimakariri District Council, Department of Conservation, Fish and Game and other agencies to develop a strategy and programme to protect and enhance Ngāi Tūāhuriri, biodiversity and recreational values in the face of current pressures, climate change and rising sea levels.	N	Y	Y	0	0	0	0	All, external	BAU Biodiversity Officer support of 70 hours/year. Could overlap with the existing Northern Pegasus Bay Bylaw Advisory Group - but this group does not have a strong biodiversity focus.
3.16	That Environment Canterbury, Waimakariri District Council and Canterbury District Health Board work together to: a. develop a programme for testing and reporting of water quality in private drinking water supply wells, and b. raise awareness of health impacts from high nitrates in drinking water	N	Y	Y	0	10	0	0	3 Waters	Funding could be provided to ECan to implement, or ECan gave funding to WDC to implement.
3.17	Environment Canterbury and Waimakariri District Council should consider provision of guidance and information regarding a minimum depth for new drinking water supply wells and well head security, to provide better water quality protection.	N	N	Y	0	5	0	0	3 Waters	BAU or 5K for Water Asset Manager and Comms to produce pamphlet and technical advice.
3.25	The Environment Canterbury and Waimakariri District Council explore a funding stream and management structure to deliver the significant improvements in stream health and biodiversity, and mahinga kai diversity and abundance for the Waimakariri Water Zone over the next 5-10 years. The option of Targeted Rating Districts should be explored by Environment Canterbury. Industry and government funding partners should also be sought.	N	Y	Y	0	0	0	0	Green Space, 3 Waters	Detailed in other Recs. BAU hours for Water Environment Advisor and Biodiversity Officer.
4.12	That any changes to the water race network (e.g. race closure or piping) in the Waimakariri Water Zone be subject to wider consideration by Environment Canterbury and Waimakariri District Council, given the existing benefits of race losses in diluting nitrate concentrations, and supporting groundwater levels and stream flows.	Y	Y	Y	0	0	0	0	3 Waters	U&R report - no changes to considerations and AEE for ecological
1.2	That Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee support industry groups to provide sector, and catchment-specific support to landowners implementing Good Management Practice (GMP), including: a. sub-catchment groups working to reduce contaminant losses. b. increasing education and awareness of the Farm Environment Plan audit and accreditation process amongst wider community. c. educating and supporting landowners to protect catchment-specific ecological, biodiversity and Ngāi Tūāhuriri values by: – Preparing catchment management plans to implement on-the-ground waterway remediation projects at sites identified as priorities. – Providing workshops in vulnerable hotspots (i.e. high value or high contaminant loss) areas.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
1.3	That Environment Canterbury engages with small block owners to increase awareness and uptake of good management practices.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
1.9	That Environment Canterbury work with Ngāi Tūāhuriri and Department of Conservation to identify the types of activities and controls needed to protect the aquatic habitat of the threatened Canterbury mudfish and amend plan provisions to ensure protection at key sites in waterbodies including the following: • Tutaeapatu Lagoon • Taranaki Creek • Eyre River tributaries • Coopers Creek tributaries • Mounseys Stream tributaries	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		

1.10	That Environment Canterbury work with Ngāi Tahu and Department of Conservation to identify the locations and types of activities and controls needed to protect the habitat of important indigenous species including but not limited to: • Freshwater crayfish/kōura • Freshwater mussels/kākahi • Lamprey/kanakana	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
1.11	That Environment Canterbury support catchment management plans that implement on the ground projects targeted at rehabilitating the wetland, freshwater or estuarine habitats of threatened species or species of high value to Ngāi Tahu.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
1.12	That Environment Canterbury support further assessment of the issue of lost ecological and cultural values resulting from waterway realignments for consented and permitted activities.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
1.13	That Environment Canterbury promotes actions that improve bank stabilisation and reduce sediment inputs to spring-fed plains waterways.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
1.15	That Environment Canterbury strengthen the LWRP rules on stock exclusion to exclude intensively farmed stock from: • All springheads that permanently or intermittently contain water; and • All open drains and other artificial watercourses, (including but not restricted to irrigation canals and water races) with surface water in them that discharge into a stream, river or lake.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
1.16	That Environment Canterbury strengthen the LWRP rules on stock exclusion to exclude non-intensively farmed cattle and deer on the plains from: • All waterways and their tributaries, • All springheads that permanently or intermittently contain water; and • All open drains and other artificial watercourses, (including but not restricted to irrigation canals and water races) with surface water in them that discharge into a stream, river or lake.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
1.17	That Environment Canterbury educate horse owners to exclude grazing horses from access to waterways.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
1.21	That Environment Canterbury prioritise on the ground projects for Taranaki Creek, given its significant value to Ngāi Tahu and proximity to Kalapoi Pā, particularly those related to: • reducing and removing sources and legacies of deposited fine sediment • improving the quality of habitat for mahinga kai species • removing barriers to native fish passage • removal of invasive fish species	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
1.23	That Environment Canterbury investigate funding for projects to address key environmental issues in consultation with LINZ and Department of Conservation for the Ashley River/Rakahuri, particularly the removal of woody weeds above the confluence with the Okuku River.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
2.13	That Environment Canterbury undertake a programme of investigations and monitoring in the Ashley Estuary (Te Aka Aka) to provide information for the deliberations of the working group identified in Rec 2.12 and the group implementing Rec 2.7. The programme should include: • Determination of eutrophication susceptibility. This requires determining the flushing potential, the dilution potential, nutrient inputs and nutrient load susceptibility • Development and implementation of a programme to assess current trophic state and to monitor trophic state over time (important considerations are location of sites, parameters to be measured, frequency of sampling, seasonality of sampling) • Annual mid-summer broad-scale monitoring to assess the occurrence of macro-algae. • Monthly water quality monitoring for ecosystem health at the site near the estuary mouth. • Five-yearly monitoring of sediment quality at two sites – present site adjacent to Saltwater Creek and downstream from SH1 and a site in proximity to where Taranaki Creek flows into the Ashley Estuary (Te Aka Aka). • Monitoring of cockles and pipis from sites in the estuary to assess contaminant levels in shellfish flesh. • Establish stations at various locations in the estuary and begin to monitor sedimentation. • Annual monitoring of the sediments and macrobiota at one site within the estuary. • Baseline surveys of the fish and bird populations of this estuary.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		

3.1	That Environment Canterbury reflect in the Waimakariri section of the Land and Water Regional Plan a staged approach to reduce nitrate losses over time in the Waimakariri Water Zone.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.2	Two water quality management areas are proposed; a Nitrate Priority Management Area and a Runoff Priority Management Area.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.3	The zone committee recommend that farmers in the Runoff Priority Management Area are not required to achieve beyond Baseline GMP reductions. The expectation is that landowners in this area will focus on minimizing overland flow of contaminants such as sediment, phosphate, nitrate and pathogens.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.4	The Waimakariri Water Zone Committee proposes Baseline GMP as the starting point for nitrate reductions from 1 July 2020 (at the onset of expiry of land use consents). Baseline GMP is the average nitrogen loss rate, estimated by the Farm Portal, for the farming activity carried out during the baseline period of 2009-2013, if operated at good management practice.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.5	Dairy in the Nitrate Priority Management Area should achieve a 15% beyond Baseline GMP reduction by 2030.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.6	All other consented farming activities in the Nutrient Priority Management Area should achieve a 5% beyond Baseline GMP reduction by 2030.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.7	The zone committee encourage industry and local authorities to provide incentives to achieve nutrient reductions greater than the recommended reductions in this ZIP Addendum.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.8	Unless amended in a Waimakariri plan review process, the nitrate loss reductions in recs 3.5 and 3.6 above should be repeated until: a. the nitrate reductions necessary to achieve the plan limits have been met, or b. the science information available shows the plan limit is likely to be met in the future without the need for further reductions.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.9	The zone committee recommends the plan change includes policy criteria that allow for and guides consideration of extensions to the 2030 target date for beyond baseline GMP reductions in exceptional circumstances.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.10	Investigate and implement a nitrate "floor" to exclude low nitrogen emitters from having to make further reductions in nitrogen loss beyond Baseline GMP within the Nitrate Priority Management Area.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.11	The Waimakariri Water Zone Permitted Activity winter grazing allowances should be reduced across the whole Waimakariri Water Zone to minimise the potential for further nitrate increases in streams and groundwater. The following winter grazing PA property size thresholds should be implemented: Property sizes: • less than 5 ha do not require consent for winter grazing; • Between 5 ha and 100ha can use up to 5ha of property for winter grazing without triggering a consent requirement; and • Between 101ha and 1,000 ha can use up to 5% of property size for winter grazing without triggering a consent requirement; and • greater than 1,000 ha can use up to 50 ha for winter grazing without triggering a consent requirement.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.12	That Environment Canterbury runs an education campaign (including workshops) promoting good management practice, and proactively checks progress.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.13	The zone committee recommends that the Waimakariri sub-region plan boundary in Section 8 of Land and Water Regional Plan is amended to incorporate land bordering the Waimakariri River.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.14	That Plan Change 5 nutrient allocation zone rules for "red zones" are used as a foundation for managing nutrients across the whole Waimakariri Water Zone, combined with amendments to the permitted activity winter grazing consent thresholds, and additional nitrate loss reductions in the Nitrate Priority Management Area described in other recommendations.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.15	That Environment Canterbury reflect in the Waimakariri section of the Land and Water Regional Plan the nitrate limits in the drinking water supply wells of Waimakariri Water Zone as set out in the table below 1. Private water supply well areas are shown in Map X5, appended.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.18	That Environment Canterbury reflect in the Waimakariri section of the Land and Water Regional Plan the nitrate limits in the streams and rivers of the Waimakariri Water Zone as set out in the tables below.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		

3.19	<p>That Environment Canterbury makes sufficient resources available to enable significant improvements to continue to be made in the understanding of the Waimakariri Water Zone groundwater system and its connection with the Christchurch aquifer and spring-fed streams. The outcome of this work should be an updated assessment of the direction of travel and likely future nitrate concentrations provided to the committee, partners and stakeholders in 2025. The key areas for improvement of understanding include:</p> <p>a. Lag times between land use change and nitrate concentration changes in wells and spring-fed streams</p> <p>b. Past and present rates of nitrate discharge to ground within the zone and trends in nitrate concentrations</p> <p>c. Transport pathways between land and key receptors such as spring-fed streams, community water supply wells and the Christchurch aquifer system, so that recharge zones can be defined with more certainty</p> <p>d. Nitrate attenuation</p> <p>e. The effectiveness of actions (regulatory and non-regulatory) being taken.</p> <p>f. Nitrate discharges to Ashley Estuary (Te Aka Aka)</p> <p>g. Nitrate concentrations in private water supply wells</p>	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.20	<p>That Environment Canterbury commences a review of the Waimakariri section of the Land and Water Regional Plan in 2030 to incorporate new information and understanding of: how social, cultural, economic and environmental systems have responded; and whether we are on track to meet the plan nitrate limits.</p>	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.21	<p>That farming land use consents are granted to have common expiry dates to align with plan review stages.</p>	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.22	<p>That Environment Canterbury works with the Waimakariri community and Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga, to respond accordingly to new information, emerging opportunities and technology, and review the Waimakariri section of the Land and Water Regional Plan at least once every 10 years.</p>	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.23	<p>That Environment Canterbury continues to work with sector and research groups to encourage the further development and implementation of tools and techniques to reduce nitrate leaching.</p>	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
3.24	<p>That the Zone Committee support the investigation and assessment of on-the-ground actions to address nitrate issues (for example, Managed Aquifer Recharge, targeted stream augmentation, woodchip bioreactors, wetland creation, and water storage), including:</p> <p>a. That Environment Canterbury undertake a zone-wide study to assess the feasibility, costs and measures required to implement appropriate actions (to be completed by the end of 2019) to inform the development of sub-catchment management plans.</p> <p>b. That the Waimakariri section of the Land and Water Regional Plan should be assessed to ensure that these activities are enabled where appropriate in the Waimakariri Zone.</p>	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.1	<p>In over-allocated Surface Water Allocation Zones, that Environment Canterbury uses the methods set out in Rec 4.2 to reduce and where possible eliminate the over-allocation by 2032.</p>	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		

	That Environment Canterbury use the following suite of options to recover over-allocation, prioritising those options which reduce paper allocation. a. Prohibit any abstraction, other than for community drinking water supplies, where a limit has, or would be, exceeded. b. Enable the substitution of existing surface water or stream depleting groundwater takes with deep groundwater in over-allocated catchments provided there is no increase in the rate of take or annual volume. c. In the case of site to site water transfers i. Prohibit the transfer of any unexercised water permit, and/or of any unused water from the previous 5 years, based on actual usage records. ii. For transfers of water within over-allocated catchments 50% of the transferred water (rate of take and/or annual volume) is to be surrendered unless the water is to be used for a community water supply. iii. Retain Land and Water Regional Plan Section 8 policy that there are no transfers of river water takes within the Ashley River/Rakahuri catchment above State Highway 1 d. That Environment Canterbury identifies water permits that have not been exercised in the past five years and works with consent holders to seek their surrender. e. Lapsed consents i. For any water permit that lapses, is surrendered, or expires and is not renewed, the rate of take and/or annual volume is not reallocated ii. Lapse dates on unexercised consents are prevented from being extended except where exceptional extenuating circumstances are demonstrated. f. Past water use i. The Plan Change includes policy direction that records of past water use are assessed and considered when determining an efficient allocation for replacement consents in accordance with Schedule 10 ii. That Environment Canterbury reports annually on how metered usage compares to consented allocation within the Waimakariri Water Zone. g. Region-wide policy in the Land and Water Regional Plan for reducing over allocation by adjusting the allocation on replacement consents applies throughout the whole of the Waimakariri Water Zone, not only within the Ashley River/Rakahuri catchment.									
4.2	That Environment Canterbury applies LWRP requirements for partial restrictions and requires that pro-rata restrictions be applied to all surface water takes, and stream-depleting groundwater takes which require a minimum flow in the zone.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.3	That Environment Canterbury adopt the methodology for classifying stream-depleting groundwater takes laid out in Schedule 9 of the Land and Water Regional Plan.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.4	That Environment Canterbury remove B allocation blocks from all spring-fed rivers unless further investigations indicate that sustainable B blocks can be supported.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.5	That Environment Canterbury extend existing SWAZ and/ or introduce new SWAZ to ensure that there are no gaps in the environmental flow regime framework which manages the Waimakariri Water Zone.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.6	In currently under-allocated catchments, that Environment Canterbury cap the allocation at the currently allocated amount, so no further surface water can be allocated.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.7	That Environment Canterbury support water users to set up water user groups such that the available water resource can be best managed, particularly in times of restriction	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.8	Environment Canterbury investigate how takes for community supplies (and, back-up supplies) are incorporated into the allocation block system, such that they do not unnecessarily impact on the reliability of takes by other users.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.9	The zone committee will prioritise over-allocated catchments in its catchment management plan programme and actively promote the use of non-statutory mitigations to offset the effects of over-allocation.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.10	That Environment Canterbury ensure: a. The Plan Change to section 8 of the Land and Water Regional Plan (Waimakariri) includes policies and rules that adequately provide for augmentation of water bodies, including the Cust River, for environmental benefit. b. Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga are actively involved in any decision-making with other relevant stakeholders regarding water used in the zone for augmentation purposes.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.11	The zone committee recommends that Environment Canterbury allocates resources to improve monitoring of permitted surface water irrigation takes for compliance with limits in the Land and Water Regional Plan.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.13		N	N	N	0	0	0	0		

	That in any year it chooses within the date range below, Environment Canterbury considers, prioritises and may undertake a review of water permits to align with any revised environmental flow and allocation regime following the Waimakariri plan change becoming operative: a. Ashley River/Rakahuri Catchment – between 2026 and 2027 b. Northern Waimakariri Tributaries – between 2028 and 2029									
4.14		N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.15	For the Ashley River/Rakahuri B and C blocks, that Environment Canterbury designate an allocation for mahinga kai enhancement purposes equal to 50% of the water available within the existing block system at plan notification. This allocation would be included in, and subject to, the prevailing management rules for that block (minimum flow and restriction regime).	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.16	That Environment Canterbury adopt the minimum flow and allocation recommendations in Table 4.5	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.17	For the Cam River/Ruataniwha A block, that Environment Canterbury designate an allocation for mahinga kai enhancement purposes equal to 50% of the water available within the existing block system at plan notification. This allocation would be included in, and subject to, the prevailing management rules for that block (minimum flow and restriction regime).	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.18	That Environment Canterbury adopt the minimum flow and allocation recommendations in Table 4.6.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.19	In all zone committee proceedings and documentation, the local naming convention is to be adopted: a. The term 'Silverstream' will be used to define the section of watercourse from the springheads to the three streams confluence. b. The term 'Kaiapoi River' will be used to define the section of watercourse from the three streams confluence to the Waimakariri River confluence.	N	N	Y-acknowledged	0	0	0	0		
4.20	Environment Canterbury investigate further actions necessary to reverse the degraded features of the water quality and habitat of the 'Kaiapoi River' that detract from its vision of being 'New Zealand's best Rivertown'.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.21	That Environment Canterbury, along with Ngāi Tūāhuriri, Waimakariri Irrigation Limited and other stakeholders, investigate the potential to create an enduring flow regime for the Cust River. This is to be given effect in the upcoming Waimakariri sub-regional plan change, as part of the minimum flow and allocation recommendations, detailed in Table 4.6, under Rec 4.18. The regime would provide for improved stream health and habitat availability, noting that: a. 230 L/s of allocation from the Waimakariri River is already reserved for such purposes in the Waimakariri River Regional Plan and b. Such a flow regime may result in an increased minimum flow.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
4.22	That Environment Canterbury investigate a sustainable B allocation limit for the Cust River prior to plan notification.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
5.1	That the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee proposes within the Kowai Groundwater Allocation Zone to: a. cap the current allocation volume, b. allow an extra 10% (based on current allocation volume) for additional groundwater takes that are not stream-depleting and c. provide an allocation for the substitution of existing surface water and stream depleting groundwater takes for non-stream depleting groundwater, provided i. the existing take is surrendered and ii. the new groundwater take is abstracted from the same property as the surrendered surface water or stream depleting groundwater take, and there is no increase in the proposed rate of take or annual volume.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		
5.2	That the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee proposes within the Ashley Groundwater Allocation Zone to: a. cap the current allocation volume, b. allow an extra 10% (based on current allocation volume) for additional groundwater takes that are not stream-depleting and c. provide an allocation for the substitution of existing surface water or stream depleting groundwater takes for non-stream depleting groundwater, provided i. the existing take is surrendered and ii. the new groundwater take is abstracted from the same property as the surrendered surface water or stream depleting groundwater take, and there is no increase in the proposed rate of take or annual volume.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0		

5.3	That the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee proposes within the Loburn Groundwater Allocation Zone to: a. cap the current allocation volume, b. allow an extra 10% (based on current allocation volume) for additional groundwater takes that are not stream-depleting and c. provide an allocation for the substitution of existing surface water or stream depleting groundwater takes for non-stream depleting groundwater takes, provided i. the existing take is surrendered and ii. the new groundwater take is abstracted from the same property as the surrendered surface water or stream depleting groundwater take, and there is no increase in the proposed rate of take or annual volume.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0	
5.4	That the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee proposes within the Cust Groundwater Allocation Zone to: a. cap the current allocation volume, b. allow an extra 10% (based on current allocation volume) for additional groundwater takes that are not stream-depleting and c. provide an allocation for the substitution of existing surface water or stream depleting groundwater takes for non-stream depleting groundwater, provided i. the existing take is surrendered and ii. the new groundwater take is abstracted from the same property as the surrendered surface water or stream depleting groundwater take, and there is no increase in the proposed rate of take or annual volume.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0	
5.5	That the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee proposes within the Eyre Groundwater Allocation Zone to: a. cap the current allocation volume, and b. provide an allocation for the substitution of existing surface water or stream depleting groundwater takes for non-stream depleting groundwater, provided i. the existing take is surrendered and ii. the new groundwater take is abstracted from the same property as the surrendered surface water or stream depleting groundwater take, and there is no increase in the proposed rate of take or annual volume.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0	
5.6	That the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee propose to create a Lees Valley Groundwater Allocation Zone. Within the proposed Lees Valley Groundwater Allocation Zone: cap the current allocation volume, allow an extra 10% (based on current allocation volume) for additional groundwater takes that are not stream-depleting.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0	
5.7	That Environment Canterbury extend the Groundwater Allocation Zone boundaries further inland, to the edge of surface water catchment boundary.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0	
5.8	That Environment Canterbury allocates resources to improve monitoring of permitted groundwater irrigation takes for compliance with limits in the LWRP. The proposed GAZ boundaries are shown on Map X4.	N	N	N	0	0	0	0	
					100	205	410	280	TOTAL (\$K per year)
					100	305	715	995	Accumulative TOTAL (\$K per year)
					\$ 4.51	\$ 13.77	\$ 32.27	\$ 44.91	Rating impact per average rateable property
					0.23%	0.70%	1.64%	2.29%	% of rates increase (based on 2019 Financial Year)



Canterbury Water Management Strategy

Meeting	Waimakariri Water Zone Committee
Date of meeting	11 February 2019
Agenda item	6
Author	Murray Griffin (CWMS Facilitator) & Andrew Arps (North Canterbury Zone Manager)

ECan Zone Delivery Quarterly Update – Oct-Dec 2018

Purpose

1. This report provides an update on the current ECan Zone Delivery work programme and the proposed reporting approach for the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee in 2019.

Value proposition

2. This update focuses on those current project areas that align with the zone committee's ZIP Addendum (2018) recommendations and the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Programme priorities for 2019/21.

Recommendations

That the Zone Committee:

1. **Receive** this quarterly report for its information and in support of the committee's 2019 work programme priority setting.
2. **Confirms** its priority catchments for advancing management plans in 2019.

Key points

3. The key points of this quarterly report are:
 - Please refer to the accompanying 'InZone' report, attached as agenda item 5-1, for an update on progress across the following priority areas.

Background

4. This quarterly report relates to those activities and projects that deliver on the zone committee's ZIP Addendum recommendations and current priorities of the Waimakariri Land and Water Solutions Programme. These activities don't represent the entirety of the Zone Delivery work programme. The key contributors to the Zone Delivery Work

Programmes are Council driven regional priorities, Zone priorities (ZIPA recommendations), compliance and business as usual.

ECan Zone Delivery – Waimakariri Work Programme 2018/19

5. There are 10 programme areas that constitute the current ECan Zone delivery priorities as summarised below:

1. Relationships, respect and communications

Everyone who lives, works or plays in Waimakariri has a part to play in improving our local waterways. We aim to build and leverage relationships, networks and resources, in a manner that respects everyone's values, shares ideas and is action-focused.

2. Waimakariri corridor

Successfully establish and maintain an ecological corridor of stepping stones consisting of native planting sites and protected native remnants along the river which provide habitat for native fauna.

3. Clean and green Silverstream

The development of a 27-km fresh water-biodiversity focused recreational loop that brings the regional park to the doorstep of Kaiapoi. This loop would simultaneously establish wetlands to assist in resolving high nitrate levels in the upper reaches of Silverstream, protect major springheads, restore ecological habitat, enhance critical biodiversity values and further develop links to form the loop track. All work would acknowledge the outstanding work done by community groups to-date and dovetail into existing community/Environment Canterbury assets such as reserves and Waimakariri District Council plans for the urban portion of the Kaiapoi River.

4. Caring for the Cam

Connected improvement and support for the Cam River Enhancement Subcommittee's stream improvement initiatives, protection of major springheads and targeted land management advice to provide an integrated, cost effective and coherent approach to rehabilitate the Cam River by 2022.

5. Coastal corridor extension (Tūhaitara Coastal Park extension)

Support and demonstrate biodiversity step change with the expansion of the coastal corridor.

6. Te Aka Aka connections

Reconnect linkages and ecosystems between the lower Ashley/ Rakahuri River, the estuary, Salt Water Creek, Te Aka Aka Fenton Reserve, the Regional Park, Environment Canterbury-owned land on the northern banks of the river, DOC land and Tūhaitara Coastal Park to provide an exceptional cultural, recreation and biodiversity treasure for Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga, residents and visitors alike.

7. Ashley Rakahuri stepping stones

A programme of connected Ashley /Rakahuri River projects that improves overall braided river ecosystem health and enhances recreational opportunities.

8. Foothill downs and Lees Valley protection

As the headland of the Ashley /Rakahuri River it is important that these areas are protected and that the special character is retained. This is particularly important for the Lees Valley as it contains high value wetlands and rare native plants.

9. Good Management Practice showcase

Leverage the unique nature of the Waimakariri Zone by focusing on its special characteristics. The zone has a relatively small numbers of farms, a large number of lifestyle properties and motivated stakeholders which positions Waimakariri as a showcase for Good Management Practice (GMP) initiatives at farm, lifestyle and urban level by 2020.

10. Compliance and alliance programme

Ensure that all consents in the Waimakariri Zone that need monitoring are monitored, the Farming to Good Management Practice Project is implemented, high risk pollution incidents are responded to and that consent holders' practices are aligned with CWMS and the zone's community outcomes.

Cost, compliance and communication

Financial implications

6. The following highlights some of "the more immediate funding" and opportunities for on the ground work 2018/19 and 2019/20.
 - \$150,000 has also been allocated from ECan to The First 500 project, this focuses on protection and planting of priority lowland stream springs and at least the first 500m of downstream of the springs. This will complement support from Fonterra's 50 catchment project for Taranaki Creek and Waikuku Stream
 - Work is occurring with other Regional Councils in relation to the leveraging off One Billion Trees. Waimakariri will benefit from this.
 - ECan is pursuing other funding and leveraging opportunities.
 - Immediate steps funding is additional to the above.
 - A Biodiversity contractor has been appointed and recruitment for a full time Biodiversity Officer is underway.

Programme Area	Financial status	Progress at Dec 2018
1. Relationships, respect and communications	Part of ECan Operations and Communications	Supporting engagement documentation supplied in support of the Draft ZIPA engagement.
2. Waimakariri corridor	\$300,000 (ECan)	
3. Clean and green Silverstream		ECan funds are directed to this project. Cleaning the catchment, greening the banks and connecting the loop.
4. Caring for the Cam	First 500 funding	The aim is to have 6 First 500 projects completed in the Cam River headwaters by 2020.
5. Coastal corridor extension (Tuhaitara Coastal Park extension)	To be confirmed	
6. Te Aka Aka connections	To be confirmed	Fonterra 50 catchments are a likely contributor to this programme.
7. Ashley Rakahuri stepping stones	The funding source is not known at this stage.	Discussions are also occurring in relation to a possible programme of work in the upper Ashley Rakahuri River, particularly the removal of woody weeds above the confluence with the Okuku River. The range for this work is estimated to cost between \$300,000 and \$2m.
8. Foothill downs and Lees Valley protection	To be confirmed	The protection of wetlands in Lees Valley is included in a wetland priority list. The scope and funding of this is currently being progressed.
9. Good Management Practice showcase	Part of ECan Operations – business as usual.	

10. Compliance and alliance programme	Part of ECan Operations – business as usual.	
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Risk assessment and compliance

8. No new or significant risks are noted regarding these projects for this quarter.

Significance and engagement

9. Key engagement priorities for ECan Zone Delivery for the coming quarter include - Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga, Next Generation Farming Group, Lees Valley and Silverstream landowners.

Consistency with council policy

10. The above Zone Delivery projects and programmes are in accord with ECan policy and priorities for ECan Operations.

Communication

11. Please refer to the media and communications update provided as agenda item 7-2 for this zone committee meeting.

Next steps

12. ECan Zone Delivery priorities for the next quarter (Jan to Mar 2019) include:
- Recruitment of a full-time Biodiversity Officer
 - Progress conversations with Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga on key projects
 - Progress relationship with the Next Generation Farming Group
 - Continue to explore funding options for woody weed control in the Ashley / Rakahuri catchment
 - Progress existing Clean and Green Silverstream projects at Banyons Rd and Giles Rd.
 - Further scoping of the Lees Valley wetland protection project.

Attachments

- 5.1 – ECan Zone Delivery quarterly report – Oct to Dec 2018

Waimakariri - Work Programme Progress Update for Quarter 2 (Oct-Dec) FY2018/19

Recently there has been a change in the structure of the North Canterbury Zone teams. The objective of this change are:

- Greater flexibility, agility, efficiency and effectiveness
- Clearer and more aligned work programmes and greater oversight across the 3 Zones
- Greater capacity and capability within each Zone team
- More resources focused on delivery.
- Greater external focus and representation on external key issues
- Greater external contribution – Leverage

The key contributors to the Zone Delivery Work Programmes are Council driven regional priorities, Zone priorities (ZIPA recommendations), Compliance and Business as usual. The work programme consists of several Big Rocks (Outcomes) and are expressed as a story with their own identity so as to communicate with the community.

The following update relates to the Current Zone Delivery Work Programme. Work has begun on the non-statutory ZIPA Implementation Plan. Both ECan and WDC are involved in this. The objective is to merge the various plans/programmes and produce one programme that provides a clear link between ZIPA Recommendations, Outcomes, Milestones and Achievements.

Recruitment is underway for the vacant Biodiversity Officer position. A contractor has been hired in the interim.

Relationships, Respect and Communications

Develop a visual Big Rock communications plan to support the ZIPA and Work Programme - a story & master plan which reflects regional thinking, zone planning, catchment action and what this programme means in our backyard.	On Schedule	Achievements: This document has been produced to support the ZIPA. It could be utilised again in the future to illustrate the connection of various milestones and outcomes.
Develop a communications plan that accurately reflects the key priorities from the work programme and tells our story.	On Schedule	Achievements: Key messages are being developed as part of the implementation plan for the ZIPA recommendations.
Develop and implement a relationship management plan that targets and leverages the right relationships to progress the Big Rocks by June 2019	On Schedule	Achievements: Key Stakeholders are identified, and regular contact is underway with the majority. We will meet with Rural Professionals in the first quarter of 2019 to update around PC5. Regular meetings will also be held with Next Gen Farmers Group
Foster and promote future catchment planning	On Schedule	Achievements: The recommendation that two Catchment Management plans are produced each year has been made. There is a need to settle on the design and scope of these, ensure that stakeholders are engaged and that current technologies are utilised to gain widespread hands on participation.

Waimakariri Corridor		
Continue the momentum and expand the Waimakariri Corridor North Bank projects and connected inland nodes such as integration with the North Branch loop Dec 2020	On Schedule	Achievements: No update at this stage
Clean and Green Silverstream		
Develop an agreed vision, concept plans, action and engagement plan for Clean and Green Silverstream by Nov 2018	On Schedule	Achievements: The vision document and maps have been produced. We are awaiting input from the Runanga to complete the work. A 4-page summary piece has been produced to engage stakeholders. This outlines the key issues, projects and work that has already commenced.
Identify and consult with stakeholders on Silverstream	Withdrawn	Achievements: Milestone moved to project level. Consultation has started.
Complete Key Silverstream headwater and Loop planting areas south-west of Kaiapoi by June 2019	On Schedule	Achievements: ECan funded projects at Silverstream Headwaters, Baynons Rd, Haywards Rd reserve, and Giles Rd are all advancing. Some discussions regarding specifics are still in progress, but the indications are that earthworks and planting will be completed by mid-2019.
Caring For The Cam		
Lead the protection and enhancement of the Cam River Head Waters- identify and complete 6 First 500 projects by 2020	On Schedule	Achievements: We are progressing discussions with Fonterra and Synlait Officers to work with dairy farmer to identify possible on-farm projects for spring-head, wetland and riparian enhancement on the Northbrook. There is a need to lift the momentum around the Easterbrook Rd project
Implement a land management program that targets sediment loss land management and supports Cam River Enhancement Sub Committee stream improvement initiatives	On Schedule	Achievements: We are progressing discussions with Fonterra and Synlait Officers to work with dairy farmer to identify possible on-farm projects for spring-head, wetland and riparian enhancement on the Northbrook. Further work is to be progressed with Small-block landowner when resource allows.
Have an industry focused pollution prevention programme in place by June 2019	On Hold	Achievements: A CHC based Officer has been appointed to focus on forestry across the region. In time this resource will be available to Waimakariri.
Coastal Corridor Extention (Tūhaitara Coastal Park Extension)		
Identify by June 2019 the key areas of alignment where	On Schedule	Achievements: No progress to update.

we can act to support Te Kōhaka o Tūhaitara Trust's vision and plans for Tūhaitara Coastal Park.		
Te Aka Aka Connections		
Identify possible projects/ issues surrounding the Lower Ashley Rakahuri and estuary by June 2019. Begin working with estuary working party, Rūnanga and stakeholders by June 2019	On Schedule	Achievements: Discussions are progressing with Fonterra 50 Catchments for Taranaki, Little Ashley and Waikuku streams. Need to engage with Rūnanga and Fenton Trustees regarding the wider Lower Ashley Rakahuri and estuary.
Ashley Rakahuri Stepping Stones		
Clarify Stepping Stone projects, align our work with aspirations of the Ashley Rakahuri Regional Park Management Plan and Pegasus Bay By Law implementation group and take action.	On Schedule	Achievements: The Ashley River/Rakahuri is very likely to be selected for the creation of a Braided Rivers plan. The plan would address a broad range of issues and opportunities for the river from the mountains to the sea. The timing of this plan is yet to be finalised, but the current thinking is the Ashley River/Rakahuri is likely to be one of the first plans initiated for the regions braided rivers. We are also exploring options for the removing of woody weeds above the confluence of the Okuku River. This includes investigating ways that the work could be funded.
Foothills Downs and Lees Valley Protection		
Target sediment & erosion control and education in foothills	Not Started	Achievements: No Progress to report.
Work with stakeholders and establish an overarching plan for the protection of wet biodiversity in Lees Valley by Dec 2019.	On Schedule	Achievements: Discussions with landowners are currently taking place. Once the opportunity is clarified we may be able to access Wetland Regional fund and Sustainable Farming funding for the 'Managing wetlands as farm assets'.
GMP Showcase		
Mahinga kai concepts and values are well understood and reflected in the way land and water resources are managed across all farming communities	On Schedule	Achievements: An explanation of Mahinga Kia values and tools for farmers to progress FEP requirements is now available at www.canterburywater.farm/fep/mahinga-kai Mahinga Kia support and advice is being offered direct to farmers in Kaikoura and over the coming year this will be extended to Waimakariri.

Deliver regular "Priority Catchment" based landowner education and action programmes such as "The Lifestyle Block Workshops"	On Hold	Achievements: No progress to update. Need to explore the most effective way to drive behaviour change
Work closely with WDC to implement an urban surface water quality campaign to build awareness and ownership	On Hold	Achievements: No progress to update. Will discuss with WDC
Identify, support and showcase leading examples of GMP and innovation	On Schedule	Achievements: Supporting and Engaging with Next Generation Farmers group to influence and educate in relation to best practice
Compliance & Alliance Programme		
Implement and achieve the targets of the annual Compliance and Alliance programme	On Schedule	Achievements: Focus being placed on Regionally and Zone-specific priority consents

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7	SUBJECT: Committee Updates
REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee	MEETING DATE: 11 February 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 regarding the committee's 5 Year Outcomes and community engagement priorities.
- That the Zone Committee continue with the current appointments of Chair, Deputy Chair and CWMS Regional Committee representative through to the completion of the Zone Committee refresh scheduled for June/July 2019.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

The following updates are tabled for the committee:

1. CWMS Regional Committee – update

The next Regional Committee meeting was held on Tuesday 11 December. The summary notes from this meeting provided by Carolyn Latham are included as **agenda item 7-1**. The first Regional Committee will be held on Tuesday 12 February.

- 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. Fit for Future Project – update

An update on the Fit for Future project is provided by the project team below:

The Fit for Future project wishes to thank the Zone Committees for their feedback and advice on the draft 2025 and 2030 goals.

Considerable effort has been applied to fold in the feedback received on the draft goals which are now largely complete, although some refinement is still required. The draft goals have been presented to the Goals Working Group, Chief Executives' Forum, Regional Committee and Mayoral Forum.

Regional work programmes to implement the draft goals are in development. These work programmes are high-level actions that are required in order to deliver upon the goals. The project team is now focussed on identifying the scale, prerequisites and indicative ownership of the work programmes.

We look forward to updating the Zone Committees in March.

3. Media and Communications – update

A media and communications report is provided by Gina McKenzie as **agenda item 7-2**.

Also provided, as **agenda item 7-3**, is the latest WWZC eNewsletter.

4. Zone Committee Refresh 2019

The Zone Committee refresh was deferred from October 2018 to June/July 2019 to enable the current committee to continue with its focus on developing the Waimakariri ZIP Addendum. With the notification of the Waimakariri plan change scheduled for mid-2019, the zone committee refresh has been deferred to June/July 2019 to coincide with the plan notification, as a key milestone for the current zone committee.

Consequently, the following recommendation is proposed for the current committee to consider.

Recommendation:

That the Zone Committee continue with the current appointments of Chair, Deputy Chair, and CWMS Regional Committee representative through to the completion of the Zone Committee refresh scheduled for June/July 2019.

5. Zone committee 2019 meeting schedule

The 2019 zone committee meeting schedule is as follows:

- 11 February
- 11 March
- 8 April
- 3 May
- *No June meeting – possible field trip*
- 8 July
- 12 August
- 9 September

Meetings will be held in WDC Council Chambers in Rangiora, on the second Monday of the month, from 3pm.

CWMS Regional Committee Meeting 11th December 2018

1. Compliance Monitoring – Ecan now have 5000 water takes telemetered and providing daily water use data electronically, and 1000 water takes providing manual uploads by 31st July. This is the largest influx of data of this type in New Zealand and Ecan are developing a system which is capable of managing it. It is also used for state of the environment reporting, allocations, and consent reviews. There are 4 important stages to compliance monitoring:

- *Does the water user have a water meter?* 6% of takes remain un-metered and Ecan are taking a no tolerance stance on these and are in the process of enforcement. Water meters are required to be calibrated by a certified independent service provider and evidence provided to Ecan. This verification lasts 5 years and Ecan are focussing on ensuring re-verification occurs as these expire.
- *Segmentation tool* - This tool filters the water use data into three categories
 - (a) Regionally significant consent holders (362) such as community water schemes and irrigation schemes, and these are monitored by Ecan staff.
 - (b) Consent holders providing no data (524). This number is constantly reducing as they are all being followed up.
 - (c) Systems verified compliance. This divides the balance of water users into non-compliant, compliant with improvement, and compliant, and enables Ecan to focus their resources on the higher risk users. Currently 213 non-compliant. Compliance is mostly related to gaps in data which need to be accounted for, and occasionally over-use of water.
- *Quality of data* – There have been some issues with Territorial authorities, and workshops held to improve the quality of data and ensure compliance.
- *Can compliance be determined* – Ecan are confident that the tool is working as a number of C grades have been identified for follow up.

2. CWMS Fit for the Future Project – All six task groups have now met twice, and the Goals Working Group 3-4 times. Ecan have identified a number of strategic matters amongst the feedback to date, and the RC provided a range of comments on the matters and how they could possibly be dealt with. Key questions around the strategic matters were:

- Better water use – should we be setting targets for irrigation area and/or storage?
- Social capital and CWMS outcomes – how to ensure social capital is maintained and strengthened?
- Governance and accountability – If funding and resourcing are major issues, are the current governance settings right for the implementation of the CWMS?
- Capacity and resourcing – how much will it cost to deliver CWMS?
- Urban water – should infrastructure targets include waste water, stormwater flood protection and environmental infrastructure? How much data and information is enough to support performance but also demonstrate improved management?
- Cultural ‘inclusion’ – How could CWMS targets be expressed in a more meaningful way for Tangata whenua?
- Monitoring, knowledge, reporting and communication – how to better inform the public?

A general theme has been to keep the goals sharp and focussed with more percentages and numbers, and not about trying to include a lot of new targets. However it would be useful to be able to identify any significant inconsistencies in the current targets. The strategic matters have been presented to the Mayoral Forum which generally thought progress on the project was reasonable so far.

The Goals Working Group are due to receive final advice on goals and delivery on 30th January 2019 and WWZC and OTOP ZC are requested to provide any feedback to their facilitators before that date. Recommendations to the Mayoral Forum are due to be finalised by the RC on 9th April 2019.

3. Farm Environment Plans – Biodiversity - the following recommendations from the OTOP ZIPA were tabled for the committee's information:

4.5.3 Recommendation: Farm Environment Plans and Management Plans

Any areas of "Significant Indigenous Biodiversity" mapped by district councils shall be identified in Farm Environment Plans and Management Plans, and methods of complying with any relevant district plan rule relating to the Significant Indigenous Biodiversity must be detailed.

4.5.9 Recommendation: Non-Statutory

All Farm Environment Plans, including those developed by industry groups, encourage the identification of further opportunities where new indigenous biodiversity could be established on farm.

4. Infrastructure and Recreation & Amenity Working Groups - The Working Groups reports were taken as read. It was noted the commissioned Recreation report which was very academically focused is being peer reviewed. The Waimakariri Zone has been suggested as the area for a pilot programme to engage with the community to identify gaps etc.

5. Reports from Central Government

DOC - John Benn noted the culling programme for Southern Blacked Back gulls on the Hurunui River has been successful. The gulls predate the eggs and young of protected and threatened braided river birds. DOC has been represented at most of the zone meetings and provided feedback to OTOP and Waimakariri ZIPA's.

Ministry for the Environment - Nick Vincent confirmed that it is the intention that a revised NPS-FW and NES for water will be released in 2020.

MPI - report taken as read.

6. The committee agreed to the content as outlined in the agenda for the Regional Committee Annual Report.

7. Location of Agenda Papers:

<https://www.ecan.govt.nz/data/document-library/?Search=regional+water+management+committee%2C+agenda&documentTypes=-1&pageSize=12&start=1&sortDir=desc>

Carolyn Latham
Waimakariri Water Zone Committee RC Rep

Waimakariri Zone Committee Media and Communications Report -1st December 2018 – 31st January 2019

Newsletters sent

- December - sent out monthly newsletter to 1000+ subscribers (this newsletter took the form of a review for 2018 and included the online link to the ZIPA)
- January 31st - sent out monthly newsletter to 1000+ subscribers – focus on on-the-ground actions – denitrification wall (video/article/photos) and infiltration trial (video/article/photos)

Articles provided to media

- Update on infiltration trial – (video, article, photos)
- Denitrification wall trial initial results – (video, article, photos)
- Profile piece on Michelle Maginness
- Update on WIL biodiversity project
- Profile on Marco Cataloni
- Dave's opinion piece on the ZIPA
- Cam's scholarship article

Articles published (articles supplied and articles of interest to the committee)

**** denotes content provided to media**

- **December 6th – North Canterbury News – Dave's opinion piece
- December 6th – North Canterbury News – Clarkville School receives funding to assist with biota node project at Silverstream
- **December 6th – North Canterbury News – People have eight weeks to remove illegal structures from the Cam River
- **December 7th – Northern Outlook – Cam Henderson's scholarship win – focus on innovative farming.
- December 13th – North Canterbury News – Black billed gulls displaced by flooding return to Ashley/Rakahuri River
- December 13th – North Canterbury News – Oxford rural water supply 1 – new source and boil water notice ends
- December 13th – North Canterbury News – WDC will include WZC ZIPA in its annual plan deliberations
- December 19th – Northern Outlook – Salmon company forced to split up its operations at Silverstream due to high nitrate levels
- December 19th – Northern Outlook – New bore for Oxford #1 rural water supply
- December 19th – Northern Outlook – Gulls return to Ashley/Rakahuri River after floods

- December 20th – North Canterbury News – Claire McKay’s opinion piece/column
- **December 20th – North Canterbury News – profile on Marco Cataloni
- ** December 20th – North Canterbury News – Success for denitrification wall trial at Silverstream.
- December 21st – Northern Outlook – Black-billed gulls run over at Ashley/Rakahuri River
- **January 9th – Northern Outlook – Success for denitrification wall – video/article/photos
<https://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/news/north-canterbury/109547727/worldfirst-water-quality-project-improves-test-stream>
- January 9th – Northern Outlook – Australasian award for ARRg
- January 11th – Northern Outlook – Dairy rush ends – only 10 conversions last year, compared to 50+ a few years earlier
- January 17th – North Canterbury News - Australasian award for ARRg
- January 17th – North Canterbury News – Toxic cyanobacteria in Ashley/Rakahuri River and Otago Daily Times
<https://www.odt.co.nz/rural-life/rural-life-other/nitrate-lowering-scheme-near-kaiapoi-going-well>
- **January 17th – North Canterbury News – Promising results from WIL/ECan infiltration trial
- January 17th – North Canterbury News – BrAID receives additional \$45K of funding from WDC and Lotto over next 3 years
- January 18th – Northern Outlook - Toxic cyanobacteria in Ashley/Rakahuri River
- **January 23rd – Northern Outlook – Promising results from WIL/ECan infiltration trial
<https://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/news/north-canterbury/110068809/success-for-further-reduction-of-nitrates-in-north-canterburys-silverstream>
- January 24th – North Canterbury News – Toxic algae upsets recreational river users at Ashley/Rakahuri River
- January 24th – North Canterbury News – Kaiapoi Town Centre Plan to be implemented
- January 24th – North Canterbury News – Dangerous bacteria spreads to other rivers around North Canterbury
- January 30th – Northern Outlook – Black-billed gulls killed at Ashley Rakahuri River
- January 30th – Northern Outlook – More health warnings over cyanobacteria for North Canterbury and Selwyn.

Upcoming articles

- Update on WZC key actions for 2019
- Profile on next generation farmers group (February/March)
- Article on Morriss wetland planting (retired farmland) (March)

Current cinema advertisement

- ARRG – take care on the Ashley/Rakahuri River during nesting season. Raising awareness of the unique braided river birds living along the Ashley/Rakahuri River. This will run until mid-February.



Correction to FEP audit story

Please note, there was an error in yesterday's Waimakariri Water Zone Committee newsletter.

In the story titled *"Non-WIL farmers – do you need help updating your FEP for your consent?"* it should have said 50 **hectares** not 50 acres.

Please find the corrected version of the newsletter below. We apologise for any confusion this error might have caused.

New Year, new challenges, new achievements



Dave Ashby, Chair Waimakariri
Water Zone Committee

I hope you had a relaxing break with family and friends over the festive season.

Now that our ZIPA has been received by both Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council we'll be concentrating on implementing on the ground actions to improve local water quality. We'll be rolling out a series of catchment plans to help achieve this.

It's heartening to see positive initial results from both the ESR [denitrification wall trial](#) at Silverstream and the joint WIL-ECan [infiltration trial](#) near Silverstream. When we join forces and work together towards our goals, we can make real progress.

I'd also like to congratulate the Ashley Rakahuri Rivercare Group for their [recent award](#) from the Australasian Wildlife Management Society (AWMS). The members of this group donate

many hours of their time to protect rare braided river birds for future generations to enjoy and the entire committee thanks them for their ongoing efforts.

If you missed the link to the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee Draft Zone Implementation Programme Addendum in our last newsletter click [here](#) for a copy.

I look forward to seeing you at our first [zone committee meeting of 2019](#) which will be held on Monday 11th February from 3-6pm at the Waimakariri District Council Chambers.

Non-WIL farmers – do you need help updating your FEP for your consent?

Do you need an FEP audit soon to meet your farming land use consent conditions?

Do you need a farming land use consent now because Plan Change 5 (PC5) becomes operative on 1st February?

Do you irrigate more than 50 hectares and need a farming land use consent which is required by 1st August?

If you answered yes to any of the questions above it's important that your FEP covers your consent condition requirements or the requirements under PC5. This includes an additional target for the enhancement of mahinga kai values.

To help you update your FEP before your first audit or to prepare a new FEP for consent application, Environment Canterbury is holding a workshop on Friday, 1 March.

Environment Canterbury staff and key primary industry groups including DairyNZ, Fonterra and Beef and Lamb NZ will be there to help you.

FEP audit info sessions

To book a one-on-one session or to find out if you're affected by the changes call Waimakariri Land Management Adviser Anna Veltman on 027 549 7646 or RSVP by calling customer services on 0800 324 636.

Location: Cust Community Centre
Date: Friday 1st March, 11am -2pm

Click [here](#) for more information

Australasian award for river care group

The Ashley Rakahuri Rivercare Group (ARRG) won the Australasian Wildlife Management Society (AWMS) annual award for practical wildlife management last month.

The group was recognised for raising the profile of endangered birds including the wrybill, black-fronted tern, black-billed gull and the banded dotterel which all nest along the Ashley Rakahuri River.

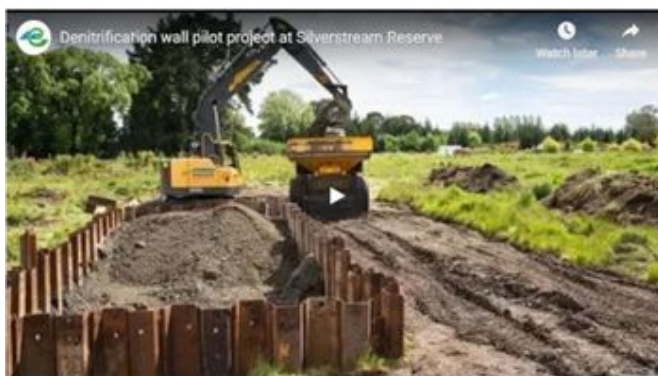
The zone committee supports the work of ARRG via Immediate Steps (IMS) and has provided over \$18,000 of funding to the group over the past three years for river island

creation, predator trapping and weed removal.

Click [here](#) to read more.



Promising results for Silverstream denitrification wall trial



Click on the video to see how the denitrification wall has helped reduce nitrates in the trial area

Nitrate levels in groundwater have been reduced from 7.1mg/l to 0.5 mg/l at the site of an Institute of Environmental and Scientific Research (ESR)-led denitrification wall trial at Silverstream Reserve.

The 25-metre-long wall, which was installed in November, is a world-first as denitrification walls haven't been tested in fast-flowing gravel aquifer systems, like those found in Silverstream.

The denitrification wall acts as a groundwater filter. Woodchip mixed with gravel removes nitrate from groundwater passing through the wall. Carbon from the woodchip provides a food source for bacteria within the ground to convert nitrate in groundwater to a harmless di-nitrogen gas (N₂), which makes up 80 per cent of the air we breathe.

The wall is split into two 12.5 metre



Construction of the denitrification wall using a mixture of woodchip and gravel.

sections, each of which is filled with a 50:50 mix of woodchip and gravel. The wall is three metres deep and five metres wide; the width being determined by groundwater velocity and nitrate concentration.

The trial will run for two years, while the actual wall itself is expected have an operational lifespan of around 30 years. ESR expects the site to function as a demonstration model to show landowners how the concept works.

You can find more information about the trial [here](#).

Success for Silverstream infiltration trial

A joint infiltration trial being carried out by Environment Canterbury and Waimakariri Irrigation Limited (WIL) near Silverstream is proving successful with over 80 litres per second reaching the aquifer via a 1.5 metre deep trench.

The three-year trial has been running for four months at a site located seven kilometres east of Silverstream.

WIL says initial results from the trial have provided a high level of confidence for using infiltration to augment and recharge the aquifer leading to Silverstream.

No additional water is currently being added to the trench due to the irrigation season starting. The team is focusing on designing a monitoring system to track where the clean water goes and which part of the spring-fed stream system it ends up in.

A monitoring system is planned for installation before winter and then a managed aquifer recharge trial is due to begin later this year.

For more information click [here](#).



Environment Canterbury senior hydrogeologist Zeb Etheridge and Waimakariri Irrigation Limited environmental manager Paul Reese at the infiltration trial site located near Silverstream.

For more information on the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee or the Canterbury Water Management Strategy, please email North Canterbury Zone Manager [Andrew Arps](#).

For more information visit ecan.govt.nz/water

The Waimakariri Water Zone Committee is a community led committee supported by councils.

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AGENDA ITEM NO: 9	SUBJECT: WWZC 2019 Work Programme – Workshop	
REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee		MEETING DATE: 11 February 2019
REPORT BY: Murray Griffin – CWMS Facilitator, Waimakariri		

PROPOSAL

Given the limited time available at this meeting, this workshop will focus on:

- 1) Setting the committee's schedule to review and prioritize ZIPA recommendations and confirm a 2019 work programme.
- 2) A possible briefing workshop in March to receive a progress update on the response to the statutory ZIPA recommendations.
- 3) Review next steps in Solutions Programme Implementation – WDC and ECan

RECOMMENDATION

That the Zone Committee:

- (a) **Review** their schedule and confirm time and priorities to June 2019 to advance the committee's work programme.