



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



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



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

**Date:** Friday, 19 July 2019  
**Time:** 9.30am  
**Location:** Mackenzie Country Inn Twizel

# **AGENDA**

## **Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting**

**19 July 2019**

**Charlotte Borrell**  
**Community Services Officer**

**Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Membership:**

Simon Cameron (Chair)  
Lisa Anderson  
Matthew Bayliss  
Sandra Hampstead-Tipene  
Richard Subtil  
John Sunckell  
John Wilkie  
Craig Dawson  
Stuart Barwood  
Joy Paterson  
Kieran Whyte

\*\*\*\*\*

**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)

**Order Of Business**

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**1 OPENING**

**2 APOLOGIES**

John Wilke

**3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**4 VISITORS**

## 5 REPORTS

### 5.1 UPPER WAITAKI ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING TIMETABLE

**File Reference:** NA

**Author:** Charlotte Borrell, Community Services Officer

**Authoriser:** Simon Mackenzie, General Manager Operations

**Attachments:** Nil

<b>Upper Waitaki Zone Committee Meeting</b> <b>Friday 19 July 2019 9.30am</b> <b>Mackenzie Country Inn, Twizel</b>			
<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Arrive/cup of tea</b>	<b>Lead</b>
<b>9.30am</b>		<b>Standing Items</b> Apologies, Minutes, Correspondence, Action List, Matters arising	
	<b>1</b>	<b>Regional Committee update</b>	Sandra Hampstead- Tipene
9.45am	<b>2</b>	<b>Election of Regional Committee representative</b>	All
9.50am	<b>3</b>	<b>Lake trophic limits and implications for farming consents</b>	Marty Mortiaux, Environment Canterbury
10.30am	<b>4</b>	<b>Proposed Ahuriri Arm catchment group</b>	Jenna Hughes-Games, Environment Canterbury
<b>10.50 – 11.10</b>		<b>Morning tea</b>	
11.10am	<b>5</b>	<b>Immediate Steps Biodiversity fund applications</b>	Robert Carson-Iles, Environment Canterbury
11.40pm	<b>6</b>	<b>Mackenzie dryland park</b>	Jeremey Severinsen, DOC
12.10pm	<b>7</b>	<b>Zone Delivery update – will be provided to members prior to meeting</b>	Chris Eccleston, Environment Canterbury
12.15pm	<b>8</b>	<b>Zone Facilitator's report</b>	Ian Whitehouse, Environment Canterbury
12.20pm	<b>9</b>	<b>General Discussion</b>	All
12.30pm		<b>Close and lunch</b>	

CHARLOTTE BORRELL

**COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER**

**5.2 MINUTES OF UPPER WAITAKI ZONE WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 17 MAY 2019**

**File Reference:** NA

**Author:** Charlotte Borrell, Community Services Officer

**Authoriser:** Simon Mackenzie, General Manager Operations

**Attachments:** 1. Minutes of Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting - 17 May 2019

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the Minutes of the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting held on Friday 17 May 2019 be confirmed as a correct record of the meeting.



# **UNCONFIRMED MINUTES**

## **Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting**

**17 May 2019**



**MINUTES OF MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
UPPER WAITAKI ZONE WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE LAKE OHAU LODGE  
ON FRIDAY, 17 MAY 2019 AT 9.30AM**

**PRESENT:** Simon Cameron (Chairman), Lisa Anderson, Matthew Bayliss, Sandra Hampstead-Tipene, John Sunckell, John Wilkie, Craig Dawson, Joy Paterson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ian Whitehouse (Facilitator), Chris Eccleston (Zone Manager, ECan), Rick Ramsay (Aquaculture Industry Group), Josh Wyber (Mt Cook Salmon), Kate Doran (Communication Advisor, ECan), John Benn (DOC), Graeme Clarke (Science Team Leader, ECan), Ruth Grundy (Omarama Gazette), David and Jill Stow (Ohaus Village residents)

**1 OPENING**

Simon Cameron welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

**2 APOLOGIES**

Members: Cr Stuart Barwood, Richard Subtil

Public: Alastair Ensor (Shelton Downs)

**3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4 VISITORS**

Visitors are included in attendees.

**5 REPORTS**

**5.1 UPPER WAITAKI ZONE COMMITTEE MEETING TIMETABLE**

Simon Cameron tabled the attached letter from ECan Councillor Peter Skelton thanking the committee for the opportunity to attend the hangi on 22 March.

**Attachments**

- 1 Letter from Peter Skelton

**5.2 MINUTES OF UPPER WAITAKI ZONE WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 15 FEBRUARY 2019**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2019/28**

Moved: Lisa Anderson

Seconded: Sandra Hampstead-Tipene

1. That the Minutes of the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting held on Friday 15 February 2019 be confirmed as a correct record of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

### 5.3 UPPER WAITAKI ZONE COMMITTEE - 2019 ACTION LIST

There was no discussion on this item.

### 5.4 REGIONAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Sandra Hampstead-Tipene provided a verbal update on the Regional Committee. The focus of the last meeting was on the results of the "CWMS Fit for Future" Project which has now gone to the Mayoral Forum.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

The information was noted.

### 5.5 ZONE COMMITTEE'S 2019 DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME

#### PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is from Ian Whitehouse, Environment Canterbury.

To provide details of the committee's proposed 2019 work programme.

Attention was drawn to the change of day, date and venue for the June meeting with this now on Wednesday 19 June at Waihao Marae with a focus on tradition Maori place names in Waitaki.

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2019/29

Moved: Simon Cameron (Chairman)

Seconded: Craig Dawson

1. That the report be received.
2. The Zone Committee agrees its 2019 Work Programme, noting that this is a "living" document and will be reviewed and revised in October 2019.

**CARRIED**

**5.6 COMMUNICATION: REFRESHING THE ZONE COMMITTEE POSTERS****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is from Kate Doran, Environment Canterbury Communications and Engagement.

To provide a summary of the Zone Committee's community-facing posters produced in summer 2018 and discuss updating these for winter 2019.

Kate Doran showed the committee a working draft of the proposed updated poster for Twizel and indicated the changes that were being made to refresh the posters produced in 2018.

Committee members thanked Kate for the work on these posters. There was discussion on how to get the posters distributed even wider than in summer 2018 with suggestions including local post offices and fish farms.

The committee asked whether consideration should be given to replacing the "Love your lakes" by-line with "Love our lakes".

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2019/30**

Moved: Member Simon Cameron (Chairman)

Seconded: Member Sandra Hampstead-Tipene

1. That the report be received.
2. The Zone Committee agrees to refresh the suite of Zone Committee posters (at five locations) for winter.

**CARRIED****5.7 CLAY CLIFFS EROSION****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is from Graeme Clarke, Environment Canterbury, via Chris Eccleston, Zone Manager, Environment Canterbury.

To provide a follow up for the Zone Committee regarding a question relating to the impact of erosion from the Clay Cliffs on water quality in Lake Benmore.

Graeme Clarke answered questions on water quality in Lake Benmore. He said that sediment settles on the Ahuriri River delta in the lake and that the lake environment is well oxygenated so phosphorous stays bound to sediment rather than being released into the lake.

The committee asked whether a sample of the sediment being eroded from Clay Cliffs could be collected and analysed. Graeme Clarke said this could be done and the results reported to the committee.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2019/31**

Moved: Craig Dawson

Seconded: John Sunckell

1. That the report be received.
2. The Zone Committee receives the compilation of existing information on the likely impact of erosion from the Clay Cliffs on water quality in Lake Benmore noting that there will be further discussion at a future meeting regarding possible works at the Clay Cliffs.

**CARRIED**

## **5.8 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR**

Simon Cameron was nominated for Chair by Craig Dawson, seconded by John Wilkie. There being no further nominations, Simon Cameron was declared Chair for 2019.

Matthew Bayliss was nominated for Deputy Chair by Lisa Anderson, seconded by Sandra Hampstead-Tipene. There being no further nominations, Matthew Bayliss was declared Deputy Chair for 2019.

The election of the committee's representative on the Regional Committee was postponed to the July meeting.

### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2019/32**

Moved: Craig Dawson

Seconded: John Wilkie

That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee elects:

1. Simon Cameron as Chair for 2019

**CARRIED**

### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2019/33**

Moved: Lisa Anderson

Seconded: Sandra Hampstead-Tipene

2. Matthew Bayliss as Deputy Chair for 2019

**CARRIED**

**5.9 OMNIBUS PLAN CHANGE 2019****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is from Andrea Richardson, Environment Canterbury.

To provide information on the topics in the proposed "Omnibus" Plan Change to the region-wide rules in the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan (Plan Change 7A) including an extract from the proposed Schedule 6: "Areas on rivers or lakes commonly used for freshwater bathing (existing and proposed)" relating to swimming sites in the zone.

The committee asked whether landowners are aware of the proposed list of bathing sites and the related stock exclusion rules. It was noted by ECan staff that the list was proposed (with the plan change to be notified mid-year) and the stock exclusion rules that would apply are consistent with current rules (that is, "heavy" stock would be excluded).

**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Zone Committee received the update on the proposed plan change to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan.

**5.10 WAITAKI SHORELINES AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is from Ian Whitehouse, Environment Canterbury, using information from Graeme Clarke, Environment Canterbury.

To provide information on the April meeting of the Waitaki Lakes Shoreline Authorities Committee.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

The report was received.

**5.11 LAKE MIDDLETON FIELD TRIP BACKGROUND & OUTLINE**

The field trip to Lake Middleton took place after the formal meeting.

**5.12 GENERAL BUSINESS**

Matthew Bayliss asked that the committee formally thank Omarama Station, John Wilkie and High Country Salmon for their contributions to the successful hangi in March. This was endorsed by the committee.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2019/34**

Moved: Matthew Bayliss

Seconded: Lisa Anderson

The zone committee thanks Omarama Station, John Wilkie and High Country Salmon for their contributions to the hangi and that the Chair send letters of thanks.

**CARRIED**

**The Meeting closed at 10.40am.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting held on .**

.....  
**CHAIRPERSON**

UNCONFIRMED

**5.3 UPPER WAITAKI ZONE COMMITTEE - 2019 ACTION LIST****File Reference:** NA**Author:** Charlotte Borrell, Community Services Officer**Authoriser:** Simon Mackenzie, General Manager Operations**Attachments:** Nil**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is from Ian Whitehouse, Zone Facilitator, Environment Canterbury.

The purpose of this report is to update the committee on progress on items identified at previous zone committee meetings in 2019.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the report be received.

**Upper Waitaki Zone Committee – 2019 Action list** (updated for 19 July meeting)

<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Status</b>
17 May 2019	Clay Cliffs – analyse (for P) a sample of the sediment being eroded from below Clay Cliffs.	Graeme Clarke	<b>Work in progress</b> Sample collected. Analysis being done. Zone cmtee discussion postponed to September
17 May 2019	Changes to Ahuriri delta – find out whether there is new LIDAR or other data that provides new information on build-up of the delta and sedimentation of the lake. If new data available, then advise committee and indicate whether this can be analysed and brought to the committee.	Graeme Clarke	<b>Work in progress</b> To be addressed by Graeme at September meeting.
17 May	Refresh the committee's "Posters" at the five locations across the zone (considering feedback on draft poster shown to the committee at 17 May meeting)	Kate Doran	<b>Work in progress</b>
17 May	At next meeting, include on the agenda the election of UWZC's	Whit	<b>Completed</b>

	representative on Regional Committee		See agenda item
15 February	Kellands Pond/Wairepo Arm – will a hydraulic study be done on how these two waterbodies connect be done? Previously agreed that a study was needed.	Chris to follow up with ECan Science	<b>Work in progress</b> – Chris to provide update at a future meeting
15 February	Develop a visual one-page summary to report progress against the Zone Delivery Work Programme	Chris	<b>Work in progress</b>

CHARLOTTE BORRELL

**COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER**



## 5.4 REGIONAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

**File Reference:** NA

**Author:** Charlotte Borrell, Community Services Officer

**Authoriser:** Simon Mackenzie, General Manager Operations

**Attachments:** Nil

### STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

That the report be received.

## BACKGROUND

This report is from Lesley Woudberg, Regional Committee Facilitator, Environment Canterbury.

This report provides a summary of the most recent meeting of the Regional Committee.

## CWMS REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Summary of Committee 11 June Meeting 2019

### 1. Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity and Mitigating Climate Change

#### The Pohatu/Flea Bay Story

- The committee heard from Frances and Shireen Helps from Pohatu/Flea Bay on Banks Peninsula about the work they had been undertaking over the last 30 years to protect and enhance biodiversity on their property while maintaining the property as a viable sheep and beef farm.
- And the frustration they felt with the government's proposed Climate Change Bill that currently does not recognise the positive contribution of native revegetation.
- This promoted a discussion about the motivation of landowners and how we needed to provide incentives/reduce barriers - rules were needed but we also need to be more aware of the motivations of landowners, how the way we go about things matters, the way neighbours play an important role in influencing others, local ownership/empowerment was important, collective wisdom of catchment groups and supporting local champions.

### 2. CWMS Fit for Future

- The Committee heard that the Mayoral Forum had approved the interim goals for 2025 and 2030 and had agreed that Environment Canterbury work with district/city councils, Ngāi Tahu, industry and community partners on work programmes to achieve the goals and improve the monitoring framework.
- The Mayoral forum also agreed that more effort was needed to address four strategic issues;
  - Collective leadership and accountability of the CWMS
  - Resources and funding

- Monitoring and review
- Developing understanding and support for what the CWMS is trying to do

### Summary of CWMS 2025 and 2030 Goals

Target	Target area	Comment on proposed goals for 2025 and 2030
1	Environmental limits	Goals largely maintain the direction set in 2010 – with emphasis on review of limits and attention to how these will be achieved
2	Ecosystem health and biodiversity	Range of ambitious new goals are proposed to prompt change in this area
3	Natural character of braided rivers	Range of ambitious new goals are proposed to prompt change in this area
4	Kaitiakitanga	Goals represent a move away from process objectives, with a greater focus on desired outcomes
5	Drinking water	Goals are mix of maintaining direction set in 2010 and new goal relating to untreated community drinking water supplies
6	Recreational amenity and opportunities	Goals largely maintain the direction set in 2010, with inclusion of new goals relating to recreational water quality
7	Water-use efficiency	Goals largely maintain the direction set in 2010
8	Irrigated land area	Shift in emphasis, with more focus on reliable and efficient use of water, than on irrigated land area (for which an indicative target was set for 2040)
9	Energy security and efficiency	Goals largely maintain the direction set in 2010
10	Indicators of regional and national economies	Range of more measurable goals are proposed to better reflect the links between water and economic resilience, and to better incorporate externalities

**3. Update – CWMS Targets Report 2019**

- The committee had a brief discussion on the update of the CWMS Targets Report that tracks progress toward the CWMS targets. A sub-small group of members will help Environment Canterbury complete the update.

**4. Requests Next meeting**

- ZC representatives give updates on their Immediate Steps projects
- Environment Canterbury and Christchurch City Council provide briefings on their Climate Change (and CCC Ecological) Emergencies and what it will mean

CHARLOTTE BORRELL

**COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER**

**5.5 ELECTION OF REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE****File Reference:** NA**Author:** Charlotte Borrell, Community Services Officer**Authoriser:** Simon Mackenzie, General Manager Operations**Attachments:** Nil**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee elects XX as the Committee's representative on the Regional Committee

**BACKGROUND**

Each zone committee has a representative on the Regional Committee. Sandy Hampstead-Tipene has been the Upper Waitaki Zone Committee's representative on the Regional Committee. She is standing down from this role.

The Regional Committee meets about six times a year. Meetings are usually on a Tuesday afternoon in Christchurch. The meetings for the remainder of 2019 are scheduled for Tuesday 13 August; Tuesday 10 September; Tuesday 12 November.

The Regional Committee representative receives payment of \$4,000 per year and is reimbursed for travel and related expenses (such as accommodation overnight in Christchurch).

CHARLOTTE BORRELL

**COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER**

## 5.6 LAKE BENMORE AHURIRI ARM TROPHIC LEVEL INDEX

**File Reference:** NA

**Author:** Charlotte Borrell, Community Services Officer

**Authoriser:** Simon Mackenzie, General Manager Operations

**Attachments:** 1. Appendix 1: TLI results over time at lakes monitored in the Upper Waitaki zone

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is from Graeme Clarke and Marty Mortiaux, Environment Canterbury.

The purpose of the Report is to provide information on the Trophic Level Index for Upper Waitaki Lakes, including Lake Benmore at Ahuriri Arm and the impact on Ahuriri catchment consent holders.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee notes:

- a) The Trophic Level Index for Lake Benmore at Ahuriri Arm is now 2.9;
- b) A number of consent holders in the Ahuriri Catchment are required to take steps when the TLI exceeds 2.75 or 2.9; and
- c) Environment Canterbury will be undertaking other actions in the Catchment to respond to the TLI in Lake Benmore at Ahuriri Arm being at 2.9.

### Summary

1. Environment Canterbury has just finalised The 2019 Trophic Level Index (TLI) calculations for the Upper Waitaki Lakes. The TLI for Lake Benmore at Ahuriri Arm is 2.9.
2. Consent holders with water permits for irrigation and/or farming land use consents in the Ahuriri Catchment have conditions on their consents that require certain actions when TLI trigger levels on their consents are exceeded. **10 farms are directly impacted** as the TLI trigger level on their water permits is 2.75. There are, however, 44 farms that drain into the Ahuriri catchment that collectively contribute to the catchments water quality.
3. Environment Canterbury has been contacting all consent holders impacted. Further meetings will occur with consent holders to work through the consent requirements. The consents require several actions to occur before irrigation can commence in October this year.
4. The issue for the Ahuriri Arm is, however, a catchment scale issue. Environment Canterbury is therefore also undertaking other actions alongside the process with impacted consent holders within the Ahuriri catchment to support a shared approach.

### Background

5. A key issue for the Upper Waitaki catchment is the cumulative effects of farming activities on water quality. In 2009/2010 there was a resource consent hearing for a number of applicants who were seeking consent to take and use water for irrigation. Resource consents granted as part of that process included a suite of conditions to manage both the local and cumulative effects of irrigation on water quality. This included a requirement for further actions if the Trophic Level Index (TLI) of Lake Benmore at Ahuriri Arm, Haldon Arm or Lower Benmore exceeded TLI triggers of 2.75 and 3.
6. In February 2019 Plan Change 5 to the Land and Water Regional Plan became operative. This Plan Change requires farming land use consents for farms that have, more than 50 hectares of irrigation, or certain areas of winter grazing, where they do not already have an existing water permit that manages both the local and cumulative effects on water quality. Farming land use consents are then issued with conditions to manage both the local and cumulative effects of farming on water quality. This includes a TLI trigger of 2.9.

### The Trophic Level Index for Lake Benmore @ Ahuriri Arm

7. The TLI for the 2018/19 summer for the Ahuriri Arm of Lake Benmore was 2.9. The TLI last summer (2017/18) was 2.3. While TLI's increased at several lakes in the Upper Waitaki zone this year (Appendix 1) compared to last year, the increase observed in the Ahuriri Arm was the biggest. The TLI (calculated from nitrogen, phosphorus and chlorophyll A concentrations) increased mainly because of high chlorophyll A results, indicating there was more algae in the lake than in previous years.

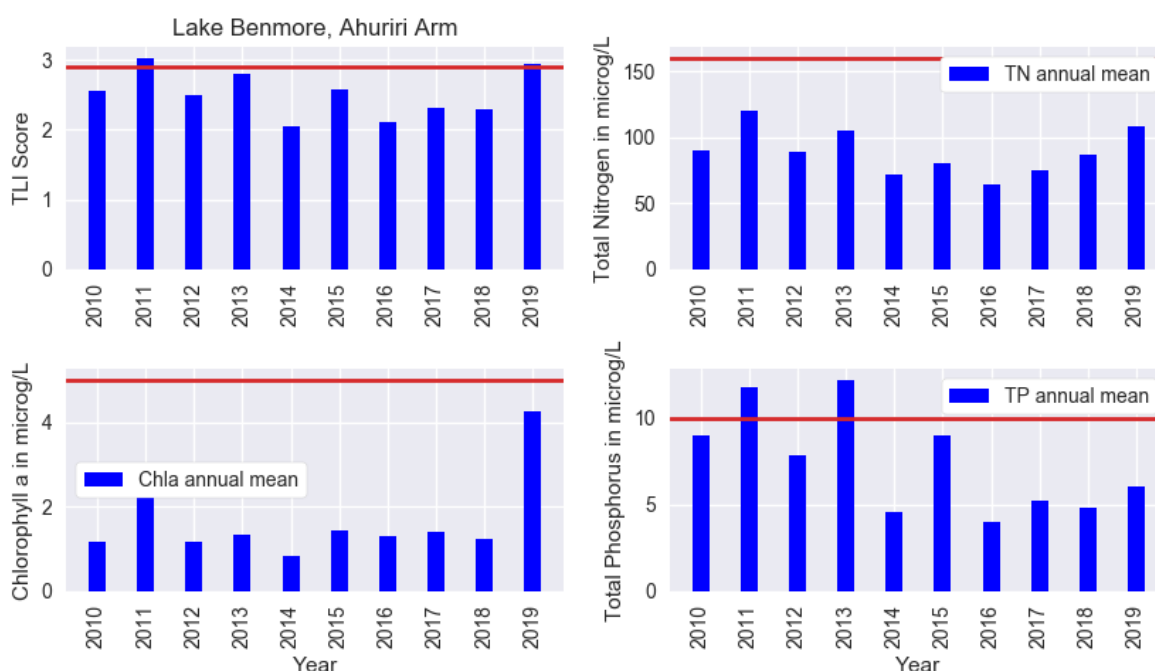


Figure:

### Annual mean results for the Ahuriri Arm of Lake Benmore

### Actions for Consent Holders

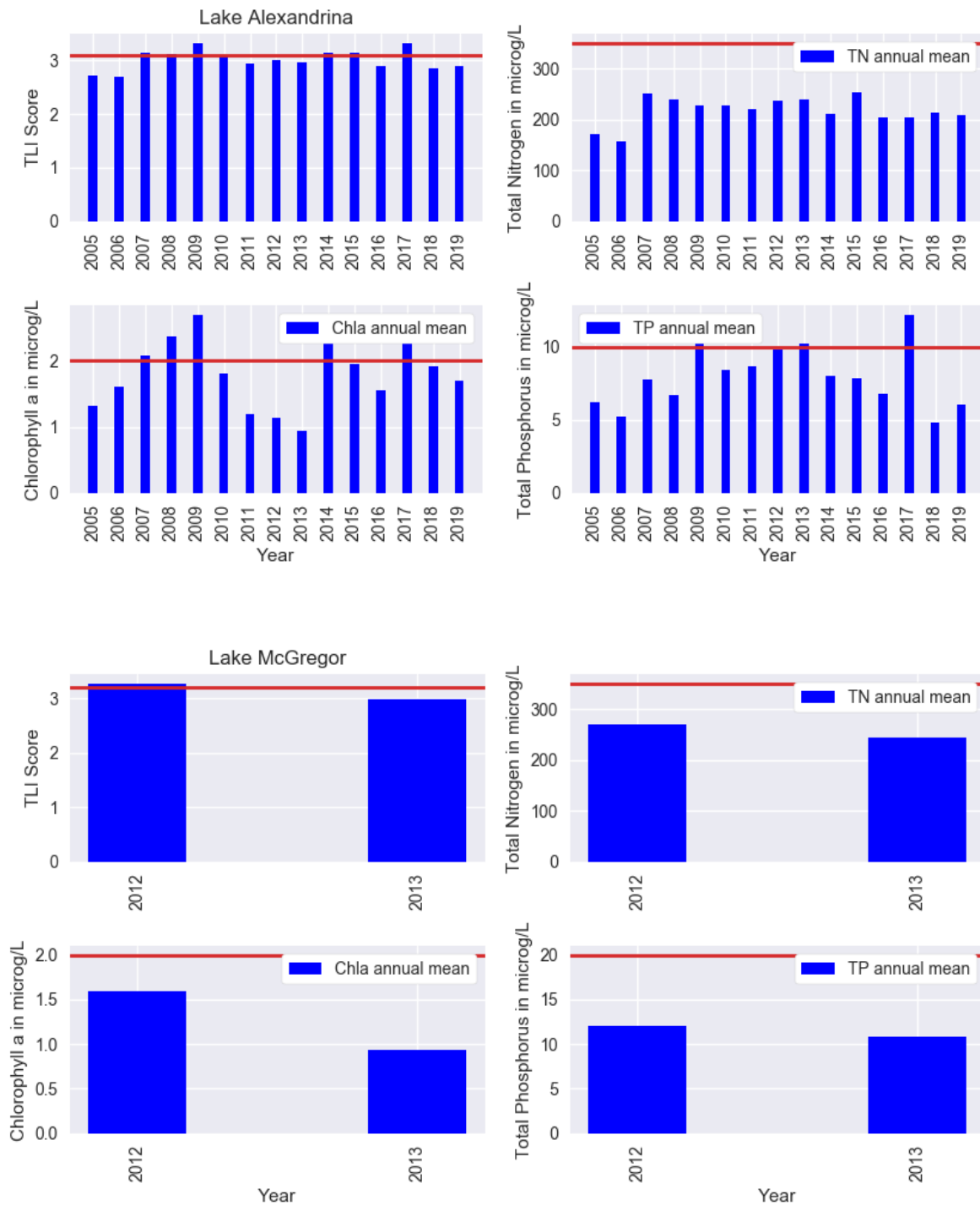
8. Some consent holders with water permits for irrigation and/or farming land use consents in the Ahuriri Catchment have conditions on their consents that require certain actions when TLI trigger levels are exceeded. At 2.9 the early warning trigger level on water permits has been exceeded, but the farming land use trigger has not been exceeded.

9. Water permit consent holders with the TLI triggers must establish a two-person expert scientist panel (with one an expert nominated by the Canterbury Regional Council). The role of the Panel is to determine if that the cause of the breach was unlikely, or not unlikely, to have been caused in whole or in part by nutrient losses associated with the irrigation authorised by the water permits.
10. If the outcome is that it was unlikely, no further action is required. If the outcome is it is not unlikely, then the nutrient discharge allowances (addressing both phosphorus and nitrogen) included in water permits for irrigation must be reduced in accordance with a formula on those consents.

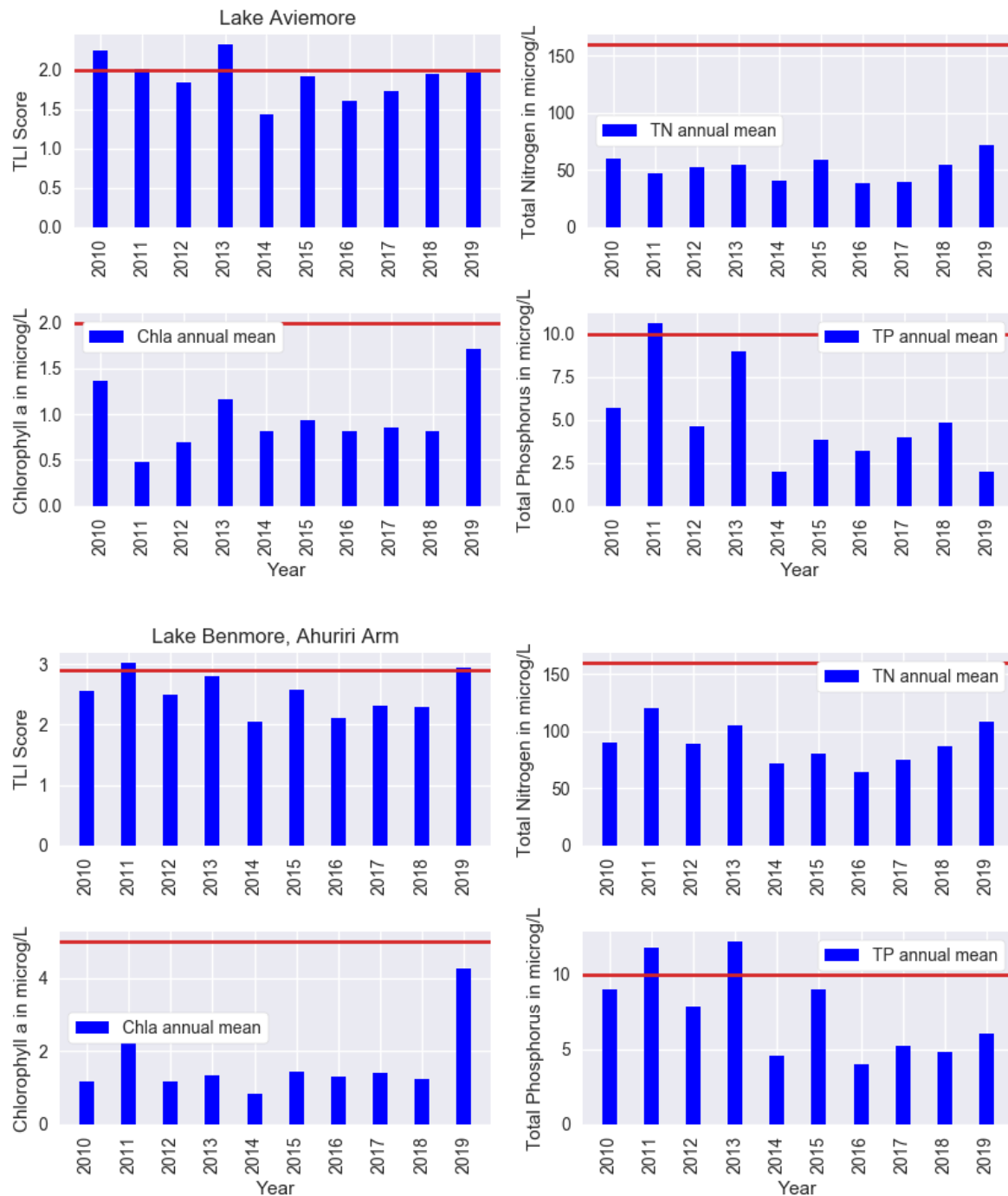
#### Next Steps

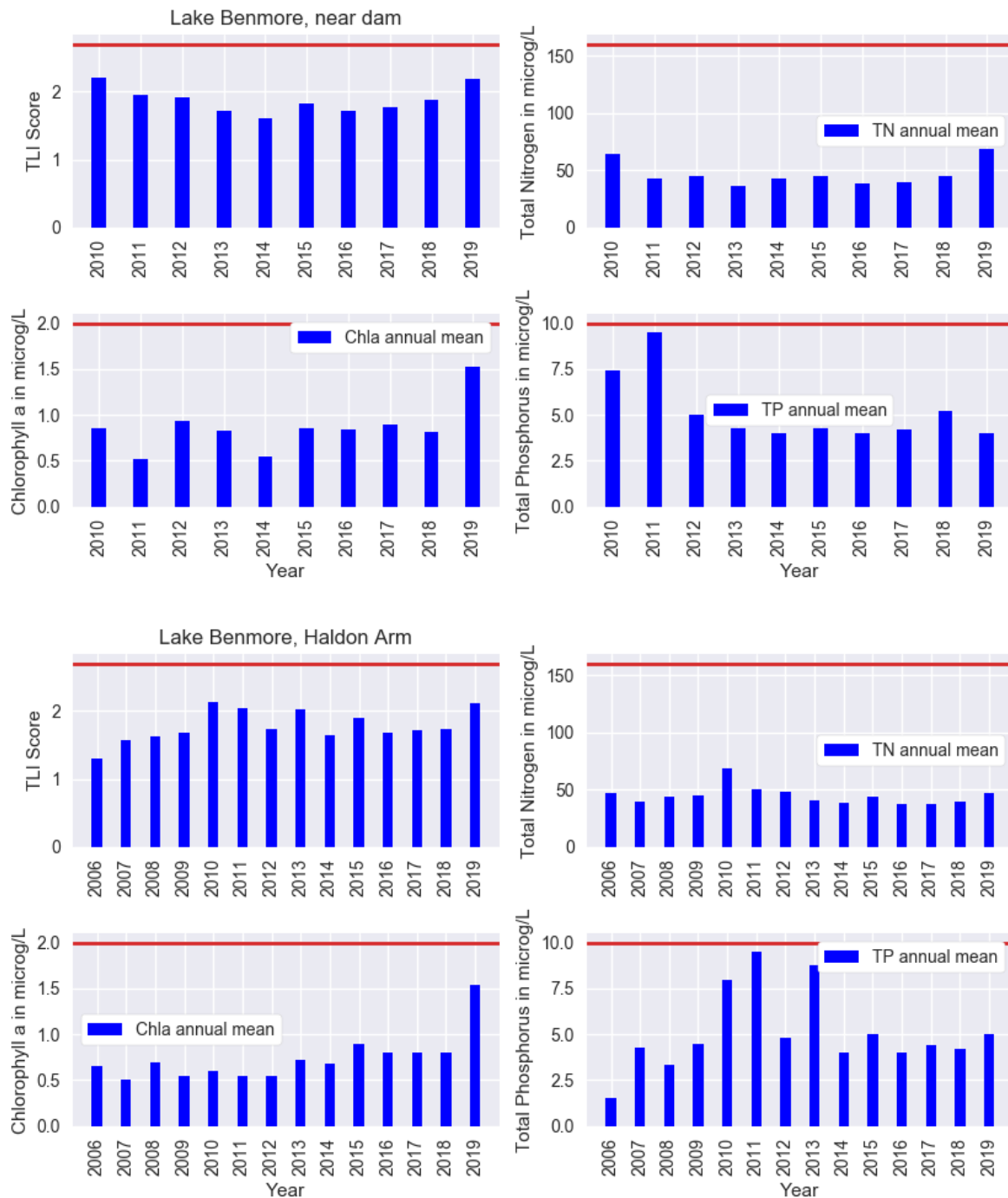
11. Environment Canterbury has been contacting all consent holders impacted. Further meetings will occur with water permit consent holders.
12. The issue for the Ahuriri Arm is however a catchment scale issue. Within the Ahuriri Catchment 15 consent holders have water permits with a TLI trigger of 2.75 requiring action. Some water permits have however not commenced irrigation so the trigger levels do not apply. A further 5 farms, with farming land use consents have trigger levels of 2.9. Only the water permit early-warning trigger level of 2.75 have been exceeded, so in total **10 farms are directly impacted** (some farms have more than one water permit). There are, however 44 farms, that drain into the Ahuriri catchment that collectively contribute to the catchments water quality. This includes farms with water permits for irrigation, but with no trigger levels and farms that will require farming land use consents.
13. Environment Canterbury therefore is proposing to undertake other actions alongside the process with water permit consent holders in the Ahuriri catchment. These are also likely to be further informed by the expert panel conclusions. Actions include:
  - a. Compliance follow-up with farms identified as a high priority due to their compliance history;
  - b. Work one-on-one with farms that require farming land use consents to ensure these are obtained; and
  - c. Establishment of a new catchment group to progress implementation of good management practices across all farms in Ahuriri catchment.

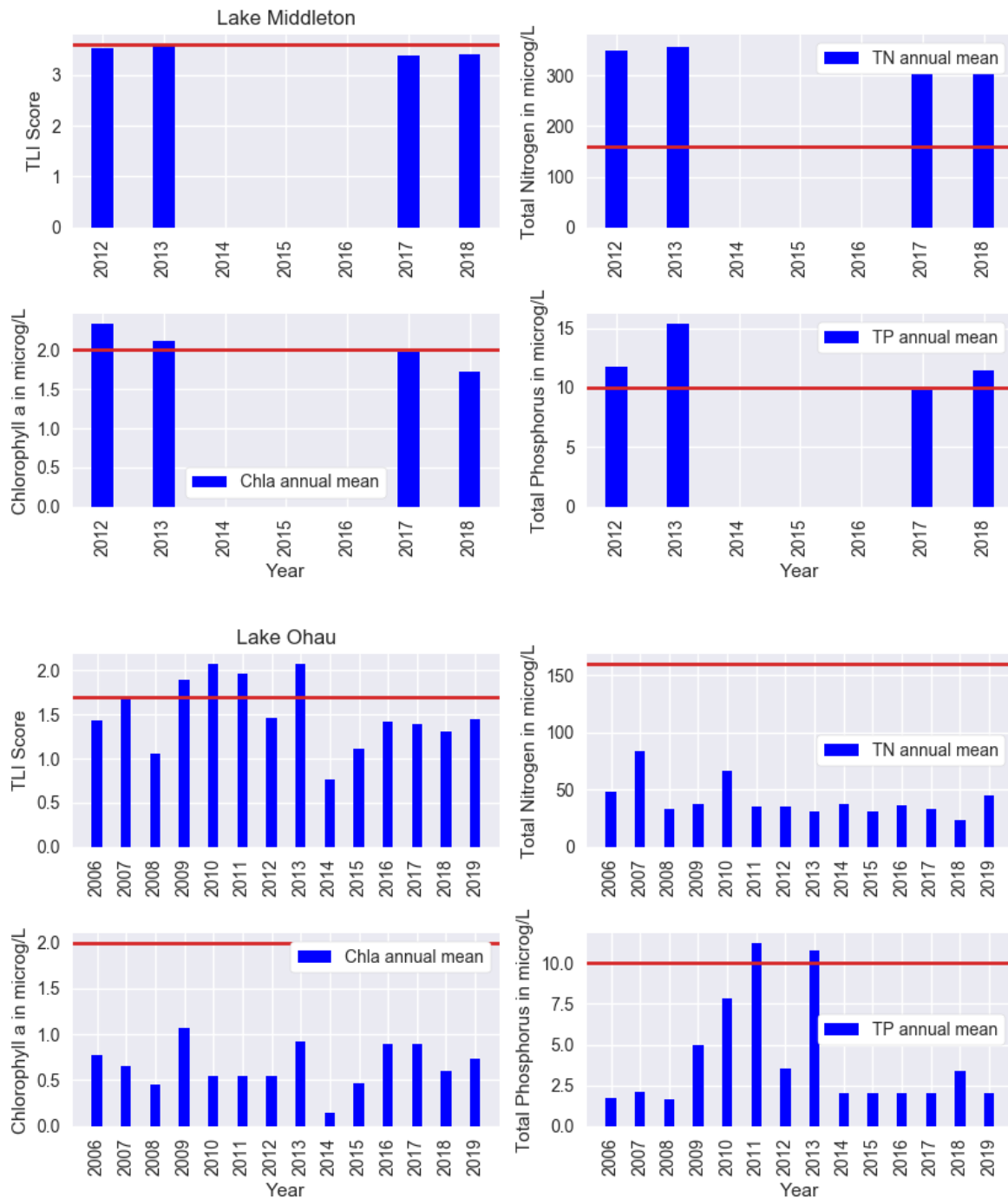
**Appendix 1: TLI results over time at lakes monitored in the Upper Waitaki zone (refer attached document)**

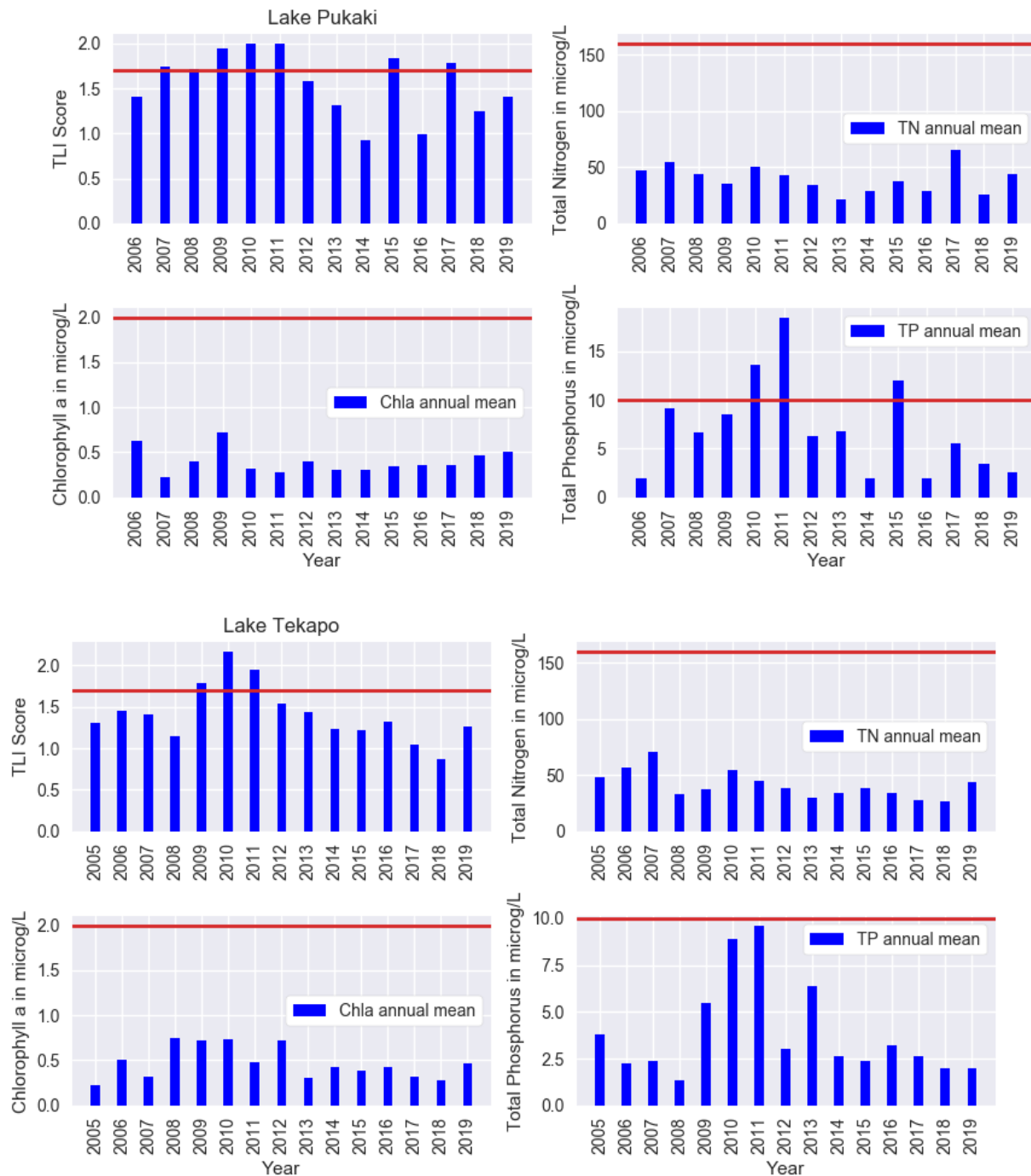












CHARLOTTE BORRELL  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER**

**Appendix 1: TLI results over time at lakes monitored in the Upper Waitaki zone.**

	<b>PC5 Limit</b> (with actions required in farming land use consents)	<b>Trigger Levels</b> (with actions required for irrigation water permits)								
			<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Lake Alexandrina	3.1		3.0	3.0	3.2	3.1	2.9	3.3	2.9	2.9
Lake Tekapo	1.7	25% greater than summer average	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.1	0.9	1.3
Lake Pukaki	1.7		1.6	1.3	1.0	1.8	1.0	1.5	1.3	1.4
Lake Ohau	1.7		1.5	2.1	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4
Lake Benmore - Haldon	2.7	2.75 and 3	1.8	2.0	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.1
Lake Benmore- Ahuriri	2.9	2.75 and 3	2.5	2.8	2.1	2.6	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.9
Lake Benmore - Dam	2.7	2.75 and 3	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.2
Lake Aviemore	2		1.9	2.3	1.4	1.9	1.6	1.7	2.0	2.0
Lake Middleton	3.6		3.5	3.6	n/s	n/s	n/s	3.4	3.4	n/s
Kellands Pond	3.2		n/s	n/s	3.3	3.7	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.3

## **5.7 AHURIRI ARM CATCHMENT GROUP AND FARMER LAND USE CONSENT CAMPAIGN PROGRESS**

**File Reference:** NA

**Author:** Charlotte Borrell, Community Services Officer

**Authoriser:** Simon Mackenzie, General Manager Operations

**Attachments:** Nil

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This Report is from Jenna Hughes-Games, Land Management Advisor, Environment Canterbury

The purpose of the Report is to:

1. Inform the committee of the proposal to create and support an Ahuriri Arm catchment group to complement the Omarama Stream Group and to seek input from the Committee on how it wants to be involved.
2. Provide information on Farming Land Use Consent progress.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Zone Committee:

1. Formally endorse, at this meeting, the Committee's support for the Ahuriri Arm catchment group.
2. Consider involvement in:
  - (a) The launch of the catchment group; and/or
  - (b) Field trips and other events and meeting with the catchment group, from time to time, to hear about progress and challenges.
3. Note progress of farming land use consents in the zone and Ahuriri catchment.

### **BACKGROUND**

#### **AHURIRI ARM CATCHMENT GROUP**

##### PROPOSAL

Environment Canterbury is proposing to establish an Ahuriri Arm Catchment Group from mid-August. Environment Canterbury would facilitate and support the farmers' collective action to implement Good Management Practices (gmp) and reduce nutrient and contaminant losses and improve wetlands and other biodiversity.

##### BACKGROUND

With the recent increase in the Trophic Level Index of the Ahuriri Arm, action is required by all farmers in the catchment to collectively aid in improving water quality in Ahuriri Arm of Lake Benmore.

In addition, a Water Quality Report by Environment Canterbury "Upper Waitaki catchment flows, water quality and ecology: state and trend" from May 2015 shows many of the water quality

parameter levels in the Willowburn, Omarama, Hen Burn Streams and Sutherlands Creek are above acceptable levels.

The above report found “Overall, there are a number of streams that remain relatively free of intensive development and retain excellent water quality. Other streams, such as the Hen Burn and lower Mary Burn, Omarama Stream and Grays River are showing signs of the impact of land use intensification, while the Willowburn can be regarded as having degraded water quality and ecological values throughout.”

“...typically ammoniacal-nitrogen concentrations in Upper Waitaki Streams are low, which reflects the absence of point source discharges.” The probable absence of point sources is evidence that the poor stream quality is a collective issue. Everyone contributes and though there may be some that have a larger impact, it is important that everyone farms to good management practices and do as much as they can to decrease nutrients, sediment and contaminants from entering the environment.

The Omarama Stream Catchment Group is currently addressing stream quality in the Omarama Stream and working towards Good Management Practice (gmp) collectively. The group is a good example of what is possible by working together.

Establishment of a catchment group for the Ahuriri Arm directly relates to the Upper Waitaki ZIP Addendum under:

- Major Pathways: 2. Support for catchment groups taking collective action to reduce losses contaminants, prioritised where they are addressing identified at-risk areas
- Recommendations: 13. Environment Canterbury and Industry support Catchment Groups, where these are working on collective actions to reduce losses of contaminants and working on wetland and riparian management, prioritised in at-risk catchments.

## **FARMING LAND USE CONSENT PROGRESS**

In February 2019, Plan Change 5 to the Land and Water Regional Plan became operative. The Plan requires farming land use consents for farms in the sensitive lakes zone, if a farm has more than 50 hectares of irrigation, or certain areas of winter grazing; unless they already have an existing water permit that manages both the local and cumulative effects on water quality.

Below are two tables for the whole of Upper Waitaki zone and the Ahuriri Arm catchment within the zone. The tables show the number of farming land use consents:

- that have been granted or lodged and are in the consent process;
- do not need land use consent because their water permit already manages local and cumulative effects; or
- where it has been determined that they do not need a land use consent to farm (permitted).

The tables also outline the number of farms where land management staff have been in contact and the farms are making progress; or where contact is still required to determine their progress.

### **Table 1. All of Upper Waitaki Zone**

Status	Granted or in consent process	Contact made, and progress is being made to either obtain consent or confirm if a permitted activity	Require contact to establish progress
Farming Land Use Consents	8	8	5
Have a water permits that manage local and cumulative effects and therefore do not require a farming land use consent.	16		
Permitted activities under PC5 - No land use consent to farm required		4	

**Table 2. Ahuriri Arm**

Status	Granted or in consent process	Contact made, and progress is being made to either obtain consent or confirm if a permitted activity	Require contact to establish progress
Farming Land Use Consents	3	9	
Have a water permits that manage local and cumulative effects and therefore do not require a farming land use consent.	10		
Permitted activities under PC5 - No land use consent to farm required		2	

CHARLOTTE BORRELL  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER**



**5.8 IMMEDIATE STEPS BIODIVERSITY FUNDING DECISIONS****File Reference:** NA**Author:** Charlotte Borrell, Community Services Officer**Authoriser:** Simon Mackenzie, General Manager Operations**Attachments:** Nil**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report has been prepared by Robert Carson-Iles (Biodiversity Officer, Environment Canterbury).

The purpose of this agenda paper is to allocate Immediate Steps (IMS) funding for the 2019/2020 financial year. \$105,000 of funding is available to be allocated.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the zone committee formally approve the following Immediate Steps Projects:
  - a) Otematata Wetlands Walkway Stage 3 (estimated funding from Immediate Steps of \$4,500 in 2019/20).
  - b) Upper Ohau weed control (estimated funding from Immediate Steps of \$45,000 in 2019/20, \$11,000 in 2020/21 and \$17,000 in 2021/22).

**BACKGROUND**

**Project:** Otematata Wetlands Walkway Stage 3.

**Location:** Otematata Wetlands.

**Description:** The Otematata Residents Association has been carrying out ongoing hard work to enhance the Otematata Wetlands through creating and maintaining a track network, carrying out weed control and native plantings. They are proposing to plant another area adjacent to the existing two planting areas that the UW Zone Committee funded previously. The plants in the existing plantings are growing well.

**Ecological Assessment Score: 20 / 39** This project scores slightly lower as it is principally creation of habitat through planting.

**Aim:** Increase the dominance and diversity of native wetland vegetation around a small lake.

**Works:** Plant 1,350 native wetland species and carry out ongoing willow control.

**Funding breakdown:** It is planned that Immediate Steps funding will be used to cover the cost purchasing plants and herbicide for willow control. This has an estimated cost of **\$4,500**. The Residents Association will carry out all the planting and maintenance. It is difficult to estimate this cost but it will be equivalent to the cost of the plants.

**ZIP:** The project aligns strongly with the outcomes set in the Zone Implementation Plan including:

**4.3** Kaitiakitanga (h) protecting and enhancing wetlands

**5.4** Biodiversity 4.3 wetlands ... identify areas where wetlands could be restored...

**5.4 Biodiversity** 4.8 freshwater ecosystems function and health. Project will strengthen biodiversity corridor along Waitaki river.



**Figure 1:** Stage 1 plantings growing well.



Figure two: Latest map



**Project:** Upper Ohau weed control

**Location:** Dobson Valley and Hopkins River below the confluence with the Dobson.

**Description:** A landscape scale weed survey has been carried out in February of this year to identify the distribution of all known invasive weeds in the project area that have a capacity to alter ecosystems. The key species identified were Crack willow, Russel lupin, Buddleia, Alder, Elderberry, Cotoneaster, Gooseberry, Flowering current, Raspberry and Hops. The distributions are different for all weed species, however very crudely the further up the Dobson valley the less weeds and the closer to the Glen Lyon homestead the more species there are and at greater densities. A three year weed control plan has been proposed. Priorities and control methodology has been detailed for each of the species. Project River Recovery (DOC), Land Information New Zealand and Glen Lyon Station have also committed to supporting this project should it be approved. At the end of the control plan weed distribution will be resurveyed and the need for further control will be assessed.

**Ecological Assessment Score: 39 / 39** This scores highly due to protecting threatened landscapes, ecosystems and species.

**Aim:** To protect the braided river, wetland and dryland ecosystems of the Dobson and lower Hopkins Valleys.

**Key outcomes and distribution:**

**Crack willow:** Crack willow grows vegetatively from plant fragments. It rapidly colonises both wetlands and braided rivers. In wetlands it changes the hydrology and dominates the existing vegetation reducing its habitat value for native flora and fauna. Changes to hydrology can have adverse effects on farming practices by raising water levels and blocking waterways. In braided rivers it stabilises islands, reducing the mobility and functioning of the braided river channels, reducing the amount of habitat available for nesting birds and can cause erosion of adjacent farmland. Priorities for willow control are scattered willow in wetlands, any willows in the Dobson valley and any willows in the bed of the Hopkins River.

**Russel Lupin:** Russel lupin are a fast growing plant producing many long lived seed which are dispersed by explosive pods and soil and water movement. Stock may also play a part in its dispersal. Russel lupin rapidly colonise a wide range of habitats including braided rivers and wetlands, and cause a range of effects including stabilisation of rivers, altering their shape and contributing to flooding and erosion. In wetlands they outcompete native vegetation and change the nutrient composition. At Glen Lyon it appears that they have spread from the homestead, primarily downstream, invading Hopkins, the shore of Lake Ohau and the large wetland system on the true left of the river. Some spread has also occurred upstream of the homestead and worryingly into the Dobson. Control should be focussed on total removal of plants in the Dobson and reducing the densities in the Hopkins upstream of the Homestead. Control will have to be carried out annually during flowering due to rapid germination and maturation.

**Buddleia:** Fast growing and tolerant to a wide range of environmental conditions, Buddleia will invade riverbeds, streamsides, forest and shrubland margins, short tussock and bare ground. Their small seed is spread by wind, water and soil movement. Buddleia are a major pest and waterways on the station as well as the Hopkins River and shoreline of Lake Ohau are at risk of being clogged up. Luckily Buddleia is contained to three separate locations which are fairly contained being Harris Stream below the bridge, an two unnamed streams draining to the west of PT.1974 and PT. 1827. Control should be focussed on controlling to zero density and will have to be carried out annually.

**Elderberry:** A deciduous small tree, Elderberry produces numerous seeds which are dispersed by birds. It tends to be found in where birds perch and will invade into scrub, forest margins and pasture. It can form dense stands which can inhibit native regeneration and as the leaves are poisonous the plant is not palatable to stock. It is likely that Elderberry originally spread from the homestead as it is most dense around here and has spread northwards. Elderberry becomes occasional scattered patches up the Dobson Valley before petering out downstream of Grough Hut. Control of Elderberry should be focussed on removing plants from the Dobson Valley and the creation of a buffer zone in the area where plant numbers become more common at the mouth of the Dobson. South of this point control will not be practical due to high plant numbers. Once Elderberry has been removed from the Dobson, control should be focussed on maintaining a clear buffer zone.

**Alder:** A prolifically seeding deciduous tree, Alder grows readily in areas with moist or waterlogged soils along rivers. Its seeds are spread by wind and particularly water, trees also growing from suckers. Alders can grow into pure stands, particularly in wetlands and will colonise riverbanks and beds. Fortunately Alder is restricted on the Station to the garden and a few trees in a shelterbelt near the river. Provided the trees stay in the garden control should be focussed on removing the trees in the shelterbelt to prevent them from becoming weedy.

**Cotoneaster:** A densely branched shrub, there are at least two species of cotoneaster on the property. Cotoneaster fruits prolifically with bright berries that are attractive to birds. Plants can germinate in shade, grow quickly, live long, outcompete native shrubs and prevent regeneration in native forests. As is common, cotoneaster spread from the homestead garden and has spread both north and south through scrubland and plantation forest areas. Control should be focussed on containing cotoneaster in the area of the homestead, clearing outliers and maintaining a clear buffer area to the north and south.

**Gooseberry, Flowering current and raspberry:** All three of these shrubby weeds are garden escapees that are spread by birds. Gooseberry is found in the Homestead area, an area around the old Dobson homestead and a small patch near Station Hut. Raspberry is found in the same patch at Station Hut and in the Homestead garden. Flowering current is only found around the Old Dobson homestead. The focus of control should be on removing the plants from the Dobson Valley.

**Hops:** A large scrambling vine, Hops grows fast and can smother native vegetation. It can tolerate a wide range of environmental conditions, produces lots of long-lived seeds and also takes root where it touches the ground. It is most commonly found where vegetation has been dumped and this appears to be the case here as we found only one plant by the old Dobson homestead. Given it has been there for a long time and hasn't gone anywhere it may not be too weedy at this site, however it would be prudent to control it while it is easy to do so.

#### Funding breakdown:

2019/2020		
Species	Cost	Notes
Crack willow	\$19,200	
Buddleia	\$6,000	
Raspberry, Flowing Current, Flowering Cherry, Gooseberry, Hops	\$7,000	

Alder	\$600	
Russel Lupin	\$24,000	Double hit year one
Elderberry	\$10,200	
Cotoneaster	\$8,000	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>	

<b>2020/2021</b>		
<b>Species</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Crack willow	\$0	Incidental control only
Buddleia	\$2,000	
Raspberry, Flowing Current, Flowering Cherry, Gooseberry, Hops	\$3,000	
Alder	\$0	Incidental control only
Russel Lupin	\$12,000	Dobson remains focus
Elderberry	\$0	Incidental control only
Cotoneaster	\$4,000	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,000</b>	

<b>2021/2022</b>		
<b>Species</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Crack willow	\$0	Incidental control only
Buddleia	\$2,000	
Raspberry, Flowing Current, Flowering Cherry, Gooseberry, Hops	\$3,000	
Alder	\$0	Incidental control only
Russel Lupin	\$12,000	Dobson remains focus
Elderberry	\$6,000	
Cotoneaster	\$4,000	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$27,000</b>	

**Funding sought from IMS:**

FY2019/2020: \$45,000

FY2020/2021: \$11,000

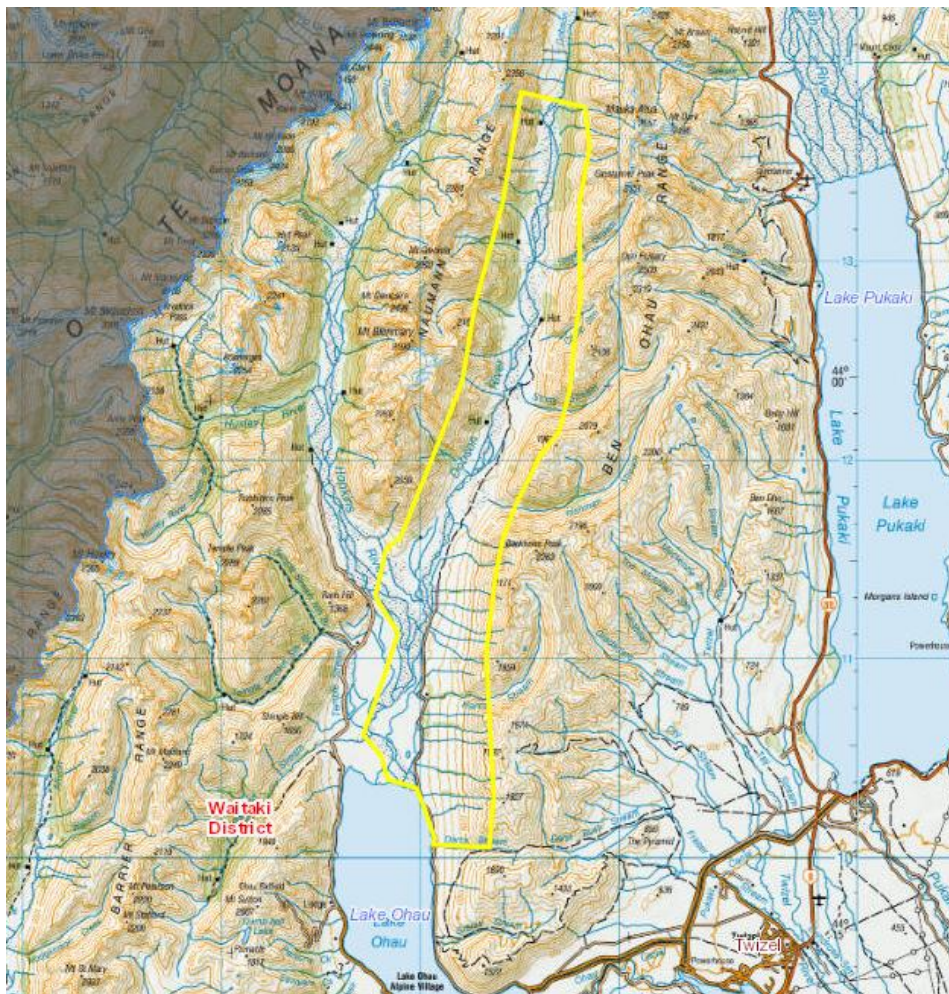
FY2021/2022: \$17,000

**ZIP:** The project aligns strongly with the outcomes set in the Zone Implementation Plan including:

**3.3:** “Braided Rivers Bird Habitat – Develop programmes to complement PRR for the protection and enhancement of braided river ecosystems including... weed control...”

**3.9:** “River protection – weed management – In restoration efforts involving weed control, priority be given to removing pest plants such as crack willow... all pest and weed control is to be coordinated for maximum effectiveness. ... Priority should be given to prevention and early removal of high risk species...”

**4.10:** “Indigenous dryland ecosystems – support initiatives for protection of indigenous dryland ecosystems from further loss or degradation...”



**Figure three:** Project Area.



**Figure Four:** Looking upstream, Dobson Valley.

#### FUNDING SUMMARY

2019-2020 Financial year		
PROJECT	STATUS	AMMOUNT
Otematata Wetlands Walkway stage 3	TBC	\$4,500
Upper Ohau Weed Control	TBC	\$45,000
Glenmore Station Fencing part 2.	granted last year	\$32,200
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$81,700</b>

2020-2021 Financial year		
PROJECT	STATUS	AMMOUNT
Upper Ohau Weed Control	TBC	\$11,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$11,000</b>

2021-2022 Financial year		
PROJECT	STATUS	AMMOUNT
Upper Ohau Weed Control	TBC	\$17,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$17,000</b>

CHARLOTTE BORRELL  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER**



**5.9 ZONE DELIVERY WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE****File Reference:** NA**Author:** Charlotte Borrell, Community Services Officer**Authoriser:** Simon Mackenzie, General Manager Operations**Attachments:** 1. Upper Waitaki InZone Milestone report July 2019**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the information be noted.

**Purpose:** The attached report is drawn from the InZone reporting system, to show progress against the Zone Delivery Work Programme

**Action Required:** For information of, and discussion with, the Zone Committee,

**Background:** This is the first iteration to reporting taken from ECan's new InZone reporting system, which was developed to provide better reporting capability across each of the Zone Work Programmes.

This report is provided in the standard report format, and will be delivered to the Zone Committee on a quarterly basis

**Report:**

Please find the InZone Report Attached.

Chris Eccleston  
Zone Manager

CHARLOTTE BORRELL  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER**

## Upper Waitaki - Work Programme Progress Update for Quarter 4 (Apr-Jun) FY2018/19

### Upper Waitaki Work Programme Summary:

During the last quarter of the 2018/2019 financial year there has been a focus on the follow up and support with farmers likely requiring Farming Land Use consents as a result of Plan Change 5 changes. There are thought to be 17 farmers who potentially need the Farming Land Use Consents, and 10 of them have so far had visits and/or been provided with one to one support.

A Land Management Advisor from the Southern Zone Team has been leading Project SHIFT, a Ministry for the Environment funded project, in collaboration with the Landcare Trust, seeking to develop best practice and tools for sediment loss control, particularly in hill farming.

Environment Canterbury has been strengthening its Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement team in Upper Waitaki / Mackenzie, with the allocation of a Senior Resource Monitoring Officer into the zone, and the ongoing recruitment of a replacement, and an additional Resource Monitoring Officer. A significant piece of work has also been carried out to develop a schedule for prioritised consent monitoring. Monitoring against this schedule was commenced in May.

The Zone Committee has supported the allocation of all the Immediate Steps Funding for this financial year, with funding going to six main projects including fencing, and willow and cotoneaster clearance. Also in relation to Biodiversity there has been a significant amount of work

We are continuing to work through the recruitment process for a Southern Pou Mātai Kō role with our three local rūnanga (Waihao, Arowhenua and Moeraki), and this role will lead the Mahinga Kai educational programmes when they are in place.

### Farming at GMP or better

All landowners who require a land use consent for their property because of PC5 provisions, have applied and received their consent.

**On Schedule**

#### Achievements:

Land Management Advisors have completed pre-visit data on 17 properties that were thought to need Farming Land Use Consents, and have identified those properties that do not require to apply for Farming Land Use Consents (3 of the 17 - these).

Pre-visit data included all farms being GIS mapped and identified, farmer information assembled, clear rule interpretations being developed to aid farmer discussions, and the development of GIS and CRM reporting templates.

The team have so far met with 10 of the 17 farmers to provide direct one to one support

8 Farm Environment Plan reviews have been completed since April, across the Upper Waitaki and OTOP Zones.

Willow Burn: Extension and support programme developed and implemented for farmers within the Willow Burn catchment. Programme updated annually.	On Hold	<p><b>Achievements:</b></p> <p>The team have met with six farmers in the catchment to date, and have undertaken two stream walks (the Hen Burn, on Ahuriri Downs and Quail Burn Station), where the Critical Source Areas (CSA) have been identified. Permission has been received for two further stream walks (Ben Dhu and Glen Eyrie)</p> <p>This work has been put on hold for a short period during the completion of the Farming Land Use Consent project, and to a more suitable time in the farming calendar.</p>
Omarama Stream: Extension and support programme developed and implemented for farmers within the Omarama Stream catchment. Programme updated annually	On Schedule	<p><b>Achievements:</b></p> <p>Land Use Consent application for two properties on Omarama Stream. Completed FEP checks for both. The team are also supporting one farmer who is working through his own Farm Environment Plan</p>
Benmore Irrigation CSA: Critical source areas with BIC area identified and mapped	Behind Schedule	<p><b>Achievements:</b></p> <p>Reported on one property to the land owner following stream Critical Source Area assessment. A Critical Source Area assessment has also been carried out on one further property.</p> <p>A visit to Willow Burn Station observed non-grazing induced weed build up in waterways and severe flooding around waterway. This has led to the commencement of a working group to explore fencing options for waterways, and their advantages and disadvantages</p>
Willow Burn landholder mahinga kai awareness, understanding, extension and support programme developed and implemented	Behind Schedule	<p><b>Achievements:</b></p> <p>This Milestone will be led by the Southern Pou Mātai Kō role when it is in post. Recruitment process continues in consultation with the three local rūnanga, and is currently behind schedule for completion. Land Management Advisor team have been incorporating Mahinga Kai values in consideration of Farm Environment Plans and their work with farmers requiring Farming Land Use consents.</p>
<b>Improving recreational and amenity values</b>		
Support TAs, DoC, F & G, A to O, generators and other stakeholders to provide and manage infrastructure that promotes safe recreation.	On Schedule	<p><b>Achievements:</b></p> <p>The autumn zone committee meetings have involved a Hangi for the community held in Omarama, together with a public meeting to discuss PC5 implications and whether consents to farm were needed, and a field trip to Lake Middleton with local community groups and community members, DoC and Fish and Game representatives</p> <p>Zone Committee has also fed back on the next round of signage around the area, and into the Love your Lakes campaign. Suggested the Love your Lakes campaign should be extended and include reference to rivers and streams also</p>

Monitoring and compliance of contaminants, including human waste, that may impact on recreational values.	On Schedule	<p><b>Achievements:</b></p> <p>The Environment Canterbury science and hydrology teams are sampling as per their schedule. Relevant water quality results are included in the community posters put up around the area. the Winter edition is currently being updated, and communications are working on the best way for report the relevant winter data. Swimming spot quality is reported in the summer posters.</p>
Public are aware of recreational and amenity values of water in the Upper Waitaki	On Schedule	<p><b>Achievements:</b></p> <p>The Environment Canterbury science and hydrology teams are sampling as per their schedule. Relevant water quality results are included in the community posters put up around the area. the Winter edition is currently being updated, and communications are working on the best way for report the relevant winter data. Swimming spot quality is reported in the summer posters.</p> <p>Water quality results to be reported to the Zone Committee annually, and scheduled for the September meeting currently</p> <p>Following discussion with the Zone Committee, Environment Canterbury Communications team are looking at extending the current "Love your Lakes" campaign and to have its focus extended to become "Love you Lakes and Rivers." New community posters are currently in development</p>
Focus on wetlands, spring-fed and hill-fed streams		
Annual allocation of Biodiversity Strategy and Immediate Steps funding is fully utilised on projects that protect and enhance high value wetland areas, hill-fed stream catchments and dryland vegetation areas	On Schedule	<p><b>Achievements:</b></p> <p>The Zone Committee, with the Environment Canterbury Biodiversity officer, have allocated 100% (circa \$100, 000) of the 2018/2019 Immediate Steps funds, over six key project:</p> <p>Fencing on Clifton Downs has been completed.</p> <p>The year 1 portion of fencing work at Glenmore Station is currently in progress</p> <p>Fencing is also in progress at Manuka Terrace</p> <p>The clearance of Cotoneaster at Birchwood has been completed.</p> <p>Weed control work in Boulton's Gully has been completed.</p> <p>There is ongoing support for the Omarama Stream water users group, and the fencing of Omarama Stream continues with the support of a number of land owners</p>

<p>Partnerships developed with organisations, including DOC, District Council, QEII, Beef and Lamb NZ and other farmer groups to ensure a step change in the protection and enhancement of terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity in the zone.</p>	<p><b>On Schedule</b></p>	<p><b>Achievements:</b></p> <p>Last monitoring round of the 2018 / 2019 financial year for the Galaxias macronasus carried out in early April. Good fish numbers were observed at Clifton Downs</p> <p>Also in April, three days of trout relocation were undertaken, with the team staying on site thanks to Glenmore Station. Involved around 13 people for each of the days from Department Of Conservation, Environment Canterbury, New Zealand Defence Force and a number of community volunteers. Over 200 trout were relocated over the three days. Representatives from Te Manahuna Aoraki also visited the works to see what was being done, helping them scope out future fish protection projects.</p> <p>In May, two separate days of field work were carried out in the upper Fork Stream this month, targeting the true left tributary, in advance of trout spawning season. Trout were still being found in in a very small sub-stream due to the challenging nature of electrofishing in a narrow /turfed over channel surface and over hung banks (trout tend to go to the banks when electro fished). An alternative electrofishing will be trialled.</p> <p>Member of Environment Canterbury's team have been leading the Project SHIFT, in collaboration with Landcare Trust, and which is looking at developing best practice tools for sediment loss control, particularly on hill farming locations. This project is being funded by the Ministry for the Environment (MfE), and the final draft report has been provided to them for their review</p> <p>Case study planning 95% complete</p>
<p><b>Biodiversity step change</b></p>		
<p>Annual allocation of Biodiversity Strategy and Immediate Steps funding is fully utilised on projects that protect and enhance high value wetland areas, hill-fed stream catchments and dryland vegetation areas</p>	<p><b>On Schedule</b></p>	<p><b>Achievements:</b></p> <p>The Zone Committee, with the Environment Canterbury Biodiversity officer, have allocated 100% (circa \$100, 000) of the 2018/2019 Immediate Steps funds, over six key project:</p> <p>Fencing on Clifton Downs has been completed.</p> <p>The year 1 portion of fencing work at Glenmore Station is currently in progress</p> <p>Fencing is also in progress at Manuka Terrace</p> <p>The clearance of Cotoneaster at Birchwood has been completed.</p> <p>Weed control work in Boulton's Gully has been completed.</p> <p>There is ongoing support for the Omarama Stream water users group, and the fencing of Omarama Stream continues with the support of a number of land owners</p>

<p>Partnerships developed with organisations, including DOC, District Council, QEII, Beef and Lamb NZ and other farmer groups to ensure a step change in the protection and enhancement of terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity in the zone.</p>	<p><b>On Schedule</b></p>	<p><b>Achievements:</b></p> <p>Last monitoring round of the 2018 / 2019 financial year for the Galaxias macronasus carried out in early April. Good fish numbers were observed at Clifton Downs</p> <p>Also in April, three days of trout relocation were undertaken, with the team staying on site thanks to Glenmore Station. Involved around 13 people for each of the days from Department Of Conservation, Environment Canterbury, New Zealand Defence Force and a number of community volunteers. Over 200 trout were relocated over the three days. Representatives from Te Manahuna Aoraki also visited the works to see what was being done, helping them scope out future fish protection projects.</p> <p>In May, two separate days of field work were carried out in the upper Fork Stream this month, targeting the true left tributary, in advance of trout spawning season. Trout were still being found in a very small sub-stream due to the challenging nature of electrofishing in a narrow /turfed over channel surface and over hung banks (trout tend to go to the banks when electrofished). An alternative electrofishing will be trialled.</p> <p>Member of Environment Canterbury's team have been leading the Project SHIFT, in collaboration with Landcare Trust, and which is looking at developing best practice tools for sediment loss control, particularly on hill farming locations. This project is being funded by the Ministry for the Environment (MfE), and the final draft report has been provided to them for their review</p> <p>Case study planning 95% complete</p> <p>Liaison with key partners continued to update on progress and seek advice on 'tool' development and hosting opportunities etc</p>
<p><b>Quality, affordable drinking water</b></p>		
<p>Reduce risk to drinking water by protecting CDWPZs</p>	<p><b>On Schedule</b></p>	<p><b>Achievements:</b></p> <p>Milestone on hold until Environment Canterbury have completed the recruitment of replacement Compliance Officer. The recruitment process is underway for this.</p>
<p>Policy and processes developed to manage landowners' transition from non-compliant septic tanks to compliant human waste effluent disposal systems</p>	<p><b>On Schedule</b></p>	<p><b>Achievements:</b></p> <p>Working group formed including team members from Environment Canterbury and Mackenzie District Council, to raise awareness, work with and support landowners in the transition from non-compliant to compliant septic tanks</p>

Compliance		
All incident response / daily alert matters are responded to in a timely way.	On Schedule	<b>Achievements:</b> The full annual compliance report for Environment Canterbury will be available in the September Zone Committee.
Comprehensive monitoring programmes in place for all regionally and locally significant consents	On Schedule	<b>Achievements:</b> A comprehensive Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement programme has been finalised for the Upper Waitaki/Mackenzie Basin area. This programme is based around the farms that have the complex water consents but also includes other farms that will be affected by the Plan Change 5 provisions i.e. the need for a farming land use consent because of irrigated area. The programme identifies and lists farms within the Upper Waitaki/Mackenzie basin, and the schedule of monitoring visits has been prioritised by criticality of consents, and historic performance. Teams including Compliance Officers and Land Management Advisors began monitoring the highest priority consents in May.  New or recently installed fish screens are being targeted as part of the regional programme.

**5.10 ZONE FACILITATORS REPORT****File Reference:** NA**Author:** Charlotte Borrell, Community Services Officer**Authoriser:** Simon Mackenzie, General Manager Operations**Attachments:** Nil**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report is from Ian Whitehouse, Zone Facilitator, Environment Canterbury.

This report provides information that may be of interest to the zone committee that is not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the report be received.

**1 Forest and Bird legal challenge on zone committee members conflict of interest**

In May this year Environment Canterbury received a new legal claim from Forest & Bird relating to water zone committees. The claim is against both the Auditor-General and Environment Canterbury. It follows unsuccessful action Forest & Bird started a year ago.

The claim relates to exemptions the Auditor-General has issued for eight years for members of water zone committees, which are joint committees of Environment Canterbury and Canterbury's territorial councils, where committee members may have conflicts of interest in the zone committee's work. The regional council is defending its position and has filed its statement of defence. The case will be heard in the High Court in Wellington on 2 September 2019.

The claim is a challenge to zone committee processes, in this instance relating to the Hurunui Waiau Zone Committee's discussions about minimum flows. Forest & Bird was unsuccessful in litigation it brought last year, also challenging the processes around minimum flows in the Hurunui Waiau zone. This latest challenge appears to be another attack on the same processes but using different legal grounds.

Environment Canterbury and Hurunui District Council have both made public statements strongly supporting zone committees and the collaborative process. Chief Executive Bill Bayfield has said in an ECan media release that "We are frustrated at continually needing to divert resources to fund legal costs when they would be better spent on important environmental work in the region."

The Forest and Bird claims and responses are covered in a news item at

<https://www.newsroom.co.nz/@environment/2019/07/04/666508/canterbury-water-conflict-exemptions-taken-to-court>



**2 New Zone Facilitator**

Tami Woods is now the Zone Facilitator for Upper Waitaki. Unfortunately, she cannot make this meeting. Tami is familiar with the zone through her recent work developing ECan's approach to implementing farming and nutrient management requirements in the Mackenzie Basin.

Her contacts are: **email** [tami.woods@ecan.govt.nz](mailto:tami.woods@ecan.govt.nz) **phone** 027 529 7761

**3 Zone Committee 2019 Work Programme**

There are changes to the content of this (19 July) meeting to that in the 2019 Work Programme.

This meeting includes items on the lake TLIs and the implications for farming consents, Immediate Steps Biodiversity Funding applications, and the Mackenzie Dryland Park. The first two of these were considered high priority and urgent for the committee to consider. The third is a follow-up to a short briefing by Jeremy Severinsen at the joint meeting on 19 June at Waihao marae.

The inclusion of these three items means that the discussion on Lake Middleton and Clay Cliffs has had to be postponed.

Ian Whitehouse

Zone Facilitator

CHARLOTTE BORRELL

**COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER**