



HURUNUI
District Council



Hurunui-Waiau Zone Committee

Agenda

3.00pm, Monday, 18 February 2019

Culverden Community Hall, Amuri Area School, School Road,
Culverden

Community Partnership in Growth and Wellbeing

Committee Membership:

John Faulkner (Chairperson)
Mayor Winton Dalley (Hurunui District Council)
Cr Vince Daly (Hurunui District Council)
Cr Cynthia Roberts (Canterbury Regional Council)
Josh Dondertman
Michele Hawke
Ken Hughey
James McCone
Julia McLean
John Preece
Makarini Rupene (Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga)
Nukuroa Tirikatene-Nash (Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura)

Quorum:

The quorum of the meeting consists of:

- half of the members if the number of members (including vacancies) is even; or
- a majority of members if the number of members (including vacancies) is odd.

Committee Secretary – Michelle Stanley

The purpose of local government:

- (1) The purpose of local government is—
 - (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and
 - (b) to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses.
- (2) In this Act, **good-quality**, in relation to local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions, means infrastructure, services, and performance that are —
 - (a) efficient; and
 - (b) effective; and
 - (c) appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

(Local Government Act 2002 – Amendment Act 2012)

HURUNUI – WAIAU ZONE COMMITTEE
WORKSHOP & MEETING
Monday, 18 February 2019
Community Centre, CULVERDEN

1.00 – 2.45pm

Zone Committee field trip to Ngai Tahu Farms, Balmoral, and orientation for new committee

AGENDA

	3.00pm	Zone Committee Meeting commences with karakia and formal order of business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te Reo Maori: places in the zone • Apologies • Announced urgent business • Interests register (updated) • Confirmation of minutes – 10 December 2018 • Matters arising • Correspondence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Letter from Zone Committee to Amuri Irrigation ○ Reply from Amuri Irrigation 	Page 4 Pages 5 - 15 Page 16 Pages 17-19
1	3.35pm	Update on Regional Committee Winton Dalley and Michele Hawke	Pages 20-21
2	3.40pm	Update from Zone Committee members on activities and meetings attended that relate to the Committee's outcomes for the zone	
3	3.45pm	Public Contribution	
4	3.50pm	Update from other organisations wishing to speak	
5	4.00pm	Progress and options for implementing minimum flows and for offsetting 38 tonnes nitrogen loss Lisa Jenkins, Environment Canterbury	Pages 22-23
	4.45pm	BREAK	
6	5.10pm	Zone Delivery update and new Soil Conservation and Rehabilitation Project Andrew Arps, Environment Canterbury	Some material still to come
7	5.40pm	Update on Post Earthquake Recovery Project Michael Bennett, Environment Canterbury	Pages 24-27
8	6.05	Election of officers	Page 28
9	6.15pm	Zone Facilitator's Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of Annual Report to Councils • Forest and Bird's appeal of Environment Court declaration on 10%-rule Advice Note • Hurunui Water Project Waipara consent hearing decision • Information papers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Canterbury Regional Planning Story 2010 to 2018, Councillor Peter Skelton ○ Hurunui hapua research results, Richard Measures Ian Whitehouse, Environment Canterbury	Pages: 29 - 30 31-34 35
	6.30pm	Meeting concludes	

Register of Interests for the Hurunui-Waiau Zone Committee

Committee Member	Interests
Mayor Winton Dalley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Register of Interests lies with the CEO of the Hurunui District Council.
Cr Vince Daly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farm owner - mixed cropping and livestock farm Water resource consent to take water from unnamed lake in Jed catchment
Josh Dondertman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing Director Pahau Flats Dairy/Caithness Dairy Ltd – Craigmore Farming Ltd
John Faulkner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dairy farm owner in the Amuri Basin. Irrigation water supplied by Amuri Irrigation Company Ltd (Shareholder). Dairy Support block owner, consent to take water from a gallery. Member of the independent irrigators Group.
Michele Hawke	Nil
Ken Hughey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professor of Environmental Management, Lincoln University (2 days per week) Chief Science Advisor, Department of Conservation, Wellington (3 days per week) Board member Waihora Ellesmere Trust Board member Hanmer Springs Conservation Trust Member Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society. Member Royal Society of NZ Member NZ Geographical Society. Occasional contract water-related research work including for Environment Canterbury.
James McCone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dry Creek Dairy Ltd- AIC Balmoral scheme Kinloch Dairy Ltd- AIC Waiau Scheme Amuri Irrigation Company Director Committee Member Upper Waiau Independent Irrigators Informal interest in potential emu plains irrigation
Julia McLean	TBA
John Preece	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultant wetland ecologist – including occasional contracts for Environment Canterbury Part owner of commercial flower garden at Conway Flat Coordinator Hutton's Shearwater Charitable Trust
Cr Cynthia Roberts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Register of Interests is held by Environment Canterbury.
Makarini Rupene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural Land Management Advisor, Environment Canterbury Tangata Kaitiaki Ngāi Tūāhuriri Representative, Motanau Coastal Guardians Member, Executive, Ngāi Tūāhuriri Runānga
Nukuroa Tirikatene-Nash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tangata Kaitiaki Trustee, Te Kōhaka ō Tūhaitara Trust Member, Ngāi Tahu Farms Mana Whenua Working Party President, Gore Bay Board Riders Iwi/environmental management consultant Director, Hui Ngaru ō te Wai Pounamu

HURUNUI DISTRICT COUNCIL MINUTES



Meeting	Hurunui-Waiau Zone Committee
Date and Time	10 December 2018, 3.00pm
Venue	Council Chambers, Amberley
Agenda	http://www.hurunui.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/10-December-2018-HWZC-Agenda-Web.pdf
Members Present	John Faulkner (Chair), Mayor Winton Dalley, James Costello, Ben Ensor, Michele Hawke, Ken Hughey, James McCone, Cr Cynthia Roberts, Cr Vince Daly (arrived 4.32pm), Dan Shand and Nukuroa Tirikatene-Nash.
In Attendance	<p><i>Environment Canterbury (ECan)</i> – Ian Whitehouse (Zone Facilitator), Lisa Jenkins, Ned Norton, and Marco Cataloni</p> <p><i>Hurunui District Landcare Group (HDLG)</i> – Josh Brown</p> <p><i>Amuri Irrigation Company (AIC)</i> – Andrew Barton and David Croft</p> <p><i>Hurunui District Council</i> – Judith Batchelor</p> <p><i>Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (TRONT)</i> – Lisa Mackenzie</p> <p><i>Rural Advocacy Group</i> – Jamie McFadden</p> <p><i>Dairy Farmer</i> – Shaun Lissington</p> <p><i>Ngāi Tahu Farms</i> – Rhys Narbury</p> <p><i>Department of Conservation</i> – John Benn</p> <p><i>Public</i> – Norm Williamson</p> <p><i>Committee Secretary</i> – Michelle Stanley</p>
Recording Device	A recording device was in use for the accuracy of the minutes.
Whakamoemiti	Nukuroa Tirikatene-Nash led the Whakamoemiti.
Apologies	<p>Apologies were received from Makarini Rupene.</p> <p>THAT THE APOLOGIES BE ACCEPTED.</p> <p>Faulkner/Roberts CARRIED</p>
Conflict of Interest Declarations	Nil.
Urgent Business	Nil.

Minutes

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE HURUNUI-WAIAU ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2018 ARE CONFIRMED, SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS:

- Page 7, first bullet point, change last sentence to read “He noted that **some of the committee** were entertaining the idea of ...”.
- Page 8, Item 2, second bullet point, add into sentence “The field trip looked **at** biodiversity issues in the Ashburton lakes area.
- Page 8, Item 2, third bullet point, last sentence, change to read “They visited a small remnant forestry and were made aware of the value that **land uses have** on mahinga kai and traditional medicines.”
- Page 9, Item 3, fourth bullet point, remove ‘ed’ from ‘**considered**’.
- Page 9, Item 3, fifth bullet point, add “Ian **Henderson** noted that they are groaning under...”
- Page 10, Item 3, last paragraph, “The Zone Committee requested an update at a future meeting **on a presentation clarifying the strengths and limitations of** Overseer...”
- Page 13, Item 8, third paragraph, addition of a word into: “... individual landholders who might only **be** increasing their loss from kg...”

Faulkner/Roberts

CARRIED

Matters Arising:

Item 9 Southern Black-backed gull control in Hurunui River (Page 14)

An update was provided on the letter to be written to Department of Conservation (DoC) regarding the hold up with permits for the Southern Black-backed Gull control work on the Hurunui River.

John Faulkner noted that he passed this recommendation over to Ken Hughey to action. He apologised that he should have provided more guidance to Ken Hughey on the issue and noted that the Zone Committee still seem to be no clearer on what the issues are that Mike Bell, Wildlife Management International, brought to the Zone Committee.

Ken Hughey reported that after some initial confusion on his behalf, and further investigation, he has received an explanation email from DoC. Ken apologised to DoC managers for his initial confusion.

The Zone Committee agreed that the final email received from Department of Conservation be forwarded on to the Zone Committee for its information. This email explained the issues regarding what slowed down the consenting process.

Item 11 BRIDGE Project Update (Page 15)

- John Faulkner informed the Zone Committee that he has been working on an idea for a collective vision for the rivers with a link into the BRIDGE project. There is still the feeling that the BRIDGE project has deficiencies and will fail to fully deliver on the values that the Zone Committee would like. This will be further discussed in the Zone Delivery agenda item.
- Ian Whitehouse reported that he did not organise a BRIDGE Project discussion workshop prior to this meeting as there was no further information available. Workshops in February are being proposed which will be undertaken around the four river reaches. The Zone Committee will be sent invitations. Ian Whitehouse proposed that the Zone

Committee could participate in these workshops or add an additional workshop to discuss the issues as a Zone Committee.

- Jamie McFadden asked for clarification on the mapping supposedly being undertaken on the Hurunui and Waiau Rivers. He expressed concern that this extended mapping had not been raised at a Zone Committee meeting or at the BRIDGE Project meetings. He noted that the original idea was to map only the limited reaches on the Waiau River. No consultation with landowners outside those reaches has been undertaken.

Jamie McFadden suggested that all of the mapping should be stopped until proper consultation with the Zone Committee and the various community groups be undertaken.

Ian Whitehouse provided assurance that NIWA has been contracted to complete a methodology to map the braid plain on the Waiau Uwha River and Ashley/Rakahuri River only. This was outlined in the BRIDGE Project meetings. A forward timetable had been suggested in the last Zone Committee meeting outlining the possibility of NIWA mapping the Hurunui River. NIWA have not been contracted to do this.

Ian Whitehouse noted that this mapping has been done by NIWA as an approach to defining braid plains. As noted in the report they have two different approaches. As a result of that mapping the data has shown some clear inaccuracies in terms of alignment between the lines that come from different historical maps and aerial photos. As an example, there are lines that extend up into a hillside that obviously should not be there. This would need to be corrected before any landowner consultation can be undertaken.

Concern was expressed from the Zone Committee that despite receiving a recommendation from the Zone Committee that the BRIDGE Project process is started and worked through before any mapping is undertaken, the BRIDGE Project has mapped lines. It was thought that it was agreed that a small section of the Waiau Uwha River was to be picked and a process and methodology developed and implemented to test for inaccuracies before mapping the entire braided river.

Ian Whitehouse noted that as a part of the BRIDGE Project, he is trying to ensure a commitment from ECan that consultation with landowners and the Zone Committee will occur before those lines are established. Ian noted that an understanding of what those lines will mean, in terms of rules and activities that they will apply to, is something that will still need to be worked on. Ian suggested that consultation should occur when information is available on the lay of the lines and what that might mean in terms of rules and activities.

It was suggested that a better process would be for ECan to outline the reason for mapping the lines in the first place. Explanations for the purpose of the mapping might help to ease some of the concerns held by the community. It was queried that if the data creating the mapping can be wrong within obvious places, such as up a hillside, then is there a chance that the lines on a flat area could also be incorrect.

Ian Whitehouse apologised that the BRIDGE Project has progressed in the wrong order and will take on board the concerns from the Zone Committee and the community groups.

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- Mayor Winton Dalley expressed concern that the minutes have now been confirmed and the ECan Facilitators response on page 16 of the minutes of the last meeting was unchallenged. At the last meeting, Mayor Winton Dalley challenged the report stating that there was no mention of the values to be protected, only about lines. He noted that the statement within those minutes has not been corrected:

“That the BRIDGE Project is about trying to manage activities that constrain the ability of braided rivers to move across a wide area as they have done in the past.”

He asked what has happened to the environmental values of the braided river that were to be protected and were supposed to be the main reason for this project. He noted that they have also now been informed that there will be some historic aerial photos that will prove where the river has and has not been. Mayor Winton Dalley stated that this feels like a predetermination of an outcome without going through a promised process.

It was agreed that this was not the intention of the Zone Committee as discussion around the values being the first measure was held at the meeting. For clarity purposes, the Zone Committee wished to note that values were being considered.

Cr Cynthia Roberts assured the meeting that there has not been a lot of discussion about the BRIDGE Project by the Regional Council. She noted that the concerns of this Zone Committee has been discussed and considered by the Regional Council. But there will be a lot more consultation and workshopping around the process. The Regional Council, in particular, want to address the definition of what a braided river is in order to add it to the omnibus plan change. Lines on maps are not an urgent issue for the Council as they are aware that this is long-term project. Cr Cynthia Roberts noted that legally ECan have a mandate to protect the rivers and that the current definition in the Resource Management Act is inadequate to protect the vegetation along the braided rivers.

It was asked if ECan are so concerned about the legal obligations to protect the braided river system and its ability to braid, why are they not putting pressure on LINZ, being the ones that are currently having the biggest effect on the river not braiding. It was noted that ECan is one of the biggest organisations doing most to avoid braided rivers braiding.

Milmore Downs – Site visit (Page 10)

This site visit is still to be followed up.

Requirements for nutrient monitoring in proposed changes to HWRRP – Certified Organic Farms (Page 9)

Josh Brown noted that currently Cheviot Irrigators are reviewing their EMS and they would like to approach ECan to see if they can make some amendments to better allow for those low emitters.

Mitigation Package (Page 11)

An update from AIC was requested on how the Board and Shareholders voted on the proposition of raising the Waiau River minimum flows in the 2018-2019 summer whilst other decision making on the mitigation package continues.

Andrew Barton noted that this proposition was discussed with the Board and then with the AIC shareholders at its AGM. As a show of good faith AIC has agreed to the raising of the minimum flow for the Waiau by one cumec.

AIC will be presenting a revised mitigation package to the February 2019 Zone Committee meeting and they hope that the Zone Committee could make a final decision at that meeting.

It was noted that if the decision was made at the February meeting it would be in the middle of the irrigation season for the Hurunui River which would make it difficult for AIC to change the Balmoral minimum flow. They propose to not implement the raise on the Balmoral until the Summer 2019/2020.

Ken Hughey thanked Andrew for the update and noted that with that new information there will need to be further consideration by both with the Zone Committee and the Working Group.

AIC see that the minimum flow change on the Waiau River would take effect on 1 February 2019. Andrew is hoping that is a reasonable timeframe.

It was asked that a final report/mitigation package be sent to the Rūnanga before being presented to the Zone Committee.

It was suggested that the Zone Committee be kept in loop with all correspondence between the working party and AIC to ensure the process moves along smoothly.

Pyramid Valley Vineyards Proposed Development (Page 13)

Mayor Winton Dalley expressed concern over the statement in the minutes "Ian Whitehouse noted that there will always be properties that do not fit into the rules. The way the rules are implemented make a difference."

It was suggested that adopting this stance would hinder the growth of an area of farming that the Zone Committee would like to encourage.

Assurance is sought from ECan that they will continue to look for ways to help and accommodate these landowners through the planning process rather than dealing with another lot of unintended consequences.

Cr Cynthia Roberts to follow this up and report back to the Zone Committee.

Correspondence

Incoming: Hurunui District Landcare Group Letter.

Taken as read.

Outgoing: Hurunui-Waiau Zone Committee Reply to Hurunui District Landcare Group.

Taken as read.

1. Update on Regional Committee

There is no update on the Regional Committee as the meeting is on the 11 December 2018.

The agenda can be found at: <https://www.ecan.govt.nz/get-involved/council-and-committee-meetings/> 11 December Regional Water Management Committee Agenda.

2. Update from Zone Committee members on other activities and meetings attended that relate to the Committee's outcomes for the Zone.	<p>Zone Committee members provided the following updates on other meetings or activities attended since the last Zone Committee meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ben Ensor and John Faulkner have been involved meetings with the irrigators to try and get the nitrogen offset needed to permit dryland farming. They are still trying to have conversations with Forest and Bird New Zealand and Fish and Game New Zealand. John Faulkner had a meeting with Cr Cynthia Roberts, Cr Claire McKay, Rod Cullinane, and Andrew Parrish talking about building an association back again with Fish and Game New Zealand at a governance level. This will be happening early February. John would also like to start having governance level workshops with other organisations to get better information coming from parties and good honest conversations. Governance meetings suggestions – discussion was held on the pros and cons of having these meetings. The pros would be that there would be better discussion held with these meetings. It is up to governance to establish strategic direction and up to management to follow it. If that conversation is not had unencumbered then it can be hard to set the strategic direction without that hindrance. The cons would be that transparency could be lost. The Zone Committee agreed to progressing with this option. John Faulkner to action. Cr Cynthia Roberts spoke on the Tuia Meeting that was held where a mahinga kai presentation. It is full of good material and has some good guidelines in terms of farm environment plans. Cr Cynthia Roberts noted that the 'billion trees' has been officially launched. Under this scheme landowners can receive \$4,000 per hectare by planting natives. High quality native plantings will also entail better carbon credits in the long term. Cr Cynthia Roberts noted that she visited the Karinga property as part of the QEII. This is situated out toward Motunau and has great biodiversity around the limestone bluff on the property. The issue was raised that this property is on the market and there is a huge risk that these native stands might be lost.
3. Public Contribution	Nil
4. Update from Organisations wishing to speak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jamie McFadden informed the Zone Committee of the new biodiversity group based around Mt Cass and Motunau area. The group plan to eventually cover the wider Hurunui as well. Jamie likened it to the Banks Peninsula Trust but without the covenanting aspect. It is an educational resource and involves a large number of farmers and wine growers. The Kate Valley Landfill Community Trust has offered secretarial support. They are looking to launch the group by having a field day in the Autumn which will be looking at the Carbon Farming ETS. Andrew Barton updated the Zone Committee on the HWP consents. After taking some legal advice it was realised that there were a few challenges with getting the necessary consents and transferring some of

the consents into AIC's name. As AIC are not the owner/occupier of the land they would need to apply for duplicate consents, which is trickier than originally hoped. It has now been decided to make a takeover offer of HWP as an entity rather than buying the consents. One of the preconditions of that is a lapse-date extension to allow more time to proceed with the takeover. If they had proceeded with a duplicate consent, the lapse date would have been reset. The takeover needs 90% approval from HWP shareholders. AIC is working with landowners to assess their appetite for water to provide comfort to AIC and justify the takeover.

REPORTS, SPEAKERS AND PRESENTATIONS

5. Progress update: off-setting nitrogen load to enable permitted dryland farming

Lisa Jenkins, ECan

Lisa Jenkins spoke on her progress update on offsetting nitrogen load to enable permitted dryland farming.

Lisa noted that AIC are investigating two pathways for providing a nitrogen offset. It was noted that in order to enable the plan change to progress in early 2018, a third pathway could be pursued whereby policy will be written into the Plan indicating over-allocation will be addressed via consent review.

A decision by the Regional Council to notify the Plan change will be sought in February 2019.

Discussion was held and the following was noted:

- Andrew Barton, AIC, reiterated to the Zone Committee that AIC have put in a takeover offer for HWP. A report has been commissioned outlining solutions for surrendering 38 tonne. This will include a scenario of an aggregate 38 tonne if the takeover of HWP is successful. Andrew is hopeful that this report will be available for the AIC Board meeting in December.

The idea would be that the 38 tonnes would be surrendered on an aggregate basis across both AIC and HWP consent holders rather than each consent surrendering a certain amount.

- It was discussed that whilst not a lot can be done about the independent farmers on the south side of the Hurunui River, Ngāi Tahu Farming will be surrendering a certain amount due to it being the biggest shareholder in HWP.
- It was commented that independent irrigators' nutrient load are held, in effect, within the HWP load.
- The Zone Committee discussed the backup plan where consent reviews would be written into the Plan if AICs takeover of HWP did not happen in time for the plan change timeframe. This would be for all irrigators' consents in the Hurunui Catchment, except below State Highway 1.

This option would be the fairest way forward but would be a higher risk option and a hearings panel would need to feel confident that those consent reviews would happen. This would be an unbudgeted cost.

It was suggested that if this were the option chosen then it would be worth looking at the level of losses before starting a pro rata approach in order to be fair.

Andrew Barton noted that if the takeover of HWP is successful, due to legalities, it will not be completed by the timeframe outlined.

Lisa Jenkins noted that ECan has budgeted for this plan change in this financial year and suggested that if Plan B is notified in time for the plan change this would provide some surety. If sometime between the notification and the hearing, a better option is provided then this option can be pursued.

There is a risk that this will continue to be drawn out. It was suggested that the advice note continue to hold through this time of uncertainty until the plan review. There is a risk that the plan change will be rushed and unintended consequences would arise from it.

- Lisa noted that they cannot go forward with a plan review without addressing the over allocation issue hence the need to write in a consent review option.
- It was suggested that the Regional Council considers rolling the budget to the next financial year.
- There is a fear that if HWP is liquidated then the consents could be brought up by another party. Andrew noted that it would be far more likely if that was to happen that AIC would buy the available consents. Water permits have limitations on who they can be transferred to.

4.32pm Cr Vince Daly arrived.

- The Zone Committee agreed that it would feel more comfortable waiting until the next plan change to ensure that there are no unintended consequences.
 - Considering the concern held by the Zone Committee on pushing ahead without a firm option, it was decided that the Zone Committee would be delay any decision until hearing from AIC regarding an offset proposal at the 18 March Hurunui-Waiau Zone Committee meeting. If this is not presented then the Zone Committee will consider other alternatives. Lisa Jenkins to present this recommendation to the Regional Council in February.
 - It was confirmed that the minimum flow package and the offset nitrogen proposal be kept separate.
 - It was discussed that at the time of the original Plan, the limit at State Highway 1 was set so if the limit there is met/or under, then the values should be met all the way out to the sea due to the carrying capacity of the river below State Highway 1. There is very little intensification below State Highway 1. It was suggested, based on a better level of data, that this might be relooked at in the next full plan change review.
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Break

The meeting adjourned for a break at 4.45pm and reconvened at 5.15pm.

Farewell

A farewell to Dan Shand, Ben Ensor and James Costello was held. They were thanked for their immense contribution to the Hurunui-Waiau Zone Committee and their invaluable insight.

6. Identifying additional swimming sites for the Hurunui Splash Project

Marco Cataloni,
ECan

Marco Cataloni spoke to the report on identifying additional swimming sites for the Hurunui Splash Project.

ECan have committed to upgrading/creating four swimming holes within the Hurunui and have confirmed two of the four spots as Balmoral campground and near the Waiau township. These will be ready for the 2018/2019 summer.

Suggestion for two further sites are being asked for and consideration given to if these should be community led or Zone Committee led. Ideally, the chosen spots would also have ecological and water quality improvement opportunities.

The Zone Committee discussed possible different sites and noted the following:

- It was suggested that engineers discuss with Dave from Waiau before going ahead and pulling out willow trees along the Waiau River. These have been planted to protect the township from flood risk.
- It was suggested that conversation with the Balmoral campground owner would need to be had before commencing any works.
- The Hurunui River mouth was discussed as a possible option but it was noted that there is a large water quality issue there and it is not a direct run off the river therefore needing a channel to be created. The issue of cultural acceptance was discussed on alteration of the river.
- It was suggested that Marco also consider the work done by Ken Hughey to identify all of the different swimming holes within Canterbury.
- The Zone Committee agreed that the swimming spots to be investigated are the Hanmer River, the Buxton River (5mins walk from the beach) and the Waitohi River. These sites are popular and well known by the community.

Governance working group for biodiversity of the rivers

John Faulkner outlined an idea to create a project/case study to mitigate the concerns that the BRIDGE project is not going to achieve the appropriate level of biodiversity, cultural and recreational values and consultation with landowners. Rather than approaching it as a whole river project, the idea is that it be approached in segments. The consultation process is the key to gain buy-in and to create a vision of the direction forward.

Marco Cataloni talked about the Clean and Green Silverstream project undertaken in the Waimakariri District. This project was commissioned by the Waimakariri Zone Committee to fix the water quality in the Silverstream. They have created a document outlining the history of the stream, cultural values, water quality, habitat restoration and pest control.

John Faulkner noted that this is an idea to create a values-based vision for the River. Jamie McFadden has brought to the Zone Committee the idea of catchment plans, which had a visual representation of what was trying to be achieved. Each section of the rivers would be discussed, and plans made on how to revert it back to its original state. This would create a conceptual design of what the river would look like with all its biodiversity, recreational and mahinga kai values. A cost for the works would then be put together and will be the

starting point for investigating the options and ways forward. This concept would be the basis of conversation with all parties and the rules that are in place would then be subservient to the outcomes desired.

It is envisaged that a governance group, made up of all parties and organisations, be formed to progress this idea therefore ensuring a more outcome focus rather than a rule base focus.

Discussion was held by the Zone Committee and the following points were made:

- Compared to the administration costs it was suggested that this option might not be as expensive as suggested and outside funding might be available.
- There is a feeling that this idea will be well received by both Zone Committee members and the community groups, landowners and organisations.
- There will need to be clear parameters around the project.
- This would tie in with the Braided River Flagship Program.

John Faulkner will continue progressing this idea and report back to the Zone Committee.

7. Draft 2018 Zone Committee's Annual Report

Ian Whitehouse,
ECan

The Zone Committee suggested a number of alterations to the Annual report that were noted by Ian Whitehouse.

The Zone Committee agreed to give delegated authority to the Chair, John Faulkner, and Ken Hughey to sign and sign the final copy of the 2018 Zone Committee's Annual Report.

An email will be circulated to the Zone Committee before being signed.

8. Zone Facilitator's Report

Ian Whitehouse,
Ecan

Renewed Declaration from Office of Auditor General on conflicts of interest

Taken as read.

It was discussed that whilst the declaration from the office of the Auditor General has stated that conflicts of interests are waived, it is good governance to still state individuals interests.

Other Information

- Ian Whitehouse informed the Zone Committee that the monitoring site on the Waipara River hapua was vandalised. The fixing of this has been held up by the weather and river conditions but ECan hope to have this fixed this week. Ian Whitehouse is unsure if the data was retrieved.
 - The Hurunui Hapua – Richard Measures is finishing up his PhD on the Hapua and ECan are in discussions as to whether they are going to take over his monitoring site. His thesis has not yet been published. Ian Whitehouse is attempting to get Richard to present to the Zone Committee as well as a site visit.
 - ECan have had to shift the monitoring site installed 12 months ago on the Waiau Uwha hapua due to instability of the site chosen.
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- Michele Hawke commented that she emailed the Wildlife Management International offering her help with the black backed gull control operation. Unfortunately, she never heard back from them.
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Urgent Business

 Nil

Meeting concluded

 The meeting concluded at 6.30pm with a whakamoemiti from Nukuroa Tirikatene-Nash.

Next meeting

 Monday, 18 February 2019.

Dear Andrew

The Hurunui Waiau ZC has been working with the community, including yourselves, Ngai Tahu, HWP to achieve integrated water resources management within the Zone. As part of that work the ZC and AIC have been working to develop an environmental enhancement package (EEP). That package is agreed in principle and is now subject to completion of a CIA for Ngai Tahu. However, the ZC is concerned that progress is quite simply, too slow, especially around the need to raise minimum flows this summer, and in terms of an unconditional contribution of 38 tonnes of N to help resolve the 10% rule issue. And we are reminded that at the March 2016 Zone meeting at Culverden we were tasked with resolving the issues around nutrient allocation and despite our best efforts to achieve this in an amenable manner resolution has not been achieved.

Our view is the Zone Committee needs to advance wider community stakeholder concerns, and while a lot of time has been taken in trying that approach we are now frustrated again that this is not working. So, as a matter of good faith the ZC requests that AIC approve at tomorrow's meeting both of the above, i.e., the 38 tonnes and the increases to minimum flows. It is then up to you how you achieve the 38 tonnes but you are committed to achieving it. And in terms of the flows you will commit to increasing the Waiau as planned.

We need to add a sense of surprise from the November meeting when it was announced that the 38 tonnes would come from the HWP acquisition, rather than from your own 'allocation'. We remain of the view that the 38 tonnes of your total load is tiny, when compared to what others in Canterbury are finding, and that you are in a prime position to commit again to this now.

We need to add that there are other matters at play here, e.g., the ever growing importance of cultural considerations, constant important pressures from environmental NGOs which is something we have to listen to but have taken a collaborative approach to try and resolve, and the political trend toward stronger policy and regulatory direction which will be further strengthened if we cannot demonstrate real progress on these important matters.

Finally we are of the view that if you cannot commit to these courses of action then the ZC may need to recommend a full review of all consents within the Hurunui and Waiau catchment - this is a consensus view of the committee members.

1 February 2019

Hurunui Waiau Zone Committee
Attention John Faulkner
By email (lockerbie.tce@xtra.co.nz)

Dear John

Mitigation package and solution for dryland farmers

Thank you for your letter dated 17 December 2018 regarding the mitigation package and a solution for dryland farmers.

1. Mitigation Package

AIC has been working through a mitigation package for the last 18 months with a working party of the Zone Committee.

At the last meeting of the working party we discussed the potential for AIC to increase the Waiau minimum flow by one cumec in February and March 2019, which is ahead of the Zone Committee's decision on the mitigation package. The logic behind this early increase was to make sure that a season of higher minimum flows on the Waiau River was not lost while a Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) was being prepared.

At that meeting AIC agreed to seek Board approval for the increase on the basis that the Zone Committee members (excluding Runanga representatives) endorsed the mitigation package. At that same meeting we agreed that the 'envelope' of the mitigation package was fixed and that after the CIA was completed there would be a review of the package and if necessary some adjustments to the package within the 'envelope'.

At the subsequent Zone Committee meeting the members all endorsed the package and, on that basis, I outlined the proposal to increase the Waiau minimum flow to the AIC Board.

The AIC Board decision was that the minimum flows could be increased by one cumec while the mitigation package was being considered provided there was a timeframe set for the mitigation package approval. This outcome was advised to shareholders at our AGM and to the Zone Committee at the December meeting. A date of the February Zone Committee meeting was proposed as a reasonable timeframe for a decision to be made.

A timeframe is important for AIC and the community because key workstreams cannot be commenced until the mitigation package has been approved. As an example, there is important work planned with wetlands and tributary pumping that is being delayed and the delay means we are missing opportunities. We have recently completed and lodged the necessary resource consent applications to attempt to ensure that the delay does not set us back by another season.



At the December meeting there was some discussion about the February date and AIC invited the Zone Committee to set an alternative date. I expect that to be recorded in the minutes of the December meeting which will be confirmed at the February meeting.

This letter confirms that our revised position is that the Waiau River minimum flow will go up by one cumec while the the CIA is completed and the final decision on the mitigation package is made. I'd like to emphasise the importance of the timing of the Zone Committee decision and the implications of the ongoing delays in delivering the mitigation package. We hope that a timeframe can be set at the February Zone Committee meeting.

2. Dryland farming solution

Your letter also included a demand that we commit to surrendering 38T of nitrogen to provide a solution for making dryland farming a permitted activity.

AIC does not agree to that demand. AIC has an alternative method for assessing nutrient load and any comparison with other areas of Canterbury is invalid. All of the improvements AIC farmers are making and continue to make will result in reduced nitrogen load in the Hurunui River and the Waiau River but this reduced nitrogen load is not recognised by our consent methodology. As result the improvements do not create any headroom under our consent.

To date any discussion regarding a solution for dryland farmers has involved a contribution from Hurunui Water Project. You should not be surprised that AIC is not in a position to surrender the full 38T from our current consent. We are not able to surrender 38T because we have obligations to shareholders that would mean that a surrender of that amount would result in a future breach of our consent conditions.

There are three possible scenarios to cover off in order to have a complete solution for dryland farming.

- 1 AIC takes over HWP and surrenders a total of 38T over the collective AIC and HWP command areas. The 38T surrender frees up sufficient headroom for the proposed plan change for areas outside of the HWP command area. For the dryland area within HWP, the consent condition require that any permitted increase in nitrogen loss must be accommodated within the HWP nitrogen load; or
- 2 AIC cannot takeover HWP and the HWP consent lapses, which will free up much more than 38T and all dryland farmers in the Hurunui catchment will be able to change land use without breaching the allocation limit; or
- 3 AIC cannot takeover HWP and HWP (or an HWP liquidator) sells the land use consent to other parties. In the event of this scenario, AIC has proposed a temporary solution until the 2022 Regional Plan review to Ken Hughey and we are awaiting feedback on that solution. At the 2022 Regional Plan review the permanent surrender of 38T can be fairly shared across all irrigated farmland in the Hurunui catchment.

At the December Zone Committee meeting the timing of the plan change was discussed and a March timeframe was agreed to be most efficient because the result

of the HWP takeover will be known at that point. We consider that is a logical timeframe to work towards.

We are working hard to provide an irrigation opportunity to farmers south of the Hurunui River. A modest sized irrigation scheme that complies with consent limits coupled with a surrender of 38T of nitrogen that allows dryland farming to be permitted will be a fantastic result for the community and that is where our focus lies. Unfortunately, the takeover result is beyond our control and will not be known to March as communicated at the December Zone Committee meeting.

We remain committed to working with Zone Committee on solutions and improvements in the Hurunui and Waiau River catchments. However, we cannot agree to an action that will result in a future breach of our consent conditions.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Barton
CEO

AGENDA ITEM NO: 1	SUBJECT MATTER: Regional Committee
REPORT BY: Michele Hawke, Winton Dalley, Lesley Woudberg	DATE OF MEETING: 15 February 2019

Purpose

To provide a summary of the Regional Committee meeting of 11 December 2018

Staff Recommendation

That the Upper Waitaki Zone Committee receive the summary report of the Regional Committee.

Report

1. WATER USAGE AND COMPLIANCE

- Presentation <https://www.ecan.govt.nz/data/document-library/?ids=3533932,3476623,3461497,3461488,3426958,2950273,2433544,1929055,3035217,3169466,3169471,3169475,3169478,3169490,3169500,3169509,3169518,3169526,3169536,3169539,3169544,2991135,2991128>
- Regulations require water meters on takes of 5 l/s and greater
- Approx 5,000 telemetered takes and 1,000 takes annually uploaded
- Goal is to have everyone providing real time data but not there yet
- Encounter significant data management/verification challenges
- All meters calibrated every 5 years
- Compliance journey starts with verification, warnings, abatement notices and finally enforcement
- System does not measure efficiency
- Key messages to consent holders
 - No tolerance for missing meters
 - Need to reverify meters every 5 years

2. CWMS FIT FOR FUTURE

- Mayoral Forum provided feedback on an interim report that included the;
 - “social capital” built up by the CWMS
 - direction of travel
 - 3 waters focus of TAs
 - CWMS as a vehicle for a collective effort to improve water management
- The committee discussed emerging strategic issues
 - possible change “irrigated land area” target for a “better water management” target
 - growing collective commitment to deliver
 - generating real change in world of complexity, lag times and climate change

- providing for cultural values
- generating resourcing and capacity
- balance between monitoring/reporting and doing

3. ACKNOWLEDGE WORK OF WAIMAKARIRI AND OTOP

- Waimakariri and OTOP zone committees both completed their ZIP Addenda in early December. These documents are a culmination of extensive community engagement over 2 years.

MEETING ITEM: 5	SUBJECT MATTER: Progressing a Plan Change and continuing collaboration
AUTHOR: Lisa Jenkins, Environment Canterbury	DATE OF MEETING: 18 February 2019

Action required

That the Zone Committee considers:

- Reaffirming its commitment to seeking voluntary actions from Amuri Irrigation to:
 - Assist in enabling dryland farming to operate as a permitted activity by providing the necessary N offset of 38t of N per year at source; and
 - Implement the HWRRP minimum flows in the Hurunui and Waiau rivers sooner rather than later, and provide significant environmental enhancement.
- In reaffirming its commitment, the Zone Committee might also consider seeking the support of the Canterbury Regional Council to:
 - Take the necessary time to complete discussions with AIC regarding the voluntary actions set out above;
 - Pursue a plan change to fix the 10% rule while the Environment Canterbury (Transitional Governance Arrangements) Act 2016 remains in place¹, noting that a voluntary N offset is preferred, but a plan change could progress on the basis of future consent reviews to balance N allocation against load limits;
 - In the event that an agreement to implement minimum flows as a voluntary action is not reached, commence a review of resource consents to achieve implementation of minimum flows.

In considering its position, the Committee should note:

- As of February, AIC have increased minimum flows in the Waiau Uwha by 1 cumec.
- The cultural values assessment being undertaken by Mahaanui Kurataiao is not yet available (at time of writing - anticipated we will know more on 18 February).
- If the flows / environmental enhancement package is to go ahead, it will be important to finalise the agreement within a timeframe that provides AIC reasonable time to deliver on it – i.e. the environmental gains possible from some projects could diminish if left too long, or the AIC may not be able to resource some projects over a shorter timeframe.
- AIC has indicated its position regarding N offset will be known in March.
- From plan notification, it will take a minimum of 3 months to commence hearings and a further 4 – 6 months for a decision to be issued.

¹ Note that Environment Canterbury staff advice is August 2019 would be the last available date to seek a Council resolution to notify a Plan Change.

- The ECan Act will expire in October 2019 – to make full use of the advantages of that legislation, the Plan Change must be notified by August 2019 at the latest.
- The content of the Plan Change will need to be confirmed no less than a month before Council is asked to notify.
- Earlier notification (e.g. April / May) would ensure the Plan Change could progress within existing budgets. Earlier notification would avoid overlap with notification of an omnibus plan change to the LWRP that could affect the same stakeholders effected by the HWRRP. Such an overlap would likely prolong the process from notification through hearings due to resource constraints of both Environment Canterbury and stakeholders. If notification was to occur later than May, it is likely hearings will run into 2020



Post Quake Farming Project - Update on Progress

Prepared by Michael Bennett (Project Manager)

5th February 2019

1. Introduction

The Post Quake Farming Project (the Project) is funded through the MPI Earthquake Recovery Fund with in-kind and cash contributions from Beef and Lamb NZ and Environment Canterbury.

The Project was initiated in January 2019, but was refreshed in October 2019 with a new set of Objectives. I was also seconded as project manager at this time. Since then we have revised project milestones and are now in the final stages of revising contracts, with some project work already started. The Project is set to run until June 2021.

The Project area consists of hill and high country farmland subject to land damage and business disruption following the November 2015 earthquakes. It covers the East Coast of the South Island from South Marlborough through to the Spotswood Basin, and extends to the inland Boundary of Kaikoura District and Hurunui District as far inland as Mount Paul Range/Amuri Basin.

If you have further questions about the Project or what we are doing, please do get in touch. Input from community members has been fundamental to the programme which has been built and will need to be ongoing to maintain a program which relevant and delivers outcomes which make a positive difference.

2. Project Objective

Build a prosperous, ethical, and enduring regional economy around multiple land-based enterprises across the Post Quake Farming Project area.

Sub-Objectives

- Optimisation - Optimal returns from land resources in the immediate term
- Farm Future - Develop new enterprises to optimise use of land resources in the long term
- Promotion - Effectively link the story of our land and our people to our markets
- Wellbeing - Look after our people so they can have a prosperous future

3. Coordinating or aligning with operational activities

As well as delivering work directly, the Project has a role in aligning or facilitating awareness of other funds or services which can complement or assist implementation of things learnt through Project activities.

As part of this we have coordinated some of the MPI Option II Fund and ECan cash to support Land Use Capability Mapping and completion of whole farm environment plans within the Project Area. Mapping is now underway and we estimate 40 whole farm plans will have been completed by April. These plans will be useful in supporting farm land use decisions in complex hill and high country environments, particularly with farms which involve forestry and grazing, or making decisions around where to invest erosion control actions.

We anticipate an ongoing involvement with MPI through the One Billion Trees Initiative, and services delivered as part of the new focus on Hill Country erosion in North Canterbury.

4. Project Work-streams

Work-streams have been selected and developed on the basis of what we believe will support best progress to Project Objectives. The funding structure means resources can be allocated to extension, building knowledge and so on, but not to activities which benefit an individual, unless they provide a wider community benefit.

The description of work streams, and where these are up to make the rest of this paper.

Work-stream 1 - Extension/Awareness

The purpose of this work-stream is to raise awareness of opportunities in the Emissions Trading Scheme and other tree-establishment incentives, and how to integrate forestry into sheep and beef farming businesses in a designed way. The extension programme will be initiated in April this year and carry through the life of the Project.

We will use case study scenarios on farms already involved in the ETS, with follow up workshops on other farms building on what was learnt. Case studies will be presented in field days and also in written (or other media) resources to answer the basic questions, provide a roadmap to getting involved in ETS/AGS/forestry grants, and how to benchmark to compare options.

There will be a focus on designed integration of multiple land use enterprises, with development scenarios for the grazing side of the operation presented alongside forestry options.

A key part of 'awareness raising' will be biodiversity on farms. Many farms in the project area have biodiversity resources which are often not well understood by farmers, and changes in the rural economy (notably carbon, farm tourism, and greater scrutiny from markets), create financial incentives to improve understanding and management of these.

Work-stream 2 - Indigenous forestry and biodiversity

The Project area includes significant areas of scrubland or regenerating forest, much of which is regenerating very slowly and will continue to do so without active interventions to control browsing pests increase rates of indigenous forest regeneration/succession.

We will explore ways to achieve a better outcome, including financial (including carbon based) incentives and management methods to achieve better outcomes for tree recruitment and carbon sequestration.

This work component will be undertaken by a team of people, including foresters (ETS and carbon forestry), forest ecologists, local expertise (nurserymen), and key farmers with indigenous forest resources on their properties. We will work closely with MPI (Te Uru Rākau) – initially on

building a better body of knowledge on indigenous vegetation management and how we can address barriers to indigenous regeneration and forest succession.

Workstream 3 - Horticulture suitability assessment

A relatively minor project component has been built around horticulture suitability assessment. This work has been included in the context of uncertain profitability and regulatory pressures on hill country sheep and beef farms in the long term, and increasingly attractive afforestation incentives.

Work delivered in this financial year will include:

- Workshops to build involvement and establish project direction, boundaries of the area within the desktop study, and develop buy-in;
- A desktop suitability assessment study which will build off previous, similar studies undertaken in other parts of New Zealand.
- A de-brief workshop to report back to the community on what was found.

The specific areas which will be investigated include:

- The coastal plains micro-climates in Clarence, Kaikoura Flats, and Conway Flats.
- The Spotswood basin and Leader River Valley.

Crop options may go beyond 'traditional horticulture' and look to growing or utilising sub canopy species within the exotic or native forest, for example edible fungi or ginseng, as well as tourism enterprises relating to gathering and consumption of foods or 'food providence'.

Subsequent work will be supported by a further contract and will be primarily at the initiative or request of local industry.

Workstream 4 - Rural Tourism

The focus of this work is the community of people likely to be developing, or considering, agri-tourism based business ventures across the project area in the next few years. Many of these will be younger people who want to develop a family enterprise in the context of an existing farming business.

There are significant opportunities for rural-based tourism to develop in the Project area, particularly in association with infrastructure and accommodation development now underway in Kaikoura.

We will look to build synergies with research activity already being undertaken by other organisations and programmes in North Canterbury. The Rural Co-Creation Laboratory (part of the Resilience to Nature's Challenges National Science Challenge) (RNC Rural) has been working in North Canterbury since 2015, and involves a number of researchers from the Universities of Lincoln, Canterbury and Otago, as well as Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research. RNC Rural and Destination Kaikoura are currently undertaking research in Kaikoura focused on visitor experiences and tourism; it may be feasible to extend this to encompass agri-tourism experiences.

Advisory groups (three anticipated) will be formed to scope capability or other needs, considering factors such as:

- Physical (natural, infrastructure) needs and/or opportunities;
- Social and cultural resources;

- Community needs, capabilities and values

These advisory groups will explore learning needs of farmers or rural people looking to develop 'farm-based' tourism enterprises, and how these might be met by the project.

Activity for the second year is still to be determined, but the overall structure is likely to be a series of locally delivered intensive learning modules on key topics. Examples include:

- Marketing, including knowing how to market in an integrated way across multiple properties and 'products' and understanding key markets;
- Service delivery and hospitality - linking tourism offerings with accommodation, health and safety, memorable experiences
- Understanding the tourism system – the context in which tourist businesses operate;
- Utilising social media for relationship building.

...and (not specific to tourism):

- Change management;
- Practicalities of farm succession and involving others in what will have often been a relatively simple owner-operated business.

By year three we anticipate work will be well underway to build and deliver an integrated package of tourism products alongside participating organizations, including Destination Kaikoura and agencies such as Hurunui Trails Trust, Enterprise North Canterbury, ChristchurchNZ, cruise ship and accommodation operators and others.

Workstream 5 - Telling Our Story

The focus of this work is for the 'story' of hill and high country farming to be told in a way that is compelling and represents the community and can be leveraged to create new opportunities.

This work will begin alongside work on Rural Tourism (where direct marketing will be of most immediate value), but we hope that rural producers will be able to utilize these stories and messaging to build other local brands and products in time.

Both the Rural Tourism and Telling our Story work will be closely linked to marketing, telling the story of our food products, and the way in which farming activities sustain biodiversity and cultural values. Linking the story to a commercial outcome which makes the effort worthwhile in a tangible sense will start with agri-tourism, but will hopefully build into food products as the project progresses.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 8	SUBJECT MATTER: Election of officers
REPORT BY: Ian Whitehouse, Environment Canterbury	DATE OF MEETING: 18 February 2019

Action required

Zone Committee members elect the following officers for 2019:

- Chair
- Deputy Chair
- Hurunui Waiau Zone representative on Regional Committee.

Appointment of officers

Officers of the zone committee are elected by the committee for a 12-month term. It is time to appoint officers for the next 12 months.

The positions are:

- Chair (currently John Faulkner)
- Deputy Chair
- Representative on the Regional Water Management Committee (currently Michele Hawke).

At the meeting the committee will elect members to these three positions.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 9	SUBJECT MATTER: Zone Facilitator's Report
REPORT BY: Ian Whitehouse, Environment Canterbury	DATE OF MEETING: 18 February, 2019

Action required:

1. Note the Chair will present the committee's 2018 Annual Report to Hurunui District Council on 28 February.
2. Note that Forest and Bird has appealed the Environment Court's decision that the Advice Note on the 10% rule is lawful.
3. Note that independent hearing commissioners refused the application by Hurunui Water Project for a nutrient discharge consent for irrigation development in Waipara catchment.
4. Note the information papers:
 - The Canterbury Regional Planning Story 2010 to 2018, Councillor Peter Skelton
 - Hurunui hapua research results, Richard Measures

1 Zone Committee's 2018 Annual Report

The 2018 Annual Report is attached.

The Chair will present the report to the Regional Council on 14 February and to Hurunui District Council on 28 February. Support from other Zone Committee members at these meetings is appreciated.

2 Environment Court's declaration on 10%-rule Advice Note

The Environment Court declared the Advice Note on the 10% Rule was lawful except for two sentences. Forest and Bird have appealed this decision to the High Court. Environment Canterbury has joined the appeal and will argue that the Environment Court's decision is correct.

3 Hurunui Water's Waipara nutrient discharge consent application declined

Hurunui Water Project applied for a nutrient discharge consent for irrigation development in part of Waipara catchment. In late 2018, independent hearing commissioners declined the application. The commissioners concluded that the application is likely to cause a further deterioration of surface water quality and this would result in unacceptable adverse effects on cultural, ecological and recreational values. They found that there is a moderate to high potential risk that even a small increase in nitrogen concentrations could exacerbate the abundance of periphyton growth and could trigger a switch to a periphyton community dominated by cyanobacteria that is likely to be irreversible based on region-wide experience. The commissioners considered the application to be contrary to the clear policy direction that water quality must be maintained and where it is degraded it must be improved.

4 CWMS "Fit for Future" Project

The Project Manager for "Fit for Future" has provided the following update:

“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.”

5 Information Papers

Two papers are attached for the committee’s information.

At the December Canterbury Regional Council meeting, Councillor Peter Skelton provided a short history of the development of Regional Plans in Canterbury since 2010. This includes development of the Hurunui Waiau Regional Plan. A transcript of his speech is attached.

Richard Measures (NIWA) has completed a study of the factors determining the morphology of the hapua at the Hurunui River mouth. A paper presenting the results of this work is attached.

The Canterbury Regional Planning Story from May 2010 to December 2018 and beyond.

Councillor Peter Skelton, December 2018

Seven Commissioners were appointed under the Environment Canterbury (Temporary Commissioners and Improved Water Management) Act 2010 (**ECan Act 2010**) to govern Environment Canterbury for a period of three years, ending with the local body elections in October 2013. Their term of office was subsequently extended to the local body elections in October 2016. In October 2016 a Transitional Council comprising seven elected and six appointed Councillors came into office for the three year period ending with the next local body elections in October 2019 under the Environment Canterbury (Transitional Governance Arrangements) Act 2016 (**ECan Act 2016**).

The seven Commissioners took office officially from 1 May 2010.

A description of the Canterbury regional planning scene at that date now follows.

The Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) (a non- statutory Canterbury Mayoral Forum initiative) had been signed off in 2009.

A review of the operative **Canterbury Regional Policy Statement (RPS)** was underway.

The Natural Resources Regional Plan (NRRP) (a region wide instrument) first notified in 2002 with additional chapters notified in 2004 was in the last stages of decision- making following extensive hearing of submissions by two hearing panels comprising an Independent Chair (Dr Brent Cowie) and elected or past Councillors Bill Woods, Bob Kirk, Mark Oldfield, Robert Johnston and Anne Carroll.

Three sub-region planning instruments were operative. These were the **Waimakariri River Regional Plan**; the **Opihi River Regional Plan**; and the **Waitaki Catchment Water Allocation Regional Plan** (promulgated under special legislation in 2004 and made operative in 2006).

There was and still is an operative **Canterbury Regional Coastal Environment Plan**. This plan is due for review. Some changes have been made to it in the meantime either through small private plan change procedures that were largely uncontested or through the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Act 2011 procedures including the Lyttelton Port Recovery Plan.

There were also a number of catchment based flow and allocation regimes being developed. Some had been notified as variations to the NRRP including, the Selwyn River, Hurunui River, Waihao River and, Conway River, while others were prepared as separate flow and allocation regional plans including the Waipara Catchment Flow and Water Allocation Regional Plan, and the Pareora Catchment Environmental Flow and Water Allocation Regional Plan. Development had also started on flow and allocation regimes for the Waiau River and the Orari River.

In the Hurunui River Catchment there were also two major pieces of litigation underway. One was an application by the Fish and Game Council for a Water Conservation Order to protect Lake Sumner and the South Branch of the Hurunui River from water takes for irrigation. The other was an application by the Hurunui Water Project (HWP) to dam Lake Sumner and the South Branch of the Hurunui River for irrigation water.

The ECan Act 2010 gave the Council (comprising the seven Commissioners) certain powers relating to Water Conservation Order applications and the imposition of moratoria on the taking of water

and discharging to water. It also abolished rights of appeal on **planning** matters to the Environment Court. The only right of appeal was to the High Court on questions of law.

The ECan Act 2010 also required the Council, in its decision-making, to have particular regard to the Vision and Principles of the CWMS which, importantly, were written into a Schedule to the Act. The Act did not require the Council to implement the Strategy as a whole.

Immediately upon appointment, the Commissioners resolved to adopt the CWMS and take all necessary steps to implement it. Two Commissioners, David Caygill and Peter Skelton, were appointed to the then CWMS Steering Committee to represent the Regional Council and later became the Council's first regional representatives on the Regional Committee set up under the Strategy.

The Commissioners also set about establishing the 10 Zone Committees contemplated by the Strategy.

The Hurunui Waiau Zone Committee was the first committee to be established and one of the leading members was the late David Bedford (an ECan Commissioner and later first Chair of the Transitional Regional Council). The first task of this Committee was to develop a Zone Implementation Programme (ZIP) that would inform the development of a sub-regional plan for the Hurunui and Waiau River Catchments. This Zone also included the Waipara River Catchment, but that catchment was dealt with separately from the other two catchments.

To facilitate the preparation of the ZIP the Council used its moratorium powers and applied them to the Hurunui and Waiau rivers and their tributaries. With the concurrence of the Minister for the Environment, these moratoria lasted until 1 October 2011 on which date the proposed Hurunui Waiau River Regional Plan was publicly notified for submission.

In the meantime, the Council received the decisions of the two hearing panels on the NRRP in October 2010 and notified them accordingly. There were 11 appeals to the High Court.

Also, by the end of 2010, the Fish and Game Council had withdrawn its application for a Water Conservation Order, preferring to take its case through the sub-regional planning process, and HWP had agreed not to pursue its application for irrigation water from Lake Sumner and the South Branch of the Hurunui River. It was then considering the use of the Waitohi Catchment as a water source and the Hurunui Waiau River Regional Plan made explicit provision for this as a first preference source of irrigation water in the Hurunui Catchment. The appeals on the NRRP were resolved in early 2011 and on 11 June 2011 the NRRP was made operative. Work was already underway to review this plan so far as water management was concerned to provide for catchment planning across the region and later, work also began on reviewing the NRRP chapter on air.

In the meantime the Commissioners picked up the work already done for the review of the RPS and completed that work, including incorporating important references to the CWMS in the objectives and policies. The reviewed RPS was publicly notified for submissions on 18 June 2011.

An Independent Hearing Panel was appointed by the Commissioners to hear the submissions comprising a retired Principal Environment Court Judge, an experienced expert resource management consultant and a Ngāi Tahu appointee. The Panel reported back to Commissioners on 12 July 2012. The Commissioners accepted the Panel's recommendations and there were four subsequent appeals to the High Court. These were resolved without the need for a contested hearing and the RPS was made operative (excluding the Recovery and Rebuilding of Greater Christchurch chapter) on 15 January 2013.

Thus the all-important overarching objectives and policies for the future planning of the region for the next 10 years as a minimum were established. The Recovery and Rebuilding of Greater Christchurch chapter was completed under the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Act 2011 through the Land Use Recovery Plan and became operative in December 2013.

The Hurunui Waiau River Regional Plan submissions were heard by another Independent Hearing Panel in October 2012. The Council accepted the Panel's recommendations on 18 April 2013. There were 3 appeals to the High Court which were resolved without a hearing and this Plan became operative on 20 December 2013.

The review of the NRRP resulted first in the development of the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan (**LWRP**). This plan was written in two parts: a region wide section, and a series of sub-region sections to be populated by sub-regional plans as they were developed through the CWMS Zone Committee processes across the region.

The LWRP itself (which built on the NRRP and included, for the first time in the region, new rules setting limits for nitrogen losses) went through an extensive public hearings process before an Independent Hearing Panel. There were nine appeals to the High Court (one of which went to a formal hearing on a question of law about controlled activities) and the plan was finally made partially operative on 1 September 2015, and fully operative on 1 February 2017.

The review of the NRRP lead secondly to a stand-alone Canterbury Air Regional Plan that was made operative in October 2017.

To date sub-regional plans have been developed for the Selwyn Waihora Zone (Plan Change 1); the Hinds Catchment in the Ashburton Zone (Plan Change 2); the Southern Streams area in the Lower Waitaki Zone (Plan Change 3); the Wairewa Catchment in the Banks Peninsula Zone (Plan Change 6) and the Waitaki Catchment in the Upper and Lower Waitaki Zones (Part B of Plan Change 5)

Plan Change 4 was an omnibus plan change that clarified certain provisions in the LWRP concerned with protecting drinking water sources; strengthened rules about stock in water ways; better identified and protected inanga spawning sites; and made some changes around urban stormwater rules.

Plan Changes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are all operative and Plan Change 5 (both the region-wide and Waitaki Catchment provisions) will become operative on 1 February 2019

All of the plan changes except Plan Change 6 (the Wairewa Catchment) have been the subject of appeals to the High Court but no hearings have been required.

In addition, over a period of two years, the Commissioners initiated some targeted changes to the Waitaki Catchment Water Allocation Regional Plan to provide for emergency water shortage situations relating to hydro generation from Lake Pukaki; to give effect to an agreed change in the water take regime for the Maerewhenua Catchment; and to resolve some potential future problems relating to priorities on re-consenting in the Lower Waitaki catchment. These changes have all been made operative without any appeals.

Mention was made earlier of the flow and allocation plans that were in preparation when the Commissioners took office.

The Conway River and Waihao River variations were integrated into the relevant sections of the LWRP as was a flow and allocation regime for the Orari River.

The Hurunui flow and allocation variation was withdrawn when the Hurunui Waiau River Regional Plan was developed.

The Waipara Catchment Environmental Flow and Water Allocation Regional Plan went through an independent hearing process and was made operative on 16 June 2012. It is also a stand-alone plan that will eventually find its way into the Hurunui Waiau section of the LWRP.

The Pareora Catchment Environmental Flow and Water Allocation Regional Plan also went through an independent hearing process and was made operative on 21 July 2012. It will be incorporated in the OTOP section of the LWRP.

The Selwyn Variation was incorporated into Plan Change 1 (Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere)

The Waihao variation was subsequently reviewed by the Lower Waitaki Zone Committee who recommended a revised flow and allocation regime which provided improved water quality outcomes for the Wainono Lagoon. This was incorporated in Plan Change 3 (the Southern Streams section of the Lower Waitaki Zone).

Currently a change to the Hurunui Waiau River Regional Plan is being prepared for notification and two further sub-regional plans will be prepared for notification before the local body elections in 2019, following the receipt of ZIP Addenda from the OTOP and Waimakariri Zones. In the meantime Plan Change 5 will apply in these zones. In addition, a second omnibus plan change is also being prepared for notification in 2019.

This will leave the Kaikoura Zone, the Christchurch West Melton Zone, part of the Hurunui Waiau Zone, part of the Banks Peninsula Zone and part of the Ashburton Zone to be dealt with in the future if that is seen to be necessary in the light of Plan Change 5 which will apply from 1 February 2019.

Processes creating and maintaining non-estuarine river-mouth lagoons (hapua)

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INTRODUCTION

Hapua are a type of shore-parallel river-mouth lagoon common in New Zealand. Hapua form where gravel-bed rivers emerge onto high wave energy, micro/meso-tidal coastlines. Hapua have highly dynamic outlet channels, which can migrate rapidly alongshore in response to river flows and waves.

Monitoring of the Hurunui Hapua has been conducted since July 2015 to inform better understanding of the key processes affecting hapua morphology and to inform development of a model replicating hapua behaviour. Monitoring has included time-lapse cameras, water level and salinity recorders, and repeat surveys of lagoon and barrier topography. The locations of monitoring instruments in the Hurunui Hapua are shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2, below.

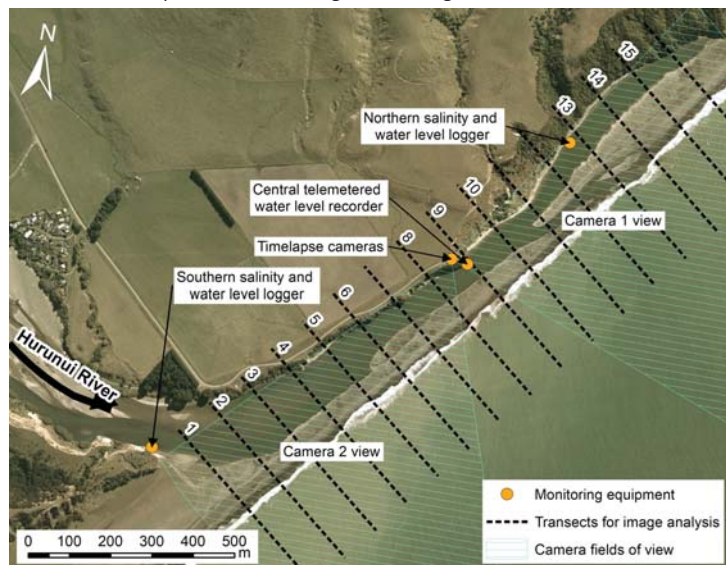


Figure 1: Hurunui Hapua monitoring stations and transects used for analysis of lagoon width

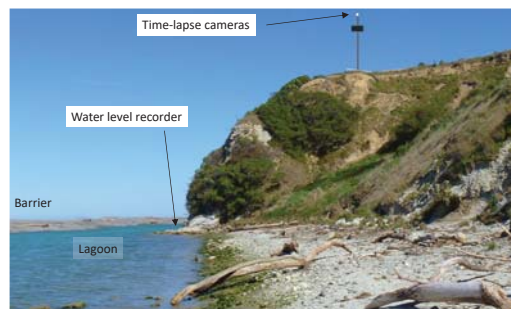
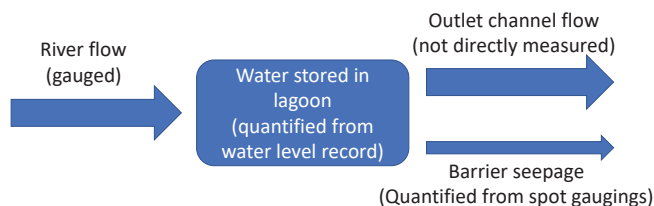


Figure 2: Telemetered cameras and water level recorder installed at the Hurunui Hapua.

Photo looking south west from lagoon backshore at transect 11. Two time-lapse cameras are mounted at the top of an 8 m tall utility pole on the high point of the lagoon backshore cliff. The utility pole also has a satellite antenna (for telemetry) and solar panels (to provide power) mounted onto it. The primary water level recorder is bolted onto an exposed bedrock outcrop at the cliff toe and connects to the same telemetry system.

LAGOON OUTFLOW

Hapua have tidally varying water level but are non-estuarine, i.e. they have no tidal flow reversal. A simple water balance model has been developed for the Hurunui Hapua to quantify lagoon outflow based on lagoon inflow:



$$(\text{outlet channel flow}) = (\text{river flow}) - (\text{change in stored volume} + \text{barrier seepage})$$

The calculated lagoon outflow (see top left hand graph in figure 3) shows that the relationship between river flow and outlet channel flow is very strongly impacted by outlet channel morphology. When the outlet channel is short, the lagoon water levels experience large tidal variations and outflows vary from approximately 50% to 150% of river flow. When the outlet channel is extended and constricted, outlet flows become almost constant and lagoon water level stays at an almost constant level, perched 1 m or more above high tide level.

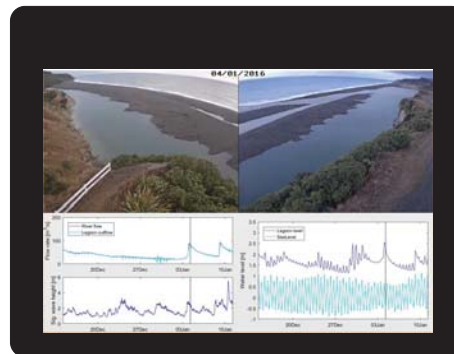


Figure 3: Time-lapse imagery of the Hurunui Hapua with time-linked plots of water level, flow and wave data.

Images were recorded every 15 minutes during daylight hours from two cameras located in the center of the lagoon backshore. In the figure, the left hand image is from camera 1 (looking north east), and the right hand image camera 2 (looking south west). Camera location and fields of view are shown in Figure 1. Below the animated images the plots show river inflow and lagoon outflow (top left), lagoon level and sea level (right), and significant wave height (bottom left).

LAGOON WIDTH

Lagoon width was measured from the time-lapse image data at transects spaced along the length of the hapua (Figure 1). Width was measured by (1) correcting the images for distortion, (2) measuring horizontal and vertical rotation of the camera by identifying static objects in the frame, (3) applying edge detection algorithms to segment the image at the water's edge, (4) projecting the identified water's edge onto a flat plane at the observed water elevation, and (5) intersecting the projected water's edge boundary with the measurement transects.

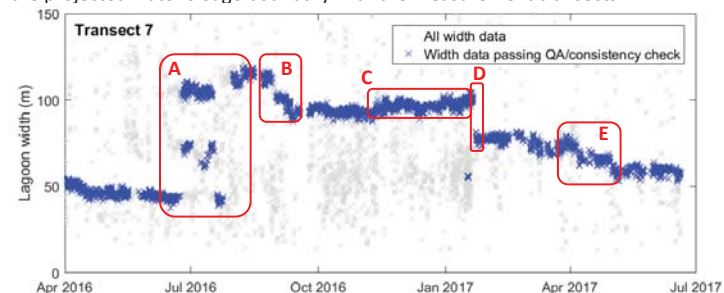


Figure 4: Hurunui Hapua monitoring stations and transects used for analysis of lagoon width. Letters identify periods where width has changed due to identifiable causes – see key processes in boxes below.

Observations from the time-lapse imagery, coupled with the analysis of lagoon width have informed identification and quantification of three key processes which control lagoon width (letters refer to figure 5):

Wave overtopping (B, D, E)

Waves overtop the beach barrier washing gravel into the lagoon.

- Primarily driven by waves but sea levels also important.
- Widens barrier and narrows lagoon
- Significant overtopping happens approx. 6 times per year
- Observed complete closure of lagoon at one location

Outlet channel migration (A)

Lagoon outlet channel migrates alongshore. As mouth moves along barrier it 'resets' barrier width and position.

- Complex process driven by interaction of waves (alongshore and cross-shore transport) and river flow
- Widens lagoon
- Approx. 2 years for migration over full length of lagoon

River flood when outlet channel is offset (C)

Freshes and floods which occur when the outlet channel is offset from the river (due to migration) scour the lagoon. If severely constricted even normal flows may cause scour.

- Driven by river flows and outlet channel position
- Widens and deepens lagoon
- Removes deposits from toe of lagoon backshore cliff

NEXT STEPS

The overall goal of this study is to develop a model of hapua behavior which can be used to investigate their response to changing drivers including: flow regime modification (e.g. due to dams or water extraction), sea level rise, and changes to sediment supply. The monitoring and analysis of the Hurunui Hapua is being used to inform model design and to provide a validation dataset to test model performance.

Hurunui Waiau Zone Water Management Committee

Terms of Reference

The area of the Hurunui Waiau Water Management Zone is shown on the attached map.

Establishment

The Committee is established under the auspices of the Local Government Act 2002 in accordance with the Canterbury Water Management Strategy 2009.

The Committee is a joint Committee of Environment Canterbury (the Regional Council) and Hurunui District Council (the Territorial Authority).

Purpose and Functions

The purpose and function of the Committee is to:

- Facilitate community involvement in the development, implementation, review and updating of a Zone Implementation Programme that gives effect to the Canterbury Water Management Strategy in the Hurunui Waiau area; and
- Monitor progress of the implementation of the Zone Implementation Programme.

Objectives

- 1) Develop a Zone Implementation Programme that seeks to advance the CWMS vision, principles, and targets in the Hurunui Waiau Zone.
- 2) Oversee the delivery of the Zone Implementation Programme.
- 3) Support other Zone Implementation Programmes and the Regional Implementation Programme to the extent they have common areas of interest or interface.
- 4) Ensure that the community of the Zone are informed, have opportunity for input, and are involved in the development and delivery of the Hurunui Waiau Implementation Programme.
- 5) Consult with other Zone Water Management Committees throughout the development and implementation of the Hurunui Waiau Implementation Programme on matters impacting on other zone areas.
- 6) Engage with relevant stakeholders throughout the development of the Hurunui Waiau Implementation Programme.
- 7) Recommend the Hurunui Waiau Implementation Programme to their respective Councils.
- 8) Review the Implementation Programme on a three yearly cycle and recommend any changes to the respective Councils.
- 9) Monitor the performance of Environment Canterbury, Hurunui District Council, and other agencies in relation to the implementation of the Hurunui Waiau Implementation Programme.
- 10) Provide Environment Canterbury and Hurunui District Council with updates on progress against the Zone Implementation Programme.

Limitation of Powers

The Committee does not have the authority to commit any Council to any path or expenditure and its recommendations do not compromise the Councils' freedom to deliberate and make decisions.

The Committee does not have the authority to submit on proposed Resource Management or Local Government Plans.

The Committee does not have the authority to submit on resource consent matters.

Committee Membership

The Zone Committee will comprise:

- 1) One elected member or Commissioner appointed by Environment Canterbury;
- 2) One elected member appointed by each Territorial Authority operating within the Zone Boundary;
- 3) One member from each of Tūāhuriri and Kaikōura Rūnanga;
- 4) Between 4-7 members appointed from the community and who come from a range of backgrounds and interests within the community;
- 5) Environment Canterbury and Hurunui District Council will appoint their own representatives on the Committee. Tūāhuriri and Kaikōura Rūnanga will nominate their representatives and the appointments will be confirmed by Environment Canterbury and Hurunui District Council.

Selection of Community Members

To be eligible for appointment to a Zone Committee the candidate must either live in or have a significant relationship with the zone. Recommendations on Community Members for the Hurunui Waiau Zone Committee will be made to Environment Canterbury and Hurunui District Council by a working group of representatives from Environment Canterbury, Hurunui District Council, Tūāhuriri and Kaikōura Rūnanga. The recommendations will take into account the balance of interests required for Hurunui Waiau, geographic spread of members and the ability of the applicants to work in a collaborative, consensus-seeking manner. Environment Canterbury and Hurunui District Council will receive the recommendations and make the appointments.

Quorum

The quorum at a meeting consists of:

- (i) Half of the members if the number of members (including vacancies) is even; or
- (ii) A majority of members if the number of members (including vacancies) is odd.

Chair and Deputy Chair

Each year, the Committee shall appoint the Chair and Deputy Chair from the membership by simple majority. There is no limit on how long a person can be in either of these positions.

Term of Appointment

Members of Committees are appointed for a term of three years. To coincide with Local Government Election processes terms shall commence from January each year, with each Committee requiring confirmation of membership by the incoming Council. The term for community members will be staggered so that one third of the community members is appointed (or reappointed) each year. There is no limit on the number of consecutive terms.

Financial Delegations

None

Operating Philosophy

The Committees will at all times operate in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, and will observe the following principles:

- 1) Give effect to the Fundamental Principles, Targets and goals of the CWMS;
- 2) Be culturally sensitive observing tikanga Maori;
- 3) Apply a Ki uta ki tai (from the mountains to the sea) approach;
- 4) Work with the CWMS Regional Committee to support the implementation of the CWMS across the region as a whole;
- 5) Give consideration to and balance the interests of all water interests in the region in debate and decision-making;
- 6) Work in a collaborative and co-operative manner using best endeavours to reach solutions that take account of the interests of all sectors of the community;
- 7) Contribute their knowledge and perspective but not promote the views or positions of any particular interest or stakeholder group;
- 8) Promote a philosophy of integrated water management to achieve the multiple objectives of the range of interests in water;
- 9) Seek consensus in decision-making where at all possible. In the event that neither unanimous agreement is able to be reached nor a significant majority view formed, in the first instance seek assistance from an external facilitator to further Committee discussions and deliberations. Where the Committee encounters fundamental disagreements, despite having sought assistance and exhausted all avenues to resolve matters, recommend that the respective Councils disband them and appoint a new Committee.

Meeting and Remuneration Guidelines

- 1) The Committee will meet at least eight times per annum and with workshops and additional meetings as required. At times, the workload will be substantially higher. Proxies or alternates are not permitted.
- 2) Any Committee may co-opt such other expert or advisory members as it deems necessary to ensure it is able to achieve its purpose. Any such co-option will be on a non-voting basis.
- 3) Remuneration for members will be paid in the form of an honorarium currently set at the following levels:
 - a. Appointed members - \$4,000 pa
 - b. Deputy Chair - \$5,000 pa
 - c. Chair - \$6,000 pa.

Staff or elected members of Territorial Authorities or the Environment Canterbury shall not be eligible for remuneration.

Mileage will be reimbursed.

Committee Support

The Committee shall be supported staff from the Territorial Councils and Environment Canterbury, primarily through the Committee Secretary and the Zone Facilitator.

Map showing Hurunui Waiau Water Management

