

Kia ora

I am writing to provide you with an update on the most recent efforts that we have taken to further involve our key stakeholders and provide visibility around our recently updated wetlands map layer. We are also asking for your help to share this information with your networks.

For background, as at 18 September, we have received just 22 requests for a review of (or deletion from) the layer. Despite this relatively small number, we are committed to ensuring that information about the layer is as clear and transparent as possible.

Among other things, over the past month or so we have made changes to the map layer itself to ensure that:

- the difference between wetlands that have been aerially identified and ground surveyed is clear, through the use of annotation, labels and colour
- details on the map legend make the above distinction clear
- these changes are visible regardless of which platform/device you access the information from.

We have also created an [entirely new web page](#) which includes:

- several new FAQs on (i) access to funding assistance, and (ii) the interaction with a confirmed wetland and an FEP
- new information from our two factsheets – one on the mapping and the process to have a mapped wetland reviewed, and one on how the presence of a wetland may impact on the consenting process (more on which below)
- links to external sources of information
- links to related, ECan-created wetland information.

The factsheets (links below) are designed to provide clear information on the wetlands layer and the way in which landowners can query the presence of a potential wetland, and if it is confirmed, what implications it might then have. We would be grateful if you could share these factsheets, and web page, with your networks, to ensure the greatest possible dissemination of accurate and up-to-date information.

- [Facts and mapping](#)

- [Consenting process](#)

One thing to note is the recent release of the Government's Action for Healthy Waterways discussion documents. While still only proposed, it would be disingenuous not to identify that this may require us to map wetlands in order to protect and appropriately manage them.

Our overarching aim is to continue working with (i) stakeholder organisations to ensure our message is appropriate and reaches the widest range of people possible, and (ii) individual landowners concerned about the possible presence of a wetland on their land to gain clarification and guidance. This programme of concerted engagement will continue, to ensure that the precious wetlands of Canterbury continue to be protected and better understood.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Ngā mihi  
Nadeine Dommissie  
Chief Operating Officer