

Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee

Agenda

Monday 12 August 2019

3.00pm

***Council Chambers,
Waimakariri District Council,
215 High Street Rangiora***

Members:

David Ashby
Michael Blackwell
Erin Harvie
Cameron Henderson
Carolyn Latham
Judith Roper-Lindsay
Wendy Main
Arapata Reuben (Te Ngai Tūāhuriri Rūnanga)
John Cooke (Te Ngai Tūāhuriri Rūnanga)
Sandra Stewart (WDC Councillor)
Claire McKay (ECan Councillor)

Chairperson and Members

CWMS WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE

Agenda for the meeting of the **CANTERBURY WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE** to be held in the **WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA** on **MONDAY 12 AUGUST 2019** commencing at **3.00PM.**

Adrienne Smith
Governance Coordinator

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

BUSINESS

PAGES

1 BUSINESS

1.1 KARAKIA

1.2 APOLOGIES

1.3 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

1.4 REGISTER OF INTERESTS

5 - 6

Advice of any changes or updates.

1.5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting –13 May 2019

7 - 13

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting, held on 13 May 2019, as a true and accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING

2. **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2019**–M Griffin

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RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Agrees** to appoint a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, or alternatively, to appoint two 'Co-Chairs'
- (b) **Confirms** the timeframe for these appointments – to the first meeting in 2020, or alternatively, to the first meeting in 2021.
- (c) **Appoints** a CWMS Regional Committee representative for 2019.

3. **OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK**

4. **PROPOSED PLAN CHANGES 7 AND 2 TO THE CANTERBURY LAND AND WATER REGIONAL PLAN - BRIEFING**– Angela Fenemor (Incite), Planning Lead for the proposed Plan Change 7 - Waimakariri

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4.1 PC7 and PC2 Update

4.2 Form 5 for PC7 to the Land and Water Regional Plan

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receive** this briefing on the proposed Plan Change 7 and 2 to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan for their information.

5. **KAIAPOI STORMWATER NETWORK DISCHARGE CONSENT APPLICATION UPDATE**– Janet Fraser (Utilities Planner WDC)

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RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

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

6. **COMMITTEE UPDATES – MURRAY GRIFFIN, (CWMS FACILITATOR, ECAN)**

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6.1 CWMS Regional Committee Update – 11 June meeting report from Carolyn Latham

6.2 Media and Communications – May - July Update – Gina McKenzie (Director – Real Communications)

6.3 Waimakariri Water Zone Committee August eNewsletter

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receives** these updates for its information and regarding the committee's work programme and community engagement priorities for 2019.

7. **GENERAL BUSINESS**

KARAKIA

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the CWMS Waimakariri Water Zone Committee will be held on Monday 9 September 2019 commencing at 3.00pm.

7 **WORKSHOP – WWZC 2019 WORK PROGRAMME**

A workshop for the committee to confirm its work programme for 2019/20.

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WAIMAKARIRI WATER ZONE COMMITTEE

Register of Interests – at 31 July 2019

| Name | Committee Member Interests |
|--------------------------|--|
| David Ashby | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director/shareholder – Pineleigh Farm Limited - Director/shareholder – Dave Ashby Rural Consultants Limited - Shareholder – Waimakariri Irrigation Limited - Member – Cust Main Drain Water User Group |
| Michael Blackwell | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director/ Shareholder – Blackwells Limited, Kaiapoi - Treasurer – North Canterbury Clay Target Association - 4Ha property, Tuahiwi. |
| John Cooke | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director/Shareholder – Executive Limousines 2015 Limited - Director/Shareholder – Express Hire Limited - Director/Shareholder – Secure Property Management Limited - Director/Shareholder – Testpro Limited - Director/Shareholder – Acropolis Wedding and Event Hire Limited - Director/Shareholder – Pines Beach Store Limited - Director/Shareholder – Coastal Dream 2005 Limited – 4Ha property, Kaiapoi - Interim Trustee – Section 6 Survey Office Plan 465273 Ahu Whenua Trust |
| Erin Harvie | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shareholder – Bowden Consultancy Limited, trading as Bowden Environmental - Member – NZ Hydrological Society - Associate member – NZ Institute of Primary Industry Management - Involvement with Cust River Water User Group |
| Cameron Henderson | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dairy Farmer - Groundwater irrigator - Member – NZ Institute of Primary Industry Management - Member – NZ Dairy Environment Leaders Forum - Chairman – DairyCan - Canterbury Dairy Environment Leaders Forum - Chairman – North Canterbury Federated Farmers |
| Carolyn Latham | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farmer – Sheep, beef - Director – Latham Ag Ltd Consulting - Shareholder – Silver Fern Farms, Farmlands - Registered Member – New Zealand Institute of Primary Industry Management |
| Wendy Main | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dairy Farmer – Trinity Holdings (2001) Ltd - Registered Nurse - Member Federated Farmers - Consent to Farm and related consents for water and effluent with ECan - Shareholder – Silver Fern Farms, Farmlands, LIC |

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Claire McKay | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dairy Farmer - Irrigator and shareholder – Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd - Holder of Groundwater take and use consents in Cust groundwater allocation zone - Holder of effluent discharge consents - Member – Federated Farmers - Member – DairyNZ Dairy Environmental Leaders forum |
| Arapata Reuben | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chair – Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga - Trustee – Tuahiwi Marae - Trustee – Tuhono Trust - Trustee – Mana Waitaha Charitable Trust - Member – National Kiwi Recovery Group - Rūnanga Rep and Chair – Christchurch/West Melton Water Zone Committee - Rūnanga Rep – Ashburton Water Zone Committee |
| Judith Roper-Lindsay | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director/ecologist – JR-L Consulting Ltd. - Land-owner/small-scale sheep farmer, Ashley downs - Fellow – Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) |
| Sandra Stewart | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Self-employed journalist - Land-owner, 4Ha Springbank – sheep & dogs |

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE CANTERBURY WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY WAIMAKARIRI ZONE COMMITTEE HELD IN THE WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 215 HIGH STREET, RANGIORA ON MONDAY 13 MAY 2019 AT 3.00PM.

PRESENT

Dave Ashby (Chairperson), Grant Edge (Deputy Chairperson), Cameron Henderson, Carlyne Latham, Gary Walton, Michael Blackwell, John Cooke (Rūnanga representative), Claire McKay (ECan Councillor), Sandra Stewart (WDC Councillor)

IN ATTENDANCE

Stefanie Rixecker (Director Science, ECan), Sophie Allen (Water Environment Advisor WDC), Daniel Kimber (Department of Conservation), Gina McKenzie (Real Communications), Brent Walton (Waimakariri Irrigation Ltd), Adrian Meredith (ECan), Kalley Simpson (3 Waters Manager, WDC), Simon Collin (Infrastructure Manager, WDC), Jason Holland (Team Leader Planning, ECan), Philip Redmond (Kaiapoi-Tuahiti Community Board), Michael Bate, (Kaiapoi residents), Bruce Stokes (Farmer), S Bragg (Tangata Whenua Facilitator, ECan), Andrew Arps (Zone Team Manager, ECan), Oliver Sanderson (Mayoral Candidate) and Adrienne Smith (Governance Coordinator, WDC), Lee Burberry and Murray Close (Environmental Science and Research) James Ensor (Oxford-Ohoka community Board and resident)

1 **BUSINESS**

1.1 **KARAKIA**

S Bragg provided a karakia to open the meeting

1.2 **APOLOGIES**

Moved G Walton seconded C McKay

THAT apologies for absence be received and sustained from J Roper-Lindsay and A Reuben

CARRIED

1.3 **REGISTER OF INTERESTS**

1.4 **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting – 8 April 2019

Moved M Blackwell seconded G Edge

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Confirms** the minutes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Waimakariri Zone Committee meeting, held on 8 April 2019, as a true and accurate record, with the inclusion that C McKay was in attendance at the meeting.

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING

M Blackwell requested an update on the impact of algal bloom on biodiversity, it was advised that due to the commitments of the ECan Science Team to the Plan Change at present, this update will be arranged for the Zone Committee August or September meetings.

2 OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK

M Bate spoke on the Lineside Drain and A Arps noted that this matter is included in an agenda item later in the meeting. M Bate expressed his concerns about the delay in receiving scientific information about the Algal bloom in the Ashley River. D Ashby acknowledge these concerns but noted that the ECan science team have been very involved with the Plan Change.

3 DENITRIFICATION WALL PILOT STUDY IN SILVERSTREAM – UPDATE – Lee Burberry and Murray Close – Environmental Science and Research (ESR)

PowerPoint presentation WDC Trim 190604078075.

Lee Burberry is a Senior Scientist within the ESR/s groundwater team and Murray Close is the Principal Scientist within ESR's Water, Waste and Social Systems Group

One of the undertakings of ESR is scientific research aimed at improving the safety of freshwater and groundwater resources. One ESR approach uses an underground woodchip denitrification wall which is tailored to gravel aquifer systems. The aim of the wall is to assess whether woodchip denitrification walls might be a viable nitrate-mitigation tool for reducing nitrate levels in waterways. In 2017 Silverstream Reserve was identified as a good field study location as it is nitrate impacted, is an alluvial gravel aquifer with a shallow water table and has amenable access and is located close to Christchurch. It was pointed out that this is by no means the most polluted site in Canterbury. Lee provided an update to the committee on this pilot field study of the woodchip denitrification wall, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. The wall was installed in November 2018 and information on its design and construction was provided to the committee. The cost of building the wall was a lot more than first predicted. Geophysics testing was used to identify the water flow. There is over 50 bores at the site and significant investment has gone into the investigation. The performance of the wall continues to be monitored. Results show that the denitrification wall is so far proving effective at filtering nitrate from shallow groundwater. Nitrate levels taken before installation in October 2018 and then again eight weeks after installation in January 2019, showed reduced nitrate levels in the readings taken in groundwater down flow from the denitrification wall.

Questions

Sandra Stewart asked if there have been any readings taken on other elements such as iron, and manganese. Lee advised that these showed big increases initially, before reducing.

Is this type of technique in gravel viable? L Burberry advised in this case, that there is a cost of \$200,000 investment in infrastructure, but there is longevity with this system. This is an underground and anaerobic system and the walls will last 30 years and are maintenance free. A denitrification wall could remove 2.5 tonnes of nitrate per year, though this wouldn't be a constant figure for the whole 30 years.

L Burberry believes for certain areas around Canterbury this could be very sustainable system. ESR are hoping to investigate another way of drilling the woodchip into gravel aquifers other than sheet piling. Alternative options are currently being researched.

M Blackwell asked has there been any deep groundwater investigation done. L Burberry noted that deep groundwater in Canterbury is young and dynamic.

G Edge sought the opinion of Lee Burberry on an ethical issue as to whether other options, such as changed land use or controls on inputs, maybe a more effective way of achieving nitrate reductions rather than building costly man-made structures. Whilst L Burberry questioned the logic of the intensification of irrigation, he also commented that New Zealand is good at what it does – farming and feeding the world. NZ water systems are still relatively clean, with much lower nitrate nitrogen concentrations when compared to some other countries, such as America and Germany. However, he agreed that there were a number of more sustainable ways in which nitrate reductions could be achieved.

Moved C McKay seconded C Latham

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) That the committee receive this update with consideration to the implementation of the Waimakariri Land & Water Solutions Programme.

CARRIED

4 **WDC WATERWAY CONSENT APPLICATION BRIEFING** – Simon Collin
(WDC Infrastructure Manager, 3 Waters Team)

S Collin provided a summary of the Waimakariri District Council draft drainage maintenance consent, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. This consent is to be submitted soon. It was noted that the Waimakariri district has a significant network of small drains, only some of which WDC maintains. Both rural and urban drains are maintained by contract – the Rural drains by Sicon and the urban drains by Delta. The urban drain contract is included in the Greenspaces maintenance contract. Consents are required to ensure appropriate controls. It was pointed out that the larger water courses are managed by ECan.

The presentation included information on the areas of different drainage rated areas in the district, including urban drainage rated, and rural drainage rated properties. Streams and drains are maintained only in the rated areas. There is different yearly cycles of maintenance in different drains.

Drainage maintenance consent for both rural and urban drains and for minor works is included in the consent application. The maintenance activities for urban drainage includes:

- Weed and plant growth removal
- Litter and debris collection
- Weed spraying of dry drains
- Control of aquatic plants
- Mowing and weed trimming
- Clearing pipes and culverts

Maintenance activities for rural drainage includes all the activities listed above for urban drains, but also includes:

- Clearing of watercourses with an excavator
- Tree and vegetation control
- Removal of accumulated silt
- Watercourse channel repair work
- Repair of timber trains, retaining walls, paths structures and utilities

The consent is to cover the following minor works:

- Replacement, removal/modification of utilities and structures
- Placement of new utilities and structures
- Channel enhancements
- Channel side re-profiling, and base regrading
- Sediment trap clearing
- Earthworks and riparian planting
- Associated temporary works e.g. diversion and damming

Also presented were the key conditions proposed:

- Notification of works required to ECan and Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga
- Sediment disturbance to be minimised
- Disturbed areas to be promptly planted
- Structures shall not impede flow paths
- Maximum depth of excavation below bed: 2m
- No materials to be used that may leach contaminants into watercourses
- All practical steps taken to avoid products/materials in the work from entering the watercourse
- Cut material to be managed to prevent it entering waterway
- All practical measures used to prevent fuel/contaminant spills
- All practical measures used to minimize adverse effects on property, amenity, wildlife, vegetation and ecology
- Work not to impede passage of fish
- Works prohibited in some locations during fish spawning seasons
- Fish survey to be carried out every five years
- Maintenance management plan to be submitted to ECan
- Annual works report to be submitted to ECan, WDC, MKT and North Canterbury Fish and Game.

Simon referred to the fish spawning report (from Aquatic Ecology Ltd (AEL), District fish survey report), which has been undertaken on Mudfish, Trout and Inanga. As noted in the conditions, a survey is to be carried out every five years to provide an update.

G Edge suggested a change from using the word “drain”, as some are natural waterways and the word “Maintenance” to be replaced with “Management”.

Moved C Latham seconded M Blackwell

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) **Receives** this report for review,
- (b) **Provides** feedback on this draft consent application.

CARRIED

5 **COMMITTEE UPDATES** – Murray Griffin, (Cwms Facilitator, ECan)

Action sheet information as below, was provided prior to the meeting from Murray Griffin:

1. ZIPA correction letter – the letter has been prepared and will be sent to the Cust Water User Group today
2. Omnibus Plan Change, statutory process – to be addressed at the planning briefing preceding this meeting
3. Lineside Drain investigation – an update is provided at this meeting and potentially included in one of the upcoming Zone Committee field trips.
4. Cam River and tributaries, WDC & ECan responsibilities – M Griffin and S Allen will follow up on this a report on this item at the August WWZC meeting, given Jason's priorities with the Plan Change.
5. Algal Bloom impact of biodiversity – given the ECan Science Team commitments to the Plan Change at present this update will be arranged for the WWZC Aug or September meeting.
6. Immediate Steps update – Andrew will confirm the funding for the 2018/19 financial year has been fully allocated

5.1 **CWMS Regional Committee Update – 9 April meeting report Carolyn Latham**

C Latham took her report as read and provided further explanation of the fish screens.

5.2 **Media and Communications – April Update – Gina McKenzie (Director – Real Communications)**

G McKenzie noted the main priority has been the refresh process which has been featuring in the local papers recently. Has met with G Edge and D Ashby on the IMS Easterbrook project.

C McKay suggested it would be of interest to interview the Duncan and Tina McIntosh on White Rock Mains, who are highlighted in the eNewsletter. They recently won the Canterbury Ballance Farm Environmental Award.

5.3 **Waimakariri Water Zone Committee April eNewsletter**

This eNewsletter was taken as read.

5.4 **Lineside Drainage and wetland – update – Andrew Arps, (Northern Zone Manager, ECan)**

A Arps spoke to his report in the agenda with the assistance of drone footage of the site. It is still to determined, as to what the source and cause of the discolouration of the water.

A summary of history of the area was provided in the report, noting it has been a wet swampy area. The 4000-acre swamp was drained around 1860, which dried out the land and lowered the ground level. Over recent years many of the larger farms are now subdivided into lifestyle blocks. Now the area is used for stock grazing during warmer months but is regularly under water during the winter. The report provided specific information on Lineside Drain, noting that as it is not identified as a "spring-fed stream", it has not been routinely sampled for water quality or sediment. The drain conveys water off the surface of the extensive area of land between Lineside Road and Flaxton Road and between Lineside Road and Revells Road.

As noted in the report, it was agreed there needs to be further investigation into this catchment area, as Lineside Drain forms part of the spring-fed streams and drain network and its connection with the Kaiapoi River. Land use practices in the catchment area also require further investigation. .

The Zone Committee may wish to look at this matter as a catchment management plan. It was suggested that this site could be included in the field trip.

M Blackwell asked who is responsible for the water quality of that drain, because it discharges into the Cam River. G Edge noted as a member of the Central Rural Drainage Advisory Group, this group are responsible for this drain. M Blackwell believes there should be some testing undertaken and A Arps said this would be a matter assigned to ECan scientists.

5.5 Zone Committee Refresh 2019 – Murray Griffin, (Waimakariri Water Zone Committee Facilitator, ECan)

D Ashby noted that he had previously advised he would resign from the committee. Now with a change in circumstances he would be making himself available for the committee but stand down as Chairperson. Applications to be considered for committee membership close on the 31st May. Current committee members who are up for renewal on the committee are Carolyne Latham, Gary Walton, Grant Edge and Judith Roper-Lindsay. the refresh workshop will be held on June 17, 2019.

Moved G Edge seconded C Henderson

THAT the CWMS Waimakariri Zone Committee:

- (a) The Zone Committee are asked to receive these updates for its information and regarding the committee's work programme and community engagement priorities for 2019.

CARRIED

6 GENERAL BUSINESS

Cameron Henderson asked about the Bridge project on braided rivers – Jason Holland advised that ECan intended to determine the location in which river bed rules apply with more certainty than the current indicative riverbank lines – in order to protect their natural character, ecosystem health, and biodiversity values. During the project, a High Court decision on the RMA definition of riverbed was appealed by Environment Canterbury. Given the uncertainty around the definition of a Riverbed in a braided river situation, it was considered appropriate to put the Bridge project on hold. There is still some good work going on with braided rivers at this time, but there is still much uncertainty.

G Edge provided an update on the Easterbrook project, which involves 12 landowners on a 1.8km stretch of waterway from springhead to outlet on Fernside Road. There has been a clean out of sedimentation on the first part of the project and new fencing is currently being completed. Site preparation work is hoped to be undertaken in the next two weeks to commence the first planting. Then progressively there will be more planting undertaken in spring and more next year. G Edge confirmed that they had met onsite with WDC staff S Allen and G Bennett and it was determined that this is standard work, with no consent requirement. D Ashby confirmed that there was no work being undertaken or disturbance of land in the area directly around the springhead.

KARAKIA

S Bragg provided a karakia to close the meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Due to the committee refresh process being undertaken during June, and the need for both Council's to receive a report on this, it was advised that the next meeting of the CWMS Waimakariri Water Zone Committee will be held on Monday 12 August 2019 commencing at 3.00pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.30pm.

CONFIRMED

Chairperson

Date

7 **WORKSHOP – WWZC 2019 WORK PROGRAMME**

A workshop followed the meeting, for the committee to confirm its work programme for 2019/20 and approach to sub-catchment action plans.

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| AGENDA ITEM NO: 2 | SUBJECT MATTER: Committee Appointments for 2019 |
| REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee | MEETING DATE: 12 August 2019 |
| REPORT BY: Murray Griffin, Facilitator, ECan | |

PURPOSE

This agenda item concludes the 2019 refresh with the Zone Committee and confirms its appointed positions for 2019.

These appointments are in accord with the Zone Committee's Terms of Reference, which state that the committee make these appointments each year as part of the committee's refreshment process.

Committee Refresh – Membership 2019

Following the Zone Committee refresh conducted in May and June this year the Waimakariri Water Zone Committee membership is as follows:

- **Community Representatives**

David Ashby, Carolyne Latham, Judith Roper-Lindsay, Erin Harvie, Wendy Main, Michael Blackwell and Cam Henderson

- **Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga representatives**

John Cooke and Arapata Rueben

- **Council Representatives**

Sandra Stewart (WDC) and Claire McKay (ECan)

2019 Appointments

David Ashby is the current Chairperson and has indicated he will stand down from this role at this meeting. The Deputy Chairperson position is now vacant following this year's refresh of the Zone Committee.

Carolyne Latham is the current CWMS Regional Committee representative and has confirmed she is happy to continue in this role for 2019 should the committee be agreeable to this, and there are no other nominees for this position.

- The committee shall first decide its preference for appointing a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson or, alternatively, accept nominations for two 'Co-Chairs'.
- The committee can also consider the timeframe of these appointments. With two new members joining the committee at this meeting, and the option of Co-Chairing also being considered, a 'trial' period is proposed as an option for the committee's consideration, through to the first zone committee meeting of 2020. Confirming these appointments again at the first meeting in 2020 would bring the committee back into alignment with all CWMS zone committees, having shifted the timing of the 2018 committee refresh to accommodate the preparation of the Waimakariri ZIPA 2018.
- The committee shall then accept nominations for the agreed positions for 2019.

- The committee shall then accept nominations for the role of CWMS Regional Committee representative

Should there be more multiple nominees for any of these positions the appointment process shall be undertaken by a simple ballot vote.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Zone Committee

- Decide its preference to appoint a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, or alternatively, to appoint two 'Co-Chairs'
- Confirms the timeframe for these appointments – to the first meeting in 2020, or alternatively, to the first meeting in 2021.
- Appoints a CWMS Regional Committee representative for 2019.

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| AGENDA ITEM NO: 4 | SUBJECT: Proposed Plan Change 7 and 2 to the Canterbury Land & Water Regional Plan – briefing |
| REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee | MEETING DATE: 12 August 2019 |
| REPORT BY: Murray Griffin, CWMS Facilitator – Waimakariri, Environment Canterbury | |

PROPOSAL

This agenda item provides a briefing to the zone committee the proposed Plan Change 7 and Plan Change 2 to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan. A copy of the presentation to be provided is attached as **agenda item 4–1**.

Also attached, as **agenda item 4.2**, is the submission form template provided for this proposed Plan Change.

BY WHO

This presentation will be provided by Angela Fenemor (Incite), Planning Lead for the proposed Plan Change 7 – Waimakariri.

BACKGROUND

Environment Canterbury has notified Plan Change 7 to the Canterbury Land & Water Regional Plan (CLWRP) and Plan Change 2 to the Waimakariri River Regional Plan for public submissions on 20 July 2019.

What happened on 20 July?

Council publicly notified two proposed plan changes for public submissions:

- [Proposed Plan Change 7 to the Canterbury Land & Water Regional Plan](#)
- [Proposed Plan Change 2 to the Waimakariri River Regional Plan](#)

Submissions (formal comments/feedback) will be received until 5 pm on 13 September 2019.

What is Plan Change 7 to the Canterbury Land & Water Regional Plan about?

Plan Change (PC) 7 is a proposed plan change to the [Canterbury Land & Water Regional Plan](#) (CLWRP).

The LWRP sets out the planning framework for the management of land and water resources in Canterbury. It is one of the key methods for implementing the Canterbury Water Management Strategy, a community-led collaborative approach to improve freshwater outcomes throughout the region.

PC7 is split into three parts (Parts A, B and C).

Part A

Part A is an 'Omnibus' change proposing amendments to region-wide provisions (policies, rules, maps and schedules).

Part A aims to:

- Improve freshwater outcomes for Canterbury
- Protect habitats of indigenous freshwater species

- Enable consideration of Ngāi Tahu values in relation to a broader range of activities
- Provide the use of managed aquifer recharge (a technique to improve the volume and quality of groundwater) across the region
- Establish a new nutrient framework for commercial vegetable growing operations
- Implement recommendations from the Hinds Drains Working Party.

Parts B and C

Parts B and C of PC7 relate to the Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora (OTOP) and Waimakariri sub-regions respectively. These parts have been developed in collaboration with the Waimakariri and OTOP Zone Committees and implement recommendations in the Zone Implementation Programme Addenda (ZIPAs).

Key changes introduced by Parts B and C include:

- New water quality limits for groundwater and surface water
- Requirements for farms to further reduce nitrogen losses over time
- Increases to minimum flows for rivers and streams
- A cap on the volume of water available for allocation
- Requirements to exclude stock from a broader range of waterbodies.

What is Plan Change 2 to the Waimakariri River Regional Plan about?

Plan Change 2 (PC2) is a proposed plan change to the Waimakariri River Regional Plan (WRRP). The WRRP promotes sustainable management of surface water and hydraulically connected groundwater within the Waimakariri catchment.

PC2 is the first step in a move to bring all rules relating to the Waimakariri sub-region into a single planning document – the Land & Water Regional Plan (LWRP). The WRRP would continue to apply to activities within the main stem of the Waimakariri River, its upper catchment, and tributaries south of the mainstem.

Activities in the rest of the Waimakariri sub-region would instead be managed by the LWRP (including provisions in section 8 which apply specifically to the Waimakariri sub-region).

Can the Zone Implementation Programme Addenda for OTOP and Waimakariri be changed?

No. Once the ZIPAs have been accepted by Council they are final – this happened last December. There is now the opportunity to have your say on the content of the proposed plan changes through a public submission process.

What happens next?

The submission period will close on 13 September 2019. Following the close of submissions (including further submissions), a public hearing of submissions and evidence will happen. The hearing in front of an independent hearing panel is likely to be held during the first half of 2020.

The independent hearing panel will prepare a set of recommendations for Council to consider and potentially adopt as its decision.

Do the rules in proposed Plan Change 7 and proposed Plan Change 2 apply now?

The rules in both plan changes are now legally effective. However, new activities and those established before notification of the proposed plan changes (20 July 2019) are treated differently.

New activities

- New activities must comply with rules in both the relevant operative plan and in the proposed plan changes.
- If an activity cannot meet the requirements of a 'permitted activity' rule in both the operative plan and proposed plan changes, a resource consent will be required.

Existing activities

- An existing activity is one that was established before notification of the proposed plan changes on 20 July 2019.
- Where an existing activity is permitted under the operative plan, but requires a resource consent under rules in the proposed plan changes, the activity may continue without a resource consent up until 6 months after the plan change becomes operative. Certain criteria apply, including that the activity was lawfully established and there is no change in its scale, intensity or character.

Plan Change 7 is in 3 parts:

- **Omnibus (Part A)**
 - **Why is this needed?**
 - The Land & Water Regional Plan (LWRP) has been operative for 7 years and there have been changes in that time which now need to be taken into account across the region.
 - Changes are proposed to make sure the LWRP responds to new directives from central government, emerging environmental issues, and changes in matters that are strategic priorities for Environment Canterbury.
 - Proposed changes to policies, rules and schedules cover the following key topic areas:
 - National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management
 - National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry
 - Ngāi Tahu outcomes
 - Habitats of indigenous freshwater species
 - Fish passage
 - Freshwater bathing
 - Commercial vegetable growing operations
 - Hinds Drains Working Party recommendations
 - Managed aquifer recharge
 - **What changes are proposed?**
 - **Ngāi Tahu values**
 - Part A introduces a new cultural outcome for lakes and rivers in Canterbury, with the objective that freshwater mahinga kai is abundant and safe to gather.
 - This outcome is delivered partly through new policies and rules which place restrictions on activities that could reduce the quantity or quality of freshwater.
 - In addition, Part A of PC7 proposes to change 23 rules to enable decisionmakers to consider the potential effects of activities on Ngāi Tahu values and customary activities. Changes are also proposed to templates for Farm Environment Plans (Schedule 7) and Farm Management Plans (Schedule 7A).
 - The proposed changes would require farmers to identify all waipuna (springs) on their farm, and describe the actions they will implement to minimise effects on water quality.
 - **Salmon spawning sites**
 - The LWRP includes Schedule 17 which lists significant salmon spawning sites in Canterbury.
 - Part A of PC7 proposes to add 32 additional salmon spawning sites into Schedule 17, 22 of which are new sites located throughout Canterbury.
 - An additional nine sites that are currently listed in the Waimakariri River Regional Plan are proposed to be transferred to the LWRP.

- The inclusion of these additional sites would mean additional restrictions applied to activities that could damage spawning sites. Restrictions include prohibiting access by farmed cattle, deer and pigs into salmon spawning sites.
- **Habitats of indigenous freshwater species**
- Habitats of 11 indigenous freshwater species (including native fish, mussels and crayfish) have been identified and will be included on the LWRP planning maps.
- New policies require damage to indigenous habitats to be avoided, except where the adverse impacts can be offset through the creation of new habitats. Proposed changes restrict the types of activities that may occur as a permitted activity within a mapped habitat area.
- Activities with the potential to cause direct damage to habitats (such as vegetation clearance and earthworks) or indirect damage (abstraction of water, for example), must obtain a resource consent and the effects of the proposal on the habitat will be considered and assessed.
- **Fish passage**
- New policies direct that safe passage of indigenous fish through instream structures and barriers is to be provided for. New in-stream structures are to be appropriately designed and constructed to enable safe fish passage, and users are encouraged to modify or remove existing barriers to fish passage.
- **Will the proposed changes relating to protection of indigenous freshwater species habitats and improved fish passage result in more consents being required?**
- Resource consents would be required for activities that occur within, or adjacent to, mapped indigenous freshwater habitat areas.
- In addition, activities which significantly compromise the values of a habitat (such as farmed cattle, deer or pigs in a habitat) would be prohibited.
- Changes to provide for safe fish passage would not increase the number of resource consents required. However, if the installation of a structure in a river or lake requires a resource consent, there would be an expectation that the structure is designed and constructed to enable fish passage.
- **Freshwater bathing sites**
- **What changes are proposed?**
- PC7 proposes to add an additional 64 freshwater bathing sites into Schedule 6 of the LWRP. Farmed cattle, deer and pigs would need to be excluded from waterbodies upstream of any freshwater bathing site listed in Schedule 6.
- **How were the freshwater bathing sites identified?**
- A combination of information sources were used to identify the new freshwater bathing sites. Sites included in Schedule 6 include those identified in the 'River Values Assessment System' report as having high recreational values, sites monitored as part of Environment Canterbury's recreational water quality monitoring programme, and sites identified by zone committees as popular freshwater bathing sites.
- **Why do farmed cattle, deer and pigs need to be excluded from freshwater bathing sites? What are the associated costs of doing this?**
- Livestock can contribute to degraded water quality through increased sedimentation (from pugging and damage of the bed and banks), and can increase the risk of pathogens entering waterways.
- The costs of excluding stock from waterways would depend on the topography of the location, and the method used to exclude the stock (such as full fence, hot-wire or alternative method).
- **Commercial vegetable growing**
- **What's the issue with commercial vegetable growing?**
- Unlike traditional farming enterprises such as dairy, sheep and beef operations, commercial vegetable growers frequently need to relocate their crops to new locations to prevent crop disease. Growers typically achieve this by rotating crops through a combination of permanently owned land and short-term lease.

- The LWRP include rules to manage the impacts of farming activities (including commercial vegetable growing operations) on the environment. These rules include property-based nitrogen limits which restrict how much nitrogen may be leached from a property. The current rules allocate nitrogen based on land use from 2009 to 2013. The current framework poses two problems for growers:
- Nitrogen loss rates for the 2009 – 2013 period may not be available if the land is no longer part of the commercial growing operation (for example, if the land was subject to a short-term lease).
- New land available for lease often does not have a high enough nitrogen 'baseline' to accommodate ongoing operations.
- **How does Part A of PC7 address these issues?**
- Part A of PC7 proposes a new framework to manage nutrient losses from commercial vegetable growing operations. All commercial vegetable growing operators must obtain a land use consent for their activity, prepare and implement a Farm Environment Plan, and have that plan regularly audited.
- Commercial vegetable growing operators must restrict the area of land used for the growing operation to an area that is no larger than that used during the 2009 – 2013 period. Growers must also demonstrate how they will achieve any nitrogen loss reductions required by a sub-region section of the plan.
- Expansions of existing commercial vegetable growing operations, or the establishment of a new commercial vegetable growing operations may occur, but only if the grower can comply with nitrogen limits that apply to land at a new location.
- If land that is used, or intended to be used, for commercial vegetable growing operations is located in a different sub-region or Nutrient Allocation Zone, growers have two options when applying for resource consent.
- They could choose to lodge separate applications for each sub-region or Nutrient Allocation Zone that they grow in, or they could lodge one application for an operation that spans multiple sub-regions or Nutrient Allocation Zones.
- The first option means only matters listed in Rule 5.42CB would be considered when a proposal is assessed, while under the second option a wider range of effects of the proposal may be considered.
- **Managed Aquifer Recharge**
- **What is it? Where is it happening?**
- Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) systems allow high-quality clean water to infiltrate the ground to recharge groundwater and hydraulically connected surface waterbodies.
- MAR systems are typically used to recharge aquifers subject to declining yields, address saltwater intrusion, or sustain/improve the functioning of ecosystems and the quality of groundwater.
- **Has MAR been tested? Is it working?**
- A MAR system has recently been trialled in Canterbury in Hinds/Hekeao using water sourced from the Rangitata River. The results to date have shown improvements in the quality of localised groundwater. A further 16 trial sites have been consented in the Mayfield-Hinds and Valetta catchments and a further two sites in the Waimakariri District.
- Find out more about the MAR project and the completion of the third year of operation.
- **Why do MAR systems require a resource consent?**
- MAR systems involve large quantities of water being abstracted from surface water and discharged into groundwater. Oversight of these systems (by way of a resource consent) is required to ensure the potential adverse effect of these activities can be considered and managed.
- **Hinds Drains**
- **Why are the Hinds Drains a specific focus of Part A of the plan change?**

- Part A responds to recommendations made by the Hinds Drains Working Party to the Ashburton Zone Committee. These recommendations were not available before the notification of Plan Change 2 to the LWRP (Hinds / Hekeao Plains Area).
- **What's the issue? Shouldn't abstractors be switching from groundwater to surface water rather than vice-versa?**
- The new provisions provide a more enabling framework for consent holders to substitute their existing surface water or stream depleting groundwater consents for deeper groundwater. This approach will enable a reduction in over-allocation in lowland streams.
- **Why has an extension for flow allocation limits been provided?**
- The Hinds Drains Working Party and the Ashburton Zone Committee recommended retaining the current minimum flow sites on the basis that managed aquifer recharge and targeted stream augmentation will probably have an influence on waterways. Those impacts need to be clearly established before minimum flow limits are set.
 - **Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora (Part B)**
- **How does Part B of PC7 ensure a safe supply of drinking water?**
- With new water quality limits for drinking water supplies that are consistent with the NZ Drinking Water Standards. In addition, Part B includes methods to maintain current good water quality, and improve degraded water quality over time.
- **How does the plan change improve water quality for recreational values?**
- The freshwater outcomes for the OTOP sub-region are set to maintain existing good water quality, or improve water quality where it is currently degraded. Improved water quality will mean that some rivers will meet national standards for swimmable contact recreation and improved habitat to encourage and enable mahinga kai gathering.
- **What does Part B of PC7 do to protect cultural values and provide for mahinga kai?**
- New polices are proposed to provide protection to wāhi tapu, wāhi taonga, nohoanga, waipuna and tuhituhi neherā. In addition, a 'Mātaitai Protection Zone' and a 'Rock Art Management Area' have been identified and new restrictions imposed on activities within these zones/areas.
- Farmers in these zones would need to obtain a land use consent for their farming activity, prepare and implement a Farm Environment Plan, and have that plan regularly audited.
- **How does Part B of PC7 improve outcomes for ecosystems?**
- New environmental flow and allocation regimes have been proposed for parts of the OTOP sub-region. Higher minimum are proposed to be introduced over time, which would ensure more water is retained in the river to provide for ecosystem values.
- **What effect will higher minimum flows have on abstractors?**
- An increase to minimum flows would reduce the reliability of water for abstractors. However, the introduction of new minimum flows have been staged, allowing time for irrigators and industry to adapt to proposed changes.
- **How close are the provisions to the Zone Committee's Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA)?**
- The provisions in Part B of PC7 substantially implement the recommendations in the OTOP Zone Committee's ZIPA. Key differences between recommendations in the ZIPA and Part B of the plan change include:
 - The introduction of the 'Mātaitai Protection Zone' and 'Rock Art Management Areas'. These areas had not been mapped at the time the ZIPA was prepared and have subsequently been introduced, together with additional restrictions on activities in these zones.
 - A revised management regime for management of surface water flows downstream of the Opuha Dam has been developed since the ZIPA was finalised. The framework aligns with the principles included in the ZIPA.
- **Ngāi Tahu culture**
- **Why have rules been included to protect rock art? Isn't there another way?**

- The OTOP sub-region has one of the highest densities of rock art sites in New Zealand. These sites are taonga (treasured/sacred) to Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua and Te Rūnanga o Waihao who actively contribute to their conservation and management.
- Rock art is typically found on limestone outcrops and some activities (such as irrigation, discharges and land uses) can cause damage to rock art if not appropriately managed. Part B of PC7 would require farming activities with irrigation in the Rock Art Management Areas to obtain a resource consent. This process allows the potential effects of a farming activity to be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- **Why is a Mātaitai Protection Zone proposed? Why do more restrictive rules apply to farming activities in these areas?**
- A Mātaitai Protection Zone is proposed, together with new restrictions on farming activities, to protect the quality of water around the mātaitai (customary fishing area). New rules require a resource consent and audited Farm Environment Plan for any farm in the zone that directly adjoins a surface waterbody and which carries out irrigation or winter grazing of cattle.
- The Mātaitai Protection Zone also contains a predominance of waipuna (springs) which are taonga (treasured/sacred) to Ngāi Tahu. Waipuna are vulnerable to pollution, damage or destruction from a variety of activities. Protecting waipuna in the OTOP sub-region by including new restrictions on farming activities is important for protecting biodiversity and mahinga kai values.
- **Nutrient management**
- **What's the issue for OTOP?**
- Technical investigations have shown that freshwater quality across the sub-region generally meets water quality limits in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPFMS) and the Drinking Water Standards for New Zealand. However, there are localised areas where elevated concentrations of nitrate-nitrogen have been detected in groundwater (referred to as 'High Nitrogen Concentration Areas').
- Within these areas, farming activities would be required to further reduce their nitrogen losses over time. Reductions of 10% (for dairy) and 5% (for other farming activities) would be required by 2030, with a further 10% and 5% respectively by 2035.
- **Will more resource consents be required for farming activities in the OTOP Zone?**
- Yes. More farms would require a resource consent under proposed PC7. Irrigated farms within a Rock Art Management Area would be required to obtain a resource consent, as would farms in the Mātaitai Protection Zone with any irrigation or winter grazing of cattle or deer.
- **Rivers and streams**
- **What impact will Part B of PC7 have on minimum flows in rivers?**
- The Orari and Pareora Freshwater Management Units (FMUs) have recently been subject to plan changes that introduced revised surface water and allocation regimes. No significant changes to the allocation framework are proposed.
- Within the Temuka and Opihi FMU, new environmental flow and allocation regimes are proposed, with stepped increases in minimum flows over time.
- **Will the plan change reduce problems with algae in our local rivers?**
- It is anticipated new the inclusion of higher minimum flows for rivers and additional restrictions on farming activities may help reduce algal blooms in rivers.
- **What does Part B of PC7 mean for the role of the Opihi Environmental Flow Release Advisory Group (OEFrag)?**
- OEFrag would still provide advice to Environment Canterbury on water shortage directions sought under section 329 of the Resource Management Act. Water shortage directions may be issued when there is a serious temporary shortage of water.
- **Are rules better than discretion in times of water shortage?**

- Yes. To date water shortage directions have been sought regularly and on a pre-emptive basis to prevent potential water shortages during the irrigation season.
- The flow and allocation regime and minimum lake levels in the Opihi River Regional Plan (ORRP) are not appropriate if the community's aspirations for the Opihi River are to be met. The proposed flow and allocation framework introduced by Part B of PC7 is considered a more effective method for managing releases of water from the Opuha Dam, while also ensuring community outcomes are achieved.
- **What changes are proposed for the Opihi / Temuka catchments?**
- In the Opihi Freshwater Management Unit (FMU) an alternative regime is proposed to manage releases of water from the Opuha Dam. Allocation of freshwater has been capped at current rates and partial restrictions are proposed to prevent minimum flows for the river from being breached.
- The Temuka FMU is over-allocated and experiences high abstractive pressure. A range of flow and allocation regime is proposed with prohibitions on the transfer of water, increases to minimum flows for the Temuka River and its tributaries, and phasing out of over-allocation through reductions in allocation limits over time (at 3, 5 and 8 year intervals).
- **What is a 'Mahinga Kai Enhancement' allocation (cultural allocation) and why is it there?**
- The Temuka River is culturally significant to Ngāi Tahu. In recognition of this, an allocation of water (100 litres per second) has been reserved for activities that will enhance mahinga kai outcomes. The allocation would be available from 1 January 2035.
 - **Waimakariri (Part C)**

Waimakariri (Part C)

How close are the provisions to recommendations in the Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA)?

The provisions in Part C of PC7 generally implement the recommendations in the Waimakariri Zone Committee's ZIPA. Key differences include:

- Some allocation limits proposed in Part C of PC7 are different from those recommended in the ZIPA. The reason for this is that additional technical work was carried out after the ZIPA was finalised in December. This has informed the development of allocation limits.
- A new zone – the 'Ashley Estuary (Te Aka Aka) and Coastal Protection Zone' has been introduced and additional restrictions on farming activities and discharges are proposed within this zone. These controls have been included to help with achieving water quality outcomes for the estuary.

Nitrate

What's the story with nitrate, particularly in relation to Christchurch drinking water and health impacts?

Find out more:

- [Nitrate in waterways - What's the story?](#)
- [Groundwater quality survey 2018](#)

How will PC7 address nitrate issues in groundwater?

Part C of PC7 proposes new nitrogen limits for surface water and groundwater in the Waimakariri sub-region. New rules are proposed to limit the amount of nitrate-nitrogen that enters groundwater. For more information on these proposed rules, see below.

Nutrient management

Part C of PC7 includes a framework to manage the diffuse loss of nutrients from farming activities. This is based on the region-wide 'Red Zone' framework, but has been modified to ensure outcomes for the Waimakariri sub-region are achieved.

Key differences include a reduction in the area of winter grazing of cattle allowed on a property as a permitted activity, requirements for audited Farm Environment Plans for a larger number of farms, establishment of a Nitrate Priority Area (and Sub-Areas A, B, C, D and E) and a requirement for farms in these areas to reduce nitrogen losses, in stages, and over time.

Water allocation and minimum flows

How will Part C of PC7 ensure a reliable source of water is available in the Waimakariri zone?

New flow and allocation regimes are proposed for a range of surface water bodies in the zone. In general, the revised regimes impose higher minimum flows for surface waterbodies, and as a consequence reliability of supply for water abstractors would probably reduce. However, Part C of PC7 also sets aside an allocation of water for abstractors that surrender their stream-depleting groundwater or surface water takes in exchange for a deep groundwater take. The availability of this allocation is expected to limit any potential adverse impacts on reliability.

What is the 'Mahinga Kai' allocation of water available for?

Allocation of water is reserved from the Ashley/Rakahuri River, Cam River/Ruataniwha and Silverstream rivers in recognition of the cultural significance. The allocation is available for activities that will enhance mahinga kai outcomes.

How will Part C of PC7 improve waterways?

Freshwater outcomes proposed for the Waimakariri sub-region are set to maintain current water quality where is good, and improve water quality where it is currently degraded. Improved water quality would mean some rivers in the sub-region would meet national standards for contact recreation, and improvements to habitat would enable further opportunities for customary use and gathering of mahinga kai.

What is Targeted Stream Augmentation and how does it improve outcomes for rivers?

Targeted stream augmentation (TSI) is a system for controlled release of water to improve river and stream flows. Part C of PC7 introduces a regulatory framework that is more enabling than the existing region-wide provisions for TSI.

Augmentation of surface water bodies can provide significant environmental benefits by increasing river flows and reducing concentrations of contaminants. A key issue with enabling TSI is finding an appropriate source of water to discharge into the subject waterbody, particularly when a number of waterbodies within the Waimakariri sub-region are over-allocated.

Part C of PC7 allows an application for resource consent to be made to take and use water for targeted stream augmentation in over-allocated catchments. In general, the taking of water in an over-allocated catchment would be prohibited, but a pathway has been provided for this particular use in recognition of the overall benefits TSI provides.

Ashley Estuary (Te Aka Aka) and Coastal Protection Zone

Why is the Ashley Estuary (Te Aka Aka) and Coastal Protection Zone important and why do additional restrictions apply to farming activities in this zone?

The Ashley Estuary (Te Aka Aka) is a highly sensitive environment. There is high potential for the estuary to become eutrophic, unless additional land use and discharge controls are imposed. Further, significant cultural values are associated with the Ashley Estuary (Te Aka Aka) and Coastal Protection Zone, and additional management responses are necessary to achieve mahinga kai outcomes.

The new rule framework would require farms in the zone larger than 5ha that have winter grazing and/or are irrigated and directly adjoin a surface waterbody to obtain a land use consent to farm. This approach would ensure that the farm is subject to a Farm Environment Plan and regular auditing in order to assess the effectiveness of any measures implemented on farm to reduce contaminant contributions to surface waterbodies.

New policies are also proposed that require discharges of contaminants to surface water to be avoided (where practicable), and where avoidance is not practicable, for the best practicable option to be implemented in order to minimise loss of contaminants.

Will additional resource consents be required in the Ashley Estuary (Te Aka Aka) Zone and Coastal Protection Zone?

It is estimated that the new farming rules proposed by Part C of PC7 would result in an additional 50 land use consents being required (compared with the region-wide rule requirements).

Stock exclusion

What are the new stock exclusion rules for Waimakariri? How do these compare with rules in other zones?

Part C of PC7 extends the region-wide provisions for stock exclusion to include permanently or intermittently flowing springs (waipuna) or open drains and artificial water courses that have surface water in them that discharge into a lake, river or wetland.

Part C of PC7 prohibits access by farmed cattle, deer and pigs into springs (Waipuna) open drains and artificial watercourses (including but not restricted to irrigation canals and water races) within the Ashley-Waimakariri Plains Area. The Area is defined as land that is below 350m above sea level, which is the flatter and more intensively farmed part of the Waimakariri sub-region.

Other sub-region sections of the LWRP (including Selwyn Waihora, Ashburton and South Coastal Canterbury Streams) include similar restrictions to ensure improvements in water quality are achieved.

Consent Reviews

Does the Waimakariri part of PC7 require consents to be reviewed?

New policies would direct a review of surface water or stream-depleting groundwater takes that have 'direct' or 'high' stream depletion effects. Proposed timeframes for reviews are 31

December 2027 (Ashley River /Rakahuri Freshwater Management Unit) and 31 December 2029 (Northern Waimakariri Tributaries Freshwater Management Unit).

Why are consent reviews being proposed?

The Resource Management Act allows Environment Canterbury to initiate a review of resource consents when a regional plan has been made operative, or where there are adverse environmental effects.

Part C of PC7 introduces new requirements for the take and use of surface water and groundwater, including new minimum flows and partial restrictions. However, these minimum flows don't automatically apply to existing resource consents. New limits introduced by a plan change can only be applied when a resource consent expires, when a new consent is sought, or through a consent review.

Waiting for consents to expire would mean it could take many years before all consents are aligned with new minimum flow requirements. This would slow achievement of ecological benefits and create inequity between abstractors, with some abstractors subject to higher minimum flows before others are.

Why does the Waimakariri part of PC7 propose common expiry dates for resource consents?

Common expiry dates ensure all consents in a catchment expire on the same day. This approach enables co-ordinated and integrated planning.

A common expiry date of 2037 is proposed for all resource consents for the use of land / or discharge of nutrients from a farming activity, or the take and use of water. After 2037, consents are proposed to have a 10-year consent duration. These dates align consents with plan review cycles, taking into account realistic timeframes for plans to be made operative following notification.

RECOMMENDATION

That the zone committee receive this briefing on the proposed Plan Change 7 and 2 to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan for their information.

Plan Change 7 to the Land and Water Regional Plan & Plan Change 2 to the Waimakariri River Regional Plan

Waimakariri Water Zone Committee
Presentation date: 12 August 2019

Presentation on Plan Change 7 to the CLWRP & Plan Change 2 to the WRRP

Outline

- What are Plan Change 7 and Plan Change 2
- What is the plan change process?
- PC7 Part C – Waimakariri
- Where to find more information
- PC7 Part A – Omnibus

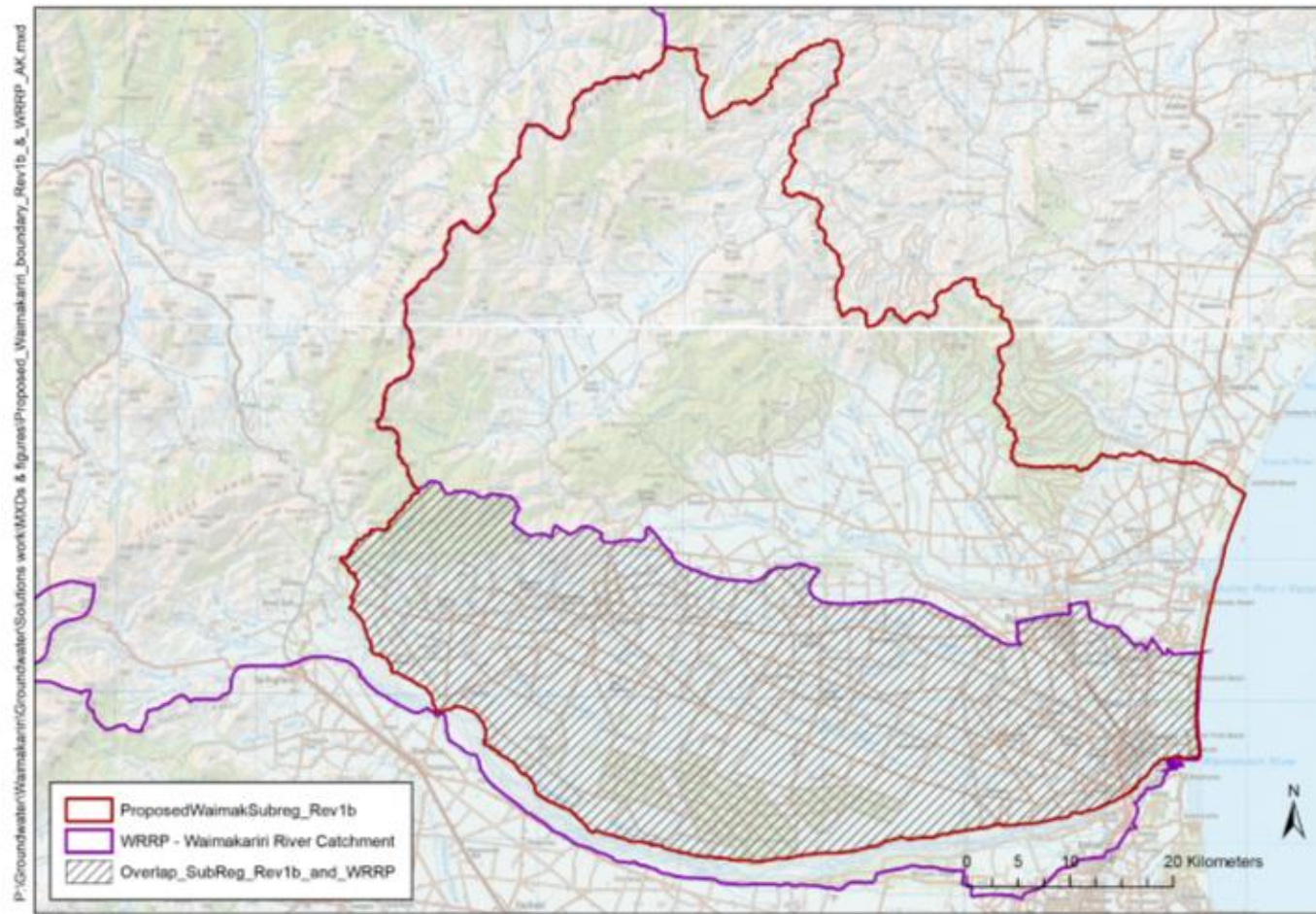
Plan Change 7 to CLWRP

- Part A – (Omnibus) changes region-wide provisions and some sub-region sections of the Plan
- Part B – changes Section 14 (Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora) to give effect to ZC recommendations
- Part C – changes Section 8 (Waimakariri) to give effect to ZC recommendations
- Changes to Planning Maps

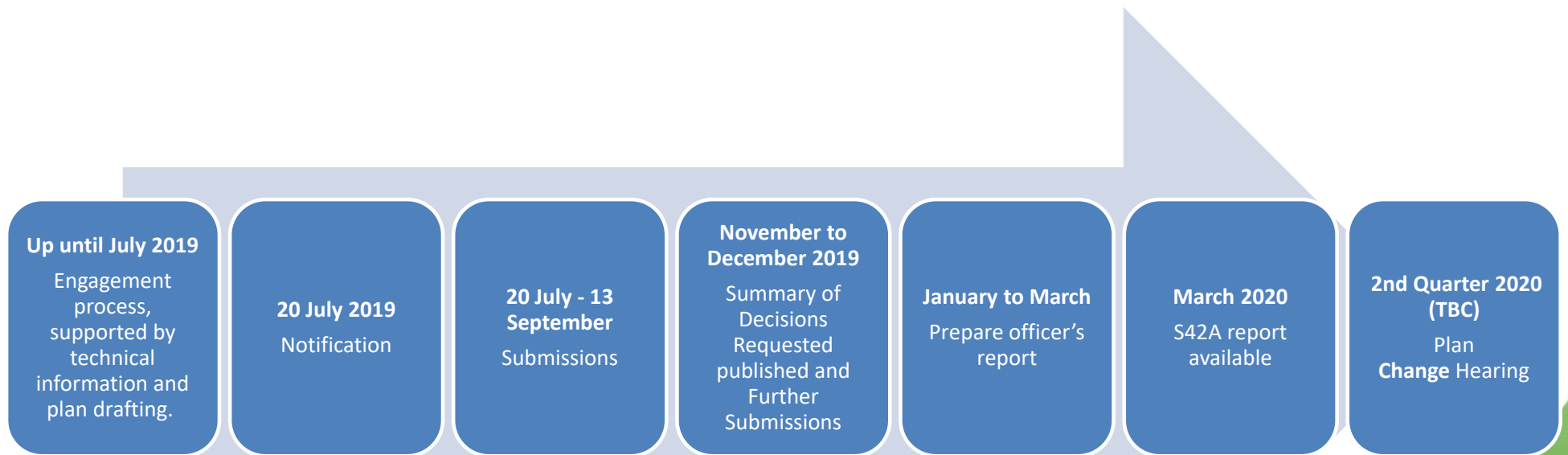
Plan Change 2 to WRRP

- First step to bring all policies and rules relating to Waimakariri sub-region into the CLWRP
- “Takes out” area defined in Section 8 from WRRP
- WRRP rules continue to apply to Waimakariri main stem, upper catchment and tributaries to south of main stem e.g. Styx River
- Amendments to WRRP planning maps

Area to be “taken out” of WRRP



Plan Change Process



Public Notification

- Plan Change 7 to the CLWRP, Plan Change 2 to the WRRP and s32 report notified on 20 July 2019
- FAQs, technical and science reports are available on ECan website
- Copies may be accessed online at public libraries
- CD containing a copy of PC7 is available free of charge.
- Above information can be accessed at ecan.govt.nz/lwrppc7 and ecan.govt.nz/wrrppc2

Submissions

- Submissions close 5pm on 13 September 2019 (40 working days)
- Submissions can be made by sending a written or electronic submission to Environment Canterbury:
 - via electronic planning tool (ePlan);
 - by email to mailroom@ecan.govt.nz or
 - by post to PO Box 345, Christchurch, 8140.

Submissions

- MfE guidelines on making a submission
<https://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/fresh-water/everyday-guide-making-submission-about-proposed-plan-or-plan-change>
- Submissions must be in accordance with Form 5 of the Resource Management (Forms, Fees and Procedure) Regulations 2003
- Must state whether or not you wish to be heard
- Form available from ECan

Process for public participation

- After submissions closed:
 - summary of decisions requested by submitters
 - Environment Canterbury gives public notice of the availability of the summary
 - Opportunity to make further submission in support of, or in opposition to the submissions already made

Process for public participation

- If a person making a submission asks to be heard in support of their submission, a hearing must be held.
- Environment Canterbury will appoint an independent panel of Commissioners to hear submissions and evidence and make recommendations to the Council
- Hearing dates and process will be advised once panel has been appointed.

Evidence and hearing

- A public hearing will be held in 2020
- An officer's report will describe the submissions on PC7 and PC2 and will recommend change to the plan change in response to submissions
- Submitters will be able to present evidence in support of their submissions.

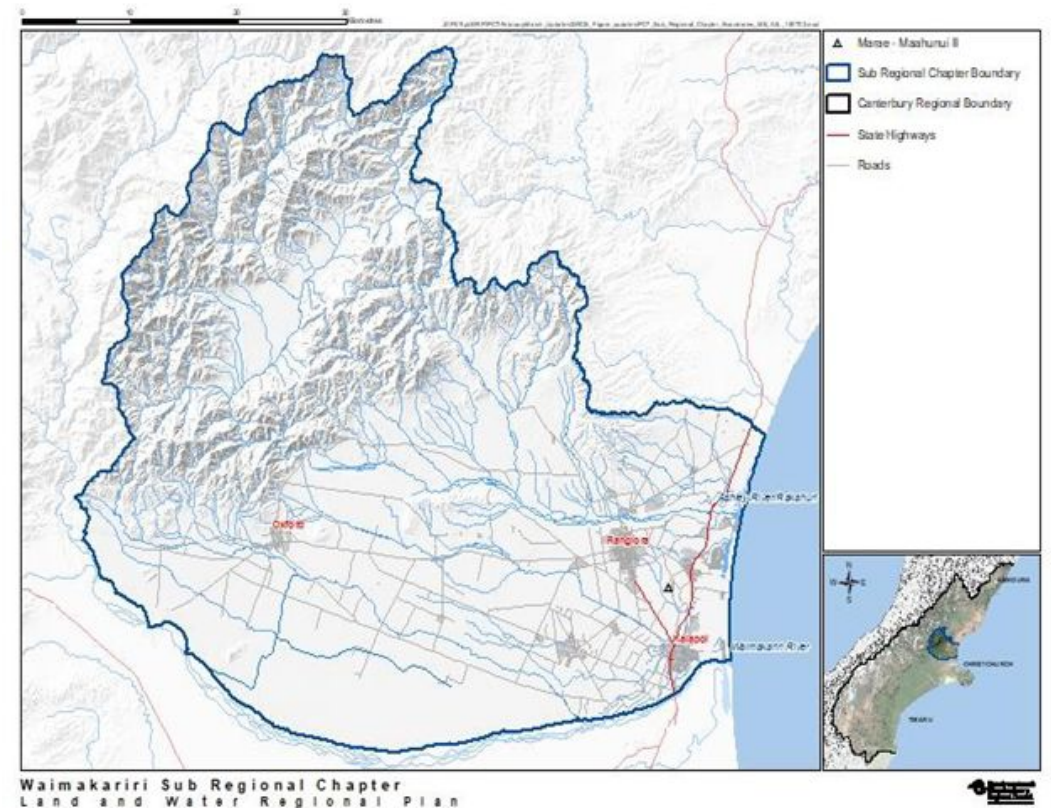
Decision on Plan Change 7 and Plan Change 2

- Environment Canterbury must give its decisions on the provisions and the matters raised in submissions within 2 years of notifying the plan change.
- Any person who has made a submission has the right to appeal the decision on points of law to the High Court (ECan Act 2016)

PLAN CHANGE 7 PART C WAIMAKARIRI

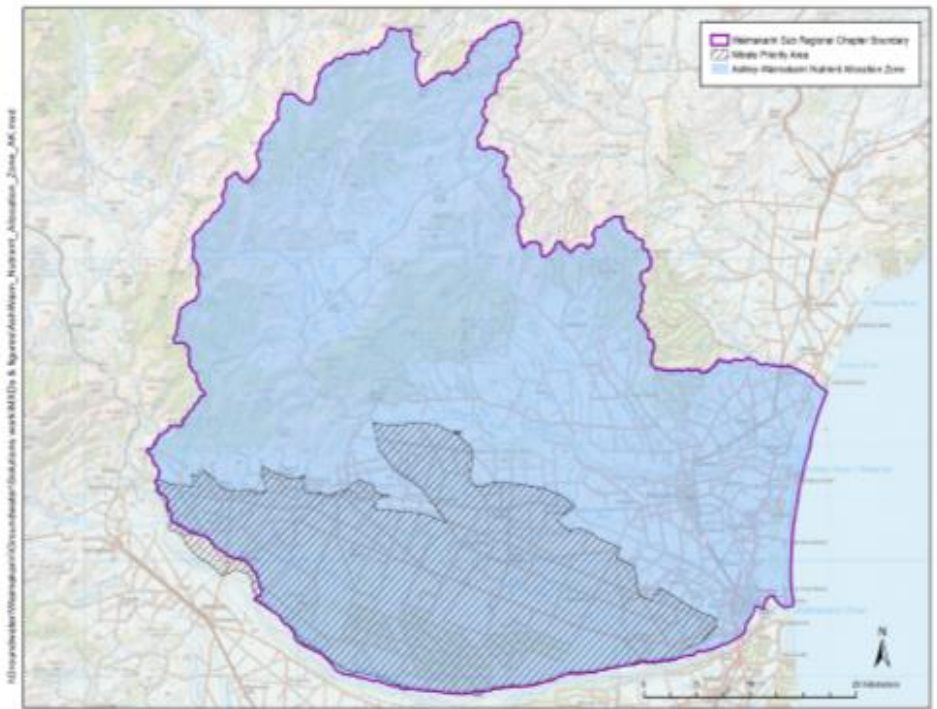
Waimakariri - Key Topics

- Nutrient management
- Minimum flows and allocation
- Cultural outcomes
- Stock exclusion
- Consents



Managing to Nitrate Limits

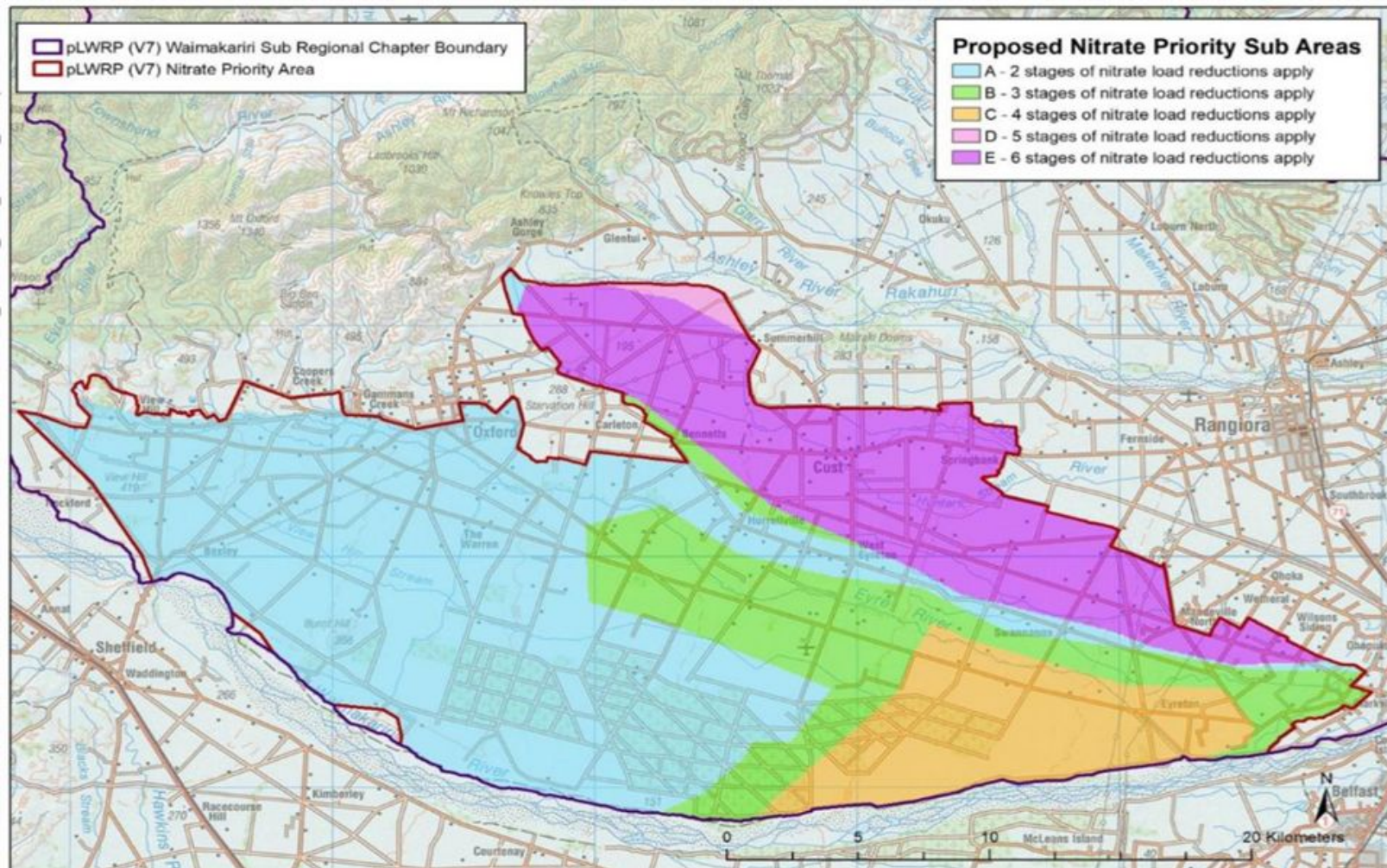
- Nitrate limits set for rivers, groundwater and drinking water wells
- In Waimakariri sub region, policies and rules that:
 - reduce the property size for permitted farming land use from 10 ha to 5 ha
 - permitted farming activities are only allowed:
 - 5 ha of winter grazing for properties less than 100ha
 - 5% of the property, for properties between 100-1000 ha; and
 - 50 ha for any property greater than 1000ha.
- Means more audited FEPs (consented activities) and Management Plans (permitted activities)



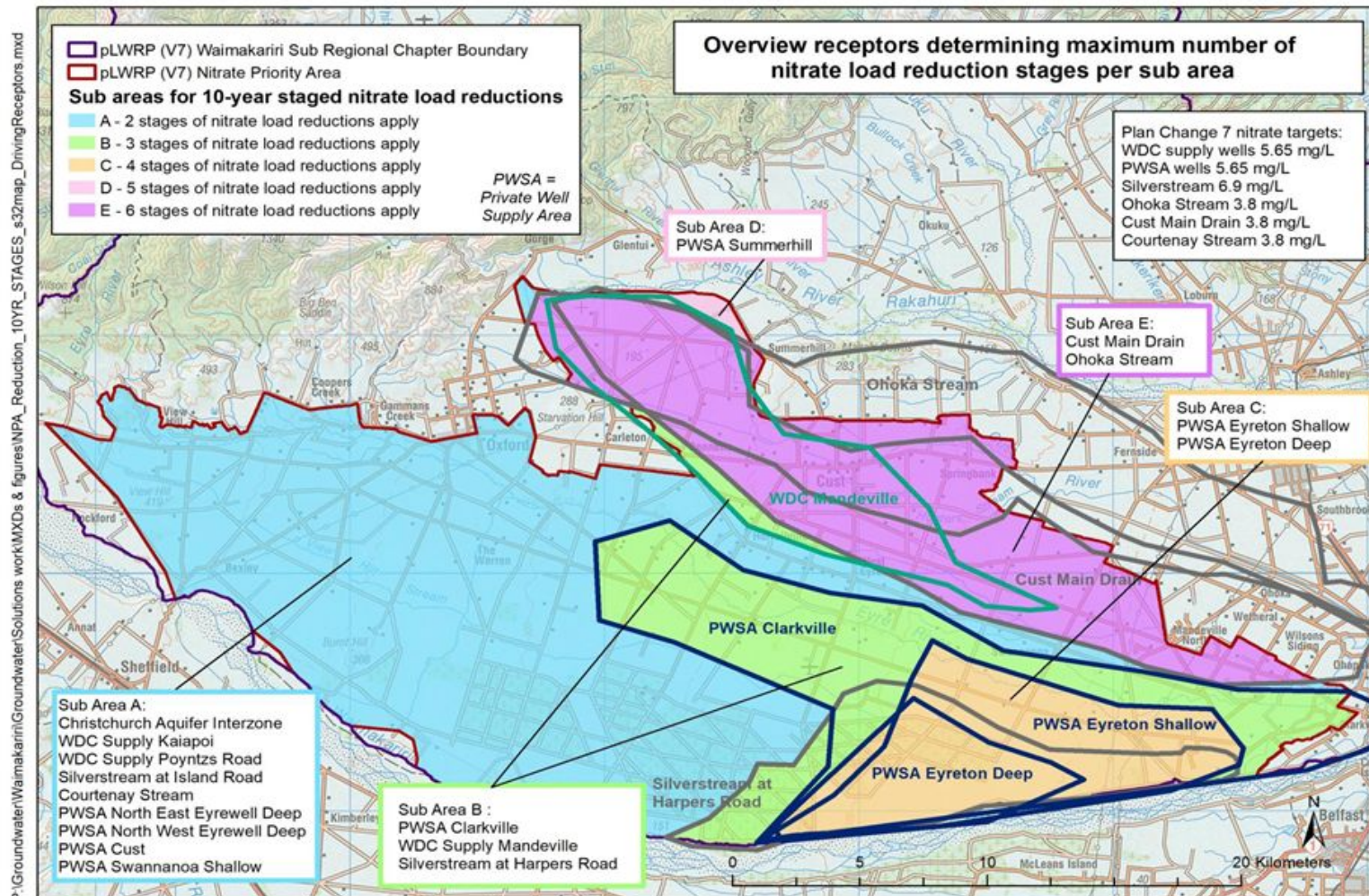
Managing to Nitrate Limits

- A “Nitrate Priority Area”, policies and rules linked to Planning Maps and a table that:
 - requires all farming activities to make further reductions in nitrogen loss in 10 year stages
 - first stage of reductions to be achieved by 1 January 2030
 - includes a “nitrate floor” exempting low-emitting farming activities from additional stages of reduction

Nitrate Priority Sub-areas



Nitrate Priority Sub-areas



Stages of reduction per sub area

| Nitrate Priority Area Sub-area (see planning maps) | Farming type | Cumulative percentage reductions and dates by which these are to be achieved | | | | | |
|---|--------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | By 1 January 2030 | By 1 January 2040 | By 1 January 2050 | By 1 January 2060 | By 1 January 2070 | By 1 January 2080 |
| Sub-area A | Dairy | 15% | 30% | - | - | - | - |
| | Other | 5% | 10% | - | - | - | - |
| Sub-area B | Dairy | 15% | 30% | 45% | - | - | - |
| | Other | 5% | 10% | 15% | - | - | - |
| Sub-area C | Dairy | 15% | 30% | 45% | 60% | - | - |
| | Other | 5% | 10% | 15% | 20% | - | - |
| Sub-area D | Dairy | 15% | 30% | 45% | 60% | 75% | - |
| | Other | 5% | 10% | 15% | 20% | 25% | - |
| Sub-area E | Dairy | 15% | 30% | 45% | 60% | 75% | 90% |
| | Other | 5% | 10% | 15% | 20% | 25% | 30% |

- Starting point for reductions in N loss is generally the property's Baseline GMP Loss Rate
- Reductions only applied to farming activities that require resource consent where the reduction for each stage is greater than 3 kg/ha for Dairy and 1 kg/ha for other farming activities

Minimum Flows and Allocation

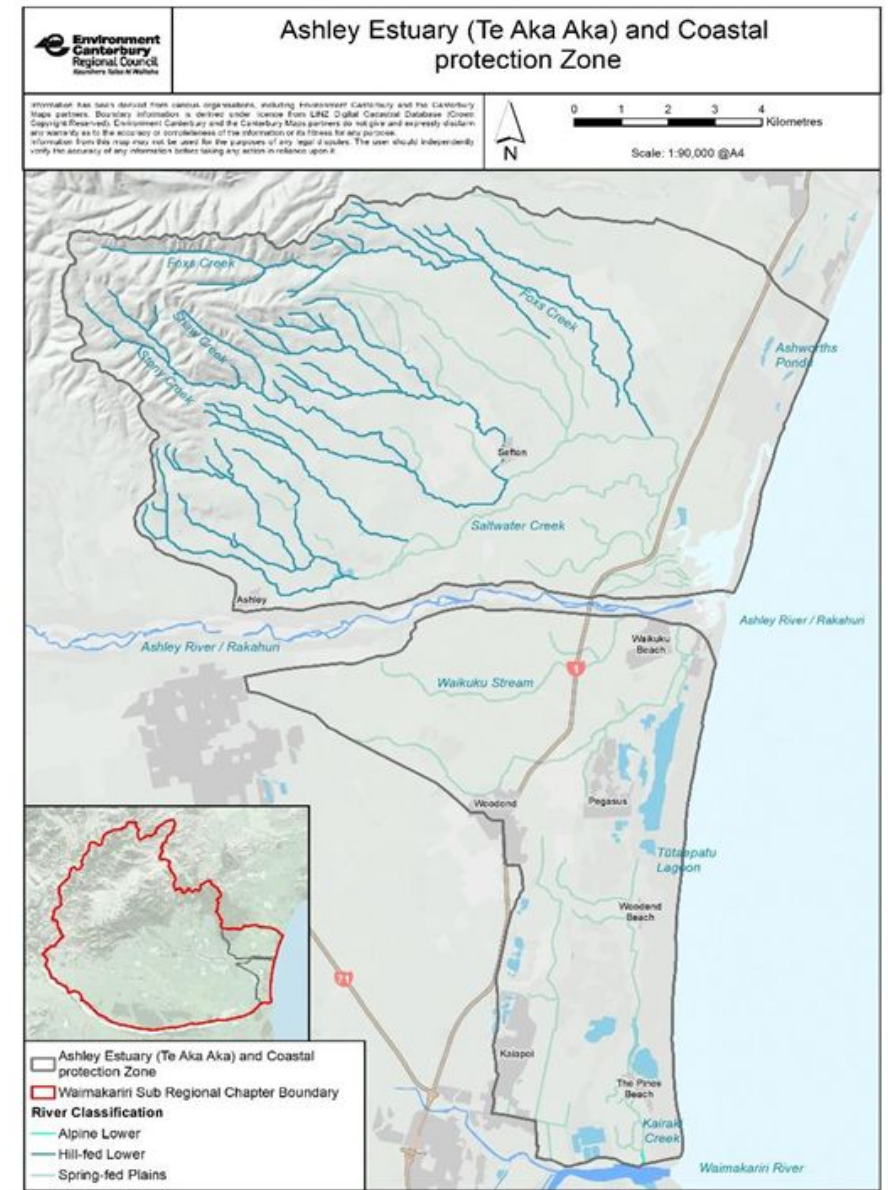
- Over allocation is reduced by:
 - Capping current allocation and prohibiting new abstraction
 - Removing B (higher flow) allocations from spring-fed streams
 - Allowing substitution of surface water and shallow groundwater takes for deep groundwater in over-allocated catchments
 - Additional water transfer restrictions in over-allocated catchments (50% surrender and can only transfer consents/water used in last 5 years)
- Minimum flows increased over time (on some rivers)
 - Ashley River tributaries in 2025 and 2032
 - Waimakariri River tributaries in 2027
- Partial restrictions on all takes to avoid breaching minimum flow

Mahinga kai, improving stream health and biodiversity

- Water allocation for mahinga kai enhancement from:
 - Ashley River (higher flow allocation blocks)
 - Cam River/Ruataniwha
 - Silverstream
- Targeted Stream Augmentation
- Catchment restoration activities

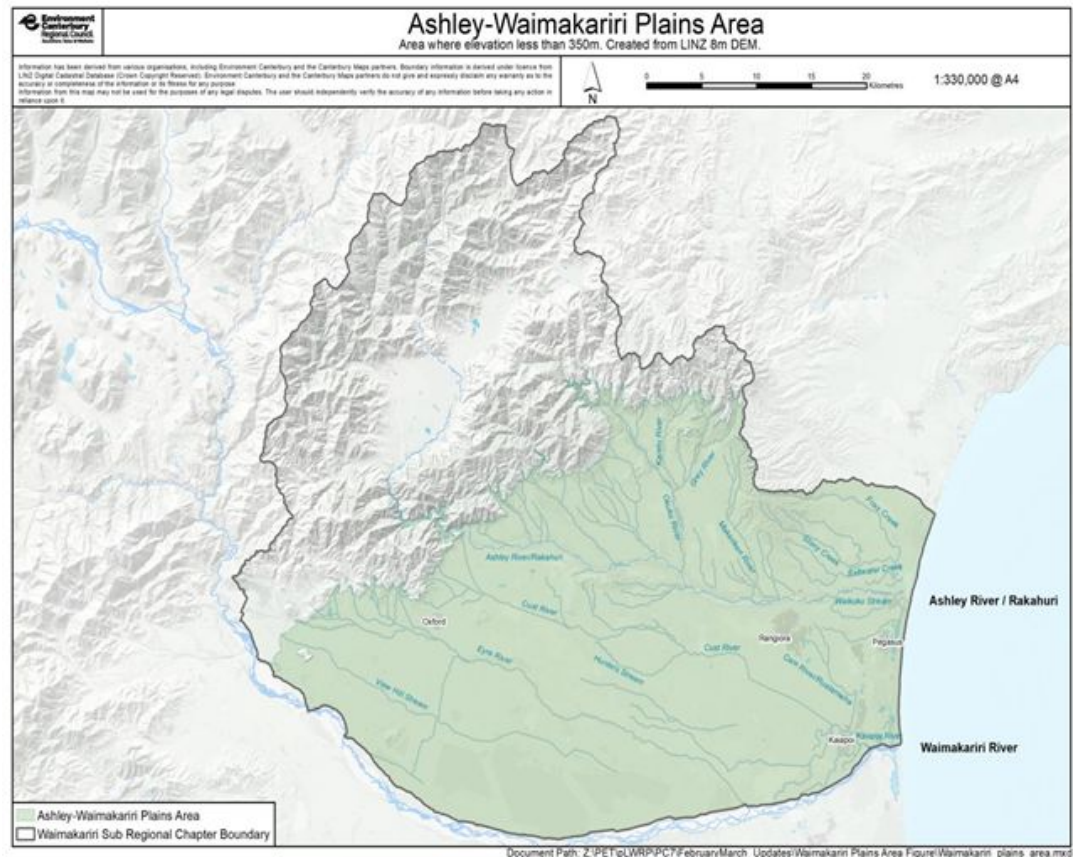
Te Aka Aka/Coastal Protection Zone

- Additional properties within zone undertaking a farming activity need consent and FEP if:
 - Property > 5 ha and
 - It includes or adjoins river or lake and
 - Has any irrigation or winter grazing of cattle
- All activities in zone to avoid discharge of contaminants to surface water, if not possible, apply Best Practicable Option to meet water quality outcomes and limits



Stock Exclusion

- Stock exclusion rules extended in Waimakariri sub-region to include drains, springs and artificial watercourses
- Farmed cattle and deer and pigs excluded from all water bodies on the “plains” (land below 350 m elevation)



Consent Duration and Expiry

- Necessary to align with plan review cycles and respond to new information and changing pressures and on water quality and water resources
- Common expiry date of 2037 and every 10 years thereafter for all water take, land use and irrigation scheme consents
- Review consents to implement flow and allocation regime by:
 - 2027 for Ashley River and tributaries
 - 2029 for Waimakariri River tributaries

Other provisions

- Numeric Freshwater Outcomes and Limits for Waimakariri Rivers and Lakes
- Amended groundwater allocation zones and limits
- Report every 5 years on investigations, and progress towards outcomes/limits and plan effectiveness to inform next review
 - Including impacts on Waimakariri River and Christchurch aquifers

Where to find more information on PC7 and PC2

- PC7, PC2 and supporting information (including s32 Evaluation Report, FAQs, technical and science reports) are available on ECan website

ecan.govt.nz/lwrppc7 and ecan.govt.nz/wrrppc2

- If the online resources do not have the information you are looking for please contact Environment Canterbury Customer Services
- Formal RMA process – need to ensure a fair process for all parties. All questions and responses will be published on the above websites.

PLAN CHANGE 7 PART A OMNIBUS

Habitats of Indigenous Freshwater Species

Prevent incremental loss of habitats of indigenous freshwater species:

- provide for fish passage and prevent fish stranding when installing new or modifying existing structures
- map and protect habitats of 11 threatened indigenous fish & invertebrates
- restrict activities that may cause damage or loss of habitats, e.g. river diversions and sediment discharges

Ngāi Tahu Outcomes

Improve recognition of Ngāi Tahu values and sites of significance to Ngāi Tahu, including wāhi tapu and wāhi taonga:

- Change 23 rules so we can consider how Ngāi Tahu values might be affected by new proposals for resource consent
- Recognise the importance of waipuna (springs) to Ngāi Tahu by requiring these waterbodies to be mapped in farm management plans

Freshwater sites

Schedule 17 – Salmon Spawning Sites

- Canterbury's chinook and sockeye salmon fishery is highly valued both regionally and nationally
- 31 new salmon spawning sites added to the existing 32 sites

Schedule 6 – Freshwater Bathing Areas

- Increase protection of areas on rivers and lakes commonly used for freshwater bathing
- 64 new bathing sites added to the existing 28 sites

Managed aquifer recharge

- All MAR systems require a resource consent
- Application must describe the benefits (e.g. reduced contaminant concentrations or improved flows in hydraulically connected surface waterbodies)
- If the take is from an over-allocated catchment, the application must demonstrate that the environmental benefits will outweigh any adverse effects on the waterbody

Commercial vegetable growing

Commercial vegetable growers rotate crops to avoid crop disease, and require new land (purchase or lease) with a high enough nitrogen loss rate for the operation

- permitted activity if property ≤ 0.5 ha
- area-based limit (2009-2013) means growers can rotate crops to a new location within a NAZ/sub-region
- existing operations wishing to expand land area and new growers need to comply with nitrogen limit on that land

Hinds Drains Working Party recommendations

- Improve water quality in larger Hinds Drains by stock exclusion
- Improve flow in waterways by providing more options to switch to deeper groundwater
- Set flow and allocation limits for 3 Hinds Drains in Eiffelton Irrigation Scheme.
- 5 year time extension for setting flow and allocation limits for other Hinds Drains

National direction

National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry

Changes to simplify the planning framework for plantation foresters while making sure we still have more stringent rules where necessary to achieve Canterbury's freshwater outcomes

National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management

Changes to surface water quality outcomes and limits for Canterbury rivers and lakes to better align with NPSFM, e.g. adding E.Coli and freshwater mahinga kai.

END



Submission on Proposed Plan Change 7 to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Submitter ID: _____

File No: _____

Form 5: Submissions on a Publicly Notified Proposed Policy Statement or Regional Plan under Clause 5 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991

Return your signed submission by 5.00pm Friday 13 September 2019 to:

Proposed Plan Change 7 to the Land and Water Regional Plan
Environment Canterbury
P O Box 345
Christchurch 8140

Full Name: _____ **Phone (Hm):** _____
Organisation*: _____ **Phone (Wk):** _____
* the organisation that this submission is made on behalf of
Postal Address: _____ **Phone (Cell):** _____
 _____ **Postcode:** _____
Email: _____ **Fax:** _____

Contact name and postal address for service of person making submission (if different from above):

Trade Competition

Pursuant to Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, a person who could gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission may make a submission only if directly affected by an effect of the proposed policy statement or plan that:

- a) adversely affects the environment; and
- b) does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

Please tick the sentence that applies to you:

- ☐ I could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission; or
☐ I could gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

If you have ticked this box please select one of the following:

- ☐ I am directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission
☐ I am not directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

(Signature of person making submission or person authorised to sign on behalf of person making the submission)

Please note:

(1) all information contained in a submission under the Resource Management Act 1991, including names and addresses for service, becomes public information.

- ☐ I do not wish to be heard in support of my submission; or
☐ I do wish to be heard in support of my submission; and if so,
☐ I would be prepared to consider presenting my submission in a joint case with others making a similar submission at any hearing

[illegible]

Add further pages as required – please initial any additional pages.

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|---|---|
| AGENDA ITEM NO: 5 | SUBJECT MATTER: WAIMAKARIRI WATER MANAGEMENT ZONE COMMITTEE KAIAPOI NETWORK CONSENT UPDATE |
| REPORT: Kaiapoi Stormwater Network Discharge Consent Application | DATE OF MEETING: 12 August 2019 |
| REPORT BY: Janet Fraser, on Behalf of Waimakariri District Council | ENDORSED BY: Gerard Cleary, Manager Utilities and Roothing |

Purpose

This paper updates the Waimakariri Water Management Zone Committee on progress preparing the Kaiapoi Stormwater Network Discharge Consent Application.

A power point presentation will be provided during the meeting to further update the Committee on the application's content.

The consent application is being finalised and will be shortly lodged with Environment Canterbury, including any feedback provided at this meeting.

Requirement for Discharge Consents

The Kaiapoi stormwater consent application is a requirement of the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan (CLWRP). The CLWRP requires the Council as network operator to obtain consent for all reticulated stormwater system discharges into the receiving environment (land and water) in the District. All applications must be lodged with Environment Canterbury by 30 June 2018 or later date as agreed between Environment Canterbury and the Waimakariri District Council. The currently agreed lodgement date for the Kaiapoi stormwater network consent application is 31 December 2019.

Term and Approach

The Kaiapoi Stormwater Network Discharge Consent is sought for a term of 35 years.

During the period from 2018 to 2025 the Council will develop a comprehensive stormwater management plan to determine how the Council will achieve CLWRP water quality targets for all the Kaiapoi stormwater network discharges.

The Council's target is to ensure discharges from the Kaiapoi stormwater network comply with all applicable plan standards as at 2040.

Stormwater Management Plan

An interim stormwater management plan has been prepared by staff and will be lodged with the consent application. Its key proposals include:

- Investigating source control options for identified contaminants.
- Investigate low impact design options to improve treatment at a sub-catchment level.
- Where practicable, incorporate measures to improve stormwater treatment as part of the capital works programme.
- Phase in use of pollution prevention plans to manage discharges from medium risk premises.

- Phase in a new Council led approval process for stormwater discharges from high risk sites by 1 January 2025. At this time the Council will assume responsibility for managing quality of discharges from these sites into and from its network.
- Associated review of the Stormwater Drainage and Watercourse Protection Bylaw will be required by December 2024 to incorporate new procedures for Council management of discharges from high risk sites.

Key Contaminant Findings

The power-point presentation will include water quality monitoring results for the Kaiapoi stormwater network and receiving environment.

Recommendations

That the Waimakariri Water Management Zone Committee:

1. **Receives** this briefing paper.
2. **Notes** the pending application for stormwater discharge consent for the Kaiapoi stormwater network to be lodged shortly with Environment Canterbury.

Janet Fraser, on behalf of Waimakariri District Council

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| AGENDA ITEM NO: 6 | SUBJECT: Committee Updates |
| REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee | MEETING DATE: 12 August 2019 |
| REPORT BY: Murray Griffin, CWMS Facilitator – Waimakariri, ECan | |

PROPOSAL

This agenda item provides the committee with an overview of updates for review.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Zone Committee are asked to receive these updates for its information and regarding the committee's work programme and community engagement priorities for 2019.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

The following updates are tabled for the committee:

1. CWMS Regional Committee

The last Regional Committee meeting was held on Tuesday 11 June. Summary notes from this meeting are provided by Carolyne Latham as **agenda item 6–1**.

The link to the CWMS Regional Committee papers is provided below:

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

2. Media and Communications – May, June & July 2019

A media and communications report for the month of February is provided by Gina McKenzie as **agenda item 6–2**. The latest zone committee eNewsletter (31 August) is provided as **agenda item 6–3**.

3. 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."

4. WDC 3 Waters Briefing – 9 September

Sophie Allen, Water Environment Advisor at WDC will provide a briefing at the next zone committee meeting on Monday 9 September. Copies of the papers she will speak to will be provided to the committee. They will include:

- The Arohatia te Awa (Cherish the River) project, and
- A pilot study of nitrate levels in groundwater for private wells in the Cust and Eyreton areas.

5. ECan CWMS & Zone Delivery Briefing – 9 September

A briefing will be provided at the 9 September zone committee meeting that will include updates on:

- CWMS fit for future project
- Zone Delivery update

CWMS Regional Committee Meeting Report 11th June 2019

1. Fit for Future Recommendations

The Mayoral Forum approved the FFF goals for 2025 and 2030, and requested that the approval be formally noted at each district council's next meeting. Three of the Mayors are to lead the associated public communications. With guidance from the Chief Executives, the Councils will progress the emerging work programmes by working alongside the various organisations to determine willingness, resources and timeframes. The FFF goals and advice on implementation will also be part of the discussions at the Zone Committee Chairs and Deputy Chairs workshop on 10th July. Potential issues identified include resourcing, prioritisation (so that progress is made and resources are not spread too thinly), and building the strength of all Councils including more participation from Council officers. It was noted that the 2040 targets, which were not part of the FFF project, will probably need to be updated in the next 5 years.

2. Francis & Shireen Helps – Banks Peninsula farmers & conservationists

Mr & Mrs Helps had written to Ecan (copy of letter in agenda) and presented to the RC on their concerns which are primarily:

- It needs to be made easier to do conservation works with an enabling regulatory framework.
- Bush and indigenous shrublands need to count eg with the Emissions Trading Scheme.

Discussion followed with a number of RC members voicing concerns about the ETS and its accounting system. It was agreed that the RC would draft a letter to Ecan on the matter. Ecan advised that they would be submitting on the Carbon Zero bill with submissions closing mid-July.

3. Targets Progress Report

A task group was formed by the RC to give Ecan feedback on targets, which are currently under discussion as to what is proposed to be reported on.

4. Zone Committee Reports (refer to agenda for full reports)

Kaikoura – There has been concern from landowners regarding the freshwater mataitai declared in two catchments because the plans went up to ridgelines, which made the perceived effect on land ownership worse than it actually is.

Waimakariri – The Kaikoura ZC representative noted that the Lyell Creek (Kaikoura) has for 10 years or more had a group involved with it, initially identifying where the passion was and creating activities around that, this included getting schools involved eg in clean-ups, and fencing the stream – this happened quickly by dairy farmers but lifestyleurs were slow to follow. It is only recently that Ecan and the Kaikoura ZC have been involved with the Lyell Creek group. Details of how this evolved can be found in Benita Wakefield's 2008 thesis, at <https://researcharchive.lincoln.ac.nz/handle/10182/1335?show=full> page 180. Catchment

Management Plans were supported as a means for improvements by the RC but caution was noted regarding terminology – use of the word "Plan" can have an association with statutory "Plans" and the RMA. CCC's representative advised that their CMP's tie in with global consents for works.

Christchurch City/West Melton – Three IMS projects have been funded this year. It was noted that a signboard eg "Funded by Immediate Steps" would be useful. Monitoring of waterways can be a particular issue in the zone due to some waterways in the city being underground, eg for tracing the source of contaminants. There is concern that the RC has too much of a focus on farming issues and more concentration on urban issues is required.

Banks Peninsula – There is difficulty attracting applications for IMS projects because farmers don't want Ecan on their land.

Selwyn-Waihora - A plan for Selwyn/Waikirikiriri River has been presented to the community. N loads remain a big issue and the community is passionate about who is responsible and should pay. Recent monitoring at Coes Ford has shown reduced *Ecoli* but increased nitrates. The ZC is currently doing a bit of a roadshow around the catchment to get more of the community involved.

Ashburton – Increasing atrophic levels in the Ashburton Lakes are a concern. Lake Emma is the worst on the TLI, which is surrounded by DOC land.

OTOP – Consensus to the signed off ZIPA was not reached with Iwi unhappy with minimum flows. The ZC is considering what their work programme from this point forward. The OTOC ZC representative has requested the RC and ZC's consider expanding their terms of reference to include climate change. In response, Ecan will provide more information about what they are already doing on climate change. Questions were asked regarding the IMS projects in terms of how many

applications were received and how many granted/declined, and how many not coming forward due to the rules – whether the IMS criteria and/or resources on the ground were an issue.

Waitaki – Are transitioning to implementation and need to be better equipped as to their purpose.

5. Government Reports – MfE and DOC refer to agenda. MPI advised that the recent budget included \$229 million for helping farmers in general and the details were being worked through. The Sustainable Food & Fibre Futures Fund (SFF Futures) had \$40 million/year for 4 years allocated, and it was noted that some of the CWMS projects could meet the criteria. Government funding covered 80% of the project. Projects needed to be transformative rather than run of the mill.

Carolyne Latham
Waimakariri Water Zone Committee RC Rep

Waimakariri Zone Committee Media and Communications Report for July -1st May -30th July

Monthly newsletter

- 29th May, 24th June and 31st July – newsletter sent out to 1000 + subscribers – May newsletter – zone committee member profiles to showcase the variety of people involved in the committee – June – people taking positive action to improve local streams – Easterbrook project and profile on cropping farmer investing in technology. July – focus on encouraging people to provide feedback on PC7, plus article on Cam Henderson’s Nuffield scholarship trip.

Articles provided to media

- Easterbrook Stream project – landowners working together to improve local stream
- Profile on Roscoe Taggart – precision agriculture used to improve processes on cropping farm and diversification
- Cam Henderson’s Nuffield scholarship trip
- Profile on John Cooke
- Profile on Michael Blackwell
- Profile on Wells family farm – tips on planting projects on-farm

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

**** denotes content provided to media**

- **9th May – North Canterbury News – Profile on Michael Blackwell
- 9th May – North Canterbury News – article on Next Generation Farmers’ group’s aims and focus
- 10th May – Northern Outlook – WDC urges residents to test private wells for arsenic
- 16th May – North Canterbury News – Well testing urged for private wells
- **17th May – Northern Outlook – Dave Ashby’s opinion piece on WZC’s focus for the months ahead – taking action on sub-catchment management plans
- 22nd May – Northern Outlook – Effluent spill on dairy farm near Oxford
- ** 22nd May – Northern Outlook – profile on new WZC member John Cooke
<https://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/news/north-canterbury/112796573/water-pollution-posing-risk-to-cultural-traditions-in-north-canterbury>
- 23rd May – North Canterbury News – opinion piece from Claire McKay re. why she voted against declaring a climate emergency
- **29th May – Harcourts Rural News – Mike Smith profile
- 30th May – North Canterbury News – Is collaboration dead? – opinion piece written by Cam Henderson on the situation with HWZC compared with his experience on WZC
- 30th May – North Canterbury News – practical guide for fencing waterways provided by Dairy NZ
- **31st May – Rural News – article on Easterbrook Stream restoration project
- **4th June – Otago Daily Times – profile on Roscoe Taggart

<https://www.odt.co.nz/rural-life/rural-people/continuous-innovation-seen-vital-sustainable-farming>

- 6th June – North Canterbury News – Algae bloom warning lifted for Ashley/Rakahuri River
- 7th June – Northern Outlook – Boil water notice remains after effluent spill
- 13th June – Stuff – Article on nitrate levels in private drinking wells
<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/113449598/nitrate-fears-over-cancer-link-dismissed-by-government-health-bosses>
- **20th June – North Canterbury News – Easterbrook Stream article– working together with a mix of farmers and lifestyle block owners to protect a springhead and improve a 1.8km stretch of waterway.
- **20th June – North Canterbury News – Profile on Roscoe Taggart on the benefits of precision agriculture, technology and diversification on his 732-hectare cropping farm.
- 21st June – Newsroom – Article on nitrate levels in drinking water wells – quotes Cam Henderson
<https://www.newsroom.co.nz/2019/06/21/646519/new-zealands-private-water-supply-conundrum#>
- 27th June – North Canterbury News – Nitrates can be controlled – news article quoting David Ashby in response to comments on worst case scenario for drinking water from Dr Alistair Humphrey.
- 27th June – North Canterbury News – Claire McKay stands for re-election for North Canterbury seat for ECan.
- 27th June – North Canterbury News – ARRG seeks volunteers to help clear weeds from Ashley/Rakahuri River to help create improved habitats for nesting birds.
- 4th July – North Canterbury News – WIL weighs in on nitrate debate – WIL will submit a solutions package as part of its submission on the ZIPA.
- **5th July – Northern Outlook – profile on Cam Henderson’s Nuffield Scholarship trip
- 25th July – North Canterbury News – David Ashby – received community service award for chairing WZC throughout the ZIPA process
- ** 25th July – North Canterbury News – article on the Wells’ family farm – focus on encouraging riparian planting and biodiversity on-farm

Current cinema advertisement

- Everyone has a part to play – bridging the rural-urban divide

Waimakariri Water Zone Committee



A message from the chair

Waimakariri Water Zone Committee chairperson David Ashby talks about the importance of making a submission on Plan Change 7, and where to review the plan change proposals.

Now that PC7 has been notified, make sure you have your say on changes proposed for managing Waimakariri's waterways by making a submission before the closing date on Friday September 13 at 5pm.

There has been some confusion around the difference between the Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA) and PC7, so I'd like to clarify the process.

The ZIPA was finalised when it was accepted by both the Waimakariri District Council and Environment Canterbury in December 2018. PC7 is a proposed change to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan.

The proposals in PC7 generally reflect the recommendations we made in our ZIPA. There are a couple of key differences with changes to some allocation limits due to additional technical work that was carried out after the ZIPA was finalised.

A new zone has also been proposed - the Ashley Estuary (Te Aka Aka) and Coastal Protection Zone and this area has additional restrictions for farming and discharges which are aimed at achieving water quality outcomes for the estuary.

Proposed changes in PC7 include:

- new water quality limits for groundwater and surface water
- further reductions in nitrogen losses over time for farms
- minimum flow increases for waterways
- a cap on the amount of water for allocation
- exclusion of stock from a wider range of waterbodies

I encourage you to review the proposals for PC7 and provide feedback via email, a written submission or by using the ePlan portal. If you're impacted by the proposed changes make sure you have your say so that we end up with the best possible outcome for the entire community.

Click [here](#) to review PC7 and to make a submission.

Our next zone committee meeting will be held on Monday August 12 from 3–6pm at the Waimakariri Council Chambers. I look forward to introducing our new committee members to you and we'll also be electing our new chair at the meeting.



Waimakariri Water Zone Committee chair Dave Ashby.

What is Plan Change 7 and how could it affect me?

Environment Canterbury has notified proposed Plan Change 7 to the Land & Water Regional Plan and Plan Change 2 to the Waimakariri River Regional Plan for public submissions.

The submission period finishes on September 13, 2019.

Plan Change 7 includes proposed rules that cover the whole region and others that apply only to the Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora (OTOP) and Waimakariri zones.

For Waimakariri, the plan change seeks to limit nutrient discharges from farms progressively over a number of decades. New scientific modelling on nitrate focuses on the possibility of this contaminant heading towards groundwater under Christchurch city.

Environment Canterbury chair Steve Lowndes said it was important for everyone to have their say on "very significant" proposals.

"Something so wide ranging will certainly have an impact on people and communities throughout the region, particularly in South Canterbury and Waimakariri," he said.

More information can be found here:

[Plan Change 7](#)

[Plan Change 2](#)

[Nitrate in waterways](#)

[Background on Waimakariri nitrate](#)

The submission period closes on September 13, 2019. To find out all you need to know to make a submission, click [here](#).



Changes to the LWRP and WRRP are being proposed and there is still time to have your say.

Waimakariri Water Zone Committee welcomes two new community members

The Waimakariri Water Zone Committee is delighted to welcome two new community members to the committee, Wendy Main and Erin Harvie.

Dr Judith Roper-Lindsay and Carolyn Latham have been re-appointed to the committee.

Annual membership changes are part of the refresh process that applies to all zone committees. The commitment required from committee members is significant and the refresh is important, so members aren't burnt out.

The committee was impressed with the calibre of the applications and how many people were passionate about water.

The four candidates demonstrated comprehensive collaborative and water management skills that align well with the committee's focus on implementation over the next three years.

Ms Harvie, an environmental consultant and resident of Kaiapoi, said she is excited about the challenges and opportunities the water zone committee presents.

"I've worked in the area for about 10 years now, on and off. My work has been in resource management so it was a really good fit – I thought – when an opportunity came up to join the water zone committee.

"I'm familiar with the area and have a young family which likes to get out and about and enjoy the things the Waimakariri has to offer.

"A real focus in resource management is on water, so I've always been interested in the area. It's becoming more and more an important issue not only for Canterbury, but for New Zealand as a whole.

"I believe there are a lot of misconceptions about water and its use in the country. It's disheartening that we as people place blame on one party or another, when really we should be focusing on providing the correct information to those people and getting the science behind it right," she said.

Ms Main is a dairy farmer of nine years and resident of View Hill. She said her new role means she can lead by example and help other farmers follow suit.

"There are a lot of expectations of farmers, so I want to get alongside them and help them understand better what's required and how to do that – to lead by example in some aspects.

"Nitrate in waterways I see as a really big problem out here. It's important to me that the health of the waterways and rivers climbs back up to where it was.

"That seems to be a good starting point – with something you can actually see, the quality of the water," she said.



Erin Harvie (left) and Wendy Main are the two new members on the Waimakariri Zone Water Committee.

Trip of a lifetime for Waimakariri Zone Committee member

A whirlwind eight-week trip to investigate agricultural practices around the world has highlighted the active engagement of local farmers with environmental issues for Nuffield scholar and Waimakariri Water Zone Committee member Cam Henderson.

"In New Zealand, regulation encourages farmers to get actively involved and focus on the environmental outcomes of their farm system.

"In Europe, where regulation controls farm inputs, farmers just have to comply with a

set list of 'dos and don'ts' and are less concerned about whether that actually has a positive environmental effect," he said.

Cam spent the two weeks in the USA, Mexico, Brazil, the Netherlands and New Zealand. Read about Cam's trip and his findings [here](#).



Waimakariri ZWC member Cam Henderson (pictured) at a Brazilian Dairy Farm.

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

For more information visit ecan.govt.nz/water

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

 fb.com/canterburywater



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| AGENDA ITEM NO: 7 | SUBJECT: WWZC 2019 Work Programme Priorities – Workshop | |
| REPORT TO: Waimakariri Water Zone Committee | | MEETING DATE: 12 August 2019 |
| REPORT BY: Murray Griffin – CWMS Facilitator, Waimakariri | | |

PROPOSAL

The workshop will focus on the following four priorities, with associated recommendations for discussion:

- 1) Catchment Management Plans
- 2) Zone Committee structure and function
- 3) Meeting schedule and work programme
- 4) PC7 notification engagement and information requests

1) Catchment Management Plans

Background

- The Waimakariri ZIPA includes a recommendation (1.1) to advance 2 catchment management plans each year. Previous workshop sessions have proposed the Cam and Taranaki Creek/Te Aka Aka/Saltwater Creek sub catchments be considered to advance as in 2019.
- The purpose of a Catchment Management Plan, who/how they will be prepared, and what it will contain are yet to be confirmed by committee members and ECan/WDC Staff.

Proposed Recommendations

The Zone Committee:

- Confirms the 2 catchment management plans to advance/complete in 2019.
- Confirms the scope of the initial catchment management plans in 2019.
- Clarifies how and who will be involved in preparing the first two catchment management plans (e.g. ECan/WDC staff, zone committee members, external support, CWMS Partners, catchment residents/landowners)

2) Meeting schedule and work programme

Background

- Committee members are concerned with a loss of momentum between monthly meetings.
- There is no structured time for members to discuss a wide range of topics and issues outside of formal monthly public meeting structure, this includes preliminary discussions about topics that should be brought to the monthly meetings with recommendations.

Proposed recommendations

The Zone Committee:

- To hold a monthly workshop session (midway between monthly meetings) with
 - Topics notified through a simple email agenda system; with clear minutes and reporting back to members within two weeks. The workshops may be public or closed – this to be discussed.
 - Subject to staff resources – to be discussed
- Receive a summary of actions and/or the draft minutes of monthly meetings within two weeks of each meeting (or at the following workshop) so that actions can be reported on, errors corrected, and updates received.

3) Proposed Plan Change 7 notification, engagement, and information requests

Background

- While the proposed Plan Change 7 is led by ECan it does reflect the recommendations of the Waimakariri ZIPA. This means zone committee members must understand its implications for the Waimakariri community. It is a complex Plan Change and members need guidance on it.
- The Te Aka Aka Coastal Protection Zone is an aspect of the proposed Plan Change not included in the draft ZIPA for feedback from the community. Some provisions now affecting Lees Valley were similarly not part of the draft ZIPA engagement.
- Committee members feel they need a more detailed appreciation of the proposed Plan Change 7 provisions. The ECan web-site Q&As provides information on the proposed Plan Change and will be updated in response to questions during the notification period (through to 13 Sep 2019).

Link: <https://www.ecan.govt.nz/get-involved/news-and-events/2019/plan-change-7-and-plan-change-2-what-you-need-to-know/>

Proposed recommendations:

The Zone Committee:

- Clarify what role the committee members can play in engagement, particularly in the areas affected by provisions not previously consulted on during the drafting of the Waimakariri ZIPA.

- Receive a briefing on aspects of the proposed Plan Change 7 that members request further information on.

4) Zone Committee structure and function

Background

- With the focus for WWZC shifting from the development of the ZIPA recommendations to implementation committee members have a number of ideas about how the committee might function in the future but recognise this may be limited by the CWMS Terms of Reference (TOR) for zone committees (as attached - see agenda item 7-1).
- The focus on implementation of the non-regulatory recommendations in the ZIPA requires a review of zone committee's role as a joint committee of ECan and WDC.
- There is support for having co-chairs and topic "champions" to spread the workload and reflect the diverse strengths and interests of members.
- Given recent issues raised around zone committee member's conflict of interest, the committee need guidance on any implications for the WWZC.

Proposed Recommendations

The Zone Committee:

- Clarifies their understanding of the Terms of Reference for Zone Committees in the light of changed focus on implementation, with Plan Change 7 now being notified.
- Agree to the committee's appointed office holders working with the committee members to identify priority and aligned committee champions where appropriate to do so.

Waimakariri Zone Water Management Committee

Terms of Reference

The area of the Waimakariri 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 Waimakariri 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 Waimakariri; 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 Waimakariri 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 Waimakariri Implementation Programme.
- 5) Consult with other Zone Water Management Committees throughout the development and implementation of the Waimakariri Implementation Programme on matters impacting on other zone areas.
- 6) Engage with relevant stakeholders throughout the development of the Waimakariri Implementation Programme.
- 7) Recommend the Waimakariri 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, Waimakariri District Council, and other agencies in relation to the implementation of the Waimakariri Implementation Programme.
- 10) Provide Environment Canterbury and Waimakariri 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) Two members from Tūāhuriri Runanga;
- 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 Waimakariri District Council will appoint their own representatives on the Committee. Tūāhuriri Rūnanga will nominate their representatives and the appointments will be confirmed by Environment Canterbury and Waimakariri 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 Waimakariri Zone Committee will be made to Environment Canterbury and Waimakariri District Council by a working group of representatives from Environment Canterbury, Waimakariri District Council and Tūāhuriri Runanga. The recommendations will take into account the balance of interests required for Waimakariri, geographic spread of members and the ability of the applicants to work in a collaborative, consensus-seeking manner. Environment Canterbury and Waimakariri District 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 are 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 by staff from the Territorial Councils and Environment Canterbury, primarily through the Committee Secretary and the Zone Facilitator.

Map showing Waimakariri Water Management

