AGENDA

Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting Monday, 12 April 2021

Date Monday, 12 April 2021

Time 9.30am

Location Meeting Room 1, Council Building, King George

Place, Timaru

File Reference 1415250

Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee will be held in Meeting Room 1, Council Building, King George Place, Timaru, on Monday 12 April 2021, at 9.30am.

Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Members

Lucy Millar (Chairperson), Phil Driver (Deputy Chairperson), Suzanne Eddington, John Henry, Cr Anne Munro, Cr Elizabeth McKenzie, Luke Reihana, Glen Smith, Cr Barbara Gilchrist, Cr Tom O'Connor and Nigel Bowen

Quorum – no less than 7 members

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- 1 Opening Karakia
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Public Forum
- 4 Identification of Items of Urgent Business
- 5 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature
- 6 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest
- 7 Chairperson's Report

8 Confirmation of Minutes

8.1 Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 7
December 2020

Author: Joanne Brownie, Governance Support Officer

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 7 December 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Attachments

1. Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 7 December 2020

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MINUTES

Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting Monday, 7 December 2020

Minutes of Timaru District Council Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting Held in the Council Chamber, Council Building, King George Place, Timaru on Monday, 7 December 2020 at 9.30am

Present: Lucy Millar (Chairperson), Phil Driver (Deputy Chairperson), Suzanne Eddington,

Cr Anne Munro, Cr Elizabeth McKenzie, Luke Reihana, Glen Smith, Cr Tom

O'Connor

In Attendance: Bailey Lissington, Janine Roux (Facilitator), Lesley Woudberg (Team Leader

Zone Facilitator), Brad Waldon-Gibbons (Tangata Whenua Facilitator), Shirley Hayward (Senior Water Quality Scientist), Chris Eccleston (ECan Southern Zone Manager), Kate Doran (ECan), Kerry Stevens (Territorial Local Authorities Regional Committee Representative), John Benn (Department of

Conservation), John De Witt (public)

1 Opening Karakia

The meeting opened with a karakia from Luke Reihana.

2 Apologies

Resolution 2020/22

Moved: Cr Tom O'Connor Seconded: Cr Anne Munro

That the apologies received from Cr Gilchrist and John Henry be accepted, and leave of absence

granted.

Carried

3 Public Forum

Canterbury Regional Water Committee Structure Review

Kerry Stevens, local district councils' representative on the CWMS Regional Committee, brought to OTOP's attention, the current review of the structure of the Regional Committee. The issue will be considered at the Regional Committee meeting on 8 December and by Environment Canterbury on 10 December. The proposal is to reduce the size of the Committee by removing local authority and zone committee representation, ie all regional representation. Kerry Stevens sought feedback from the OTOP Committee on that proposal. He has also sought feedback from the Mayors of Timaru, Waitaki, Mackenzie and Waimate District Councils. The Regional Committee would then comprise an independent chairperson, community representatives (with relevant knowledge and expertise), runanga representatives, District Health Board representative and an ECan councillor. Part of the reason for the proposed change is to place more emphasis on an independent regional committee which could hold ECan to account.

OTOP members felt that the current large membership of 30 is unwieldy but if there is no territorial local authority representation, there would need to be improved communication to the zone committees. Communication could be provided by zone committee chairpersons regularly meeting prior to the regional committee meetings and the chairperson of that group being on the Regional Committee.

It was agreed that the OTOP chairperson write a letter to the CWMS Regional Committee representing the committee's views, with a copy to OTOP members for information.

The role of monitoring the CWMS programme was also raised but it was pointed out that while monitoring is crucial, it is a separate issue to the size and representation on the Regional Committee.

Stokell's Smelt

John De Witt expressed concern at the serious decline in Stokell's Smelt in Canterbury rivers and what that decline may indicate about the health of the ecosystem in the rivers and possible links to irrigation and reduction in flushing flows. He referred to Dr Trolove's research on this and suggested more monitoring should be carried out.

Shirley Hayward, ECan Senior Water Quality Scientist, informed the meeting that ECan is undertaking a study, based around the concerns from fishermen and people near the hapua, about the decline in this fish community. There is some historic data and there will be an attempt to replicate that. The study will look at what has changed and what the drivers to that change are. Staff are involved in a collaborative process with iwi, Fish and Game and other relevant agencies. The first sweep of the fish survey has been done, then a follow up study will be undertaken in late summer. It could be some time before the data is then analysed and the results known.

4 Identification of Items of Urgent Business

The Committee agreed to discuss Phil Driver's paper on the possibility of revisiting those elements of the ZIPA that previously were not unanimously agreed, in particular flows and allocations.

5 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature

There were no minor nature items.

6 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

There were no additional conflicts of interest declared.

7 Chairperson's Report

The Chairperson gave a brief report on the progress with the combined catchment groups incorporated society.

8 Confirmation of Minutes

8.1 Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 7 September 2020

Resolution 2020/23

Moved: Anne Munro Seconded: Tom O'Connor

That the Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 7 September 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Carried

8.2 Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 2 November 2020

Resolution 2020/24

Moved: Suzanne Eddington

Seconded: Glen Smith

That the Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 2 November 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Carried

9 Reports

9.1 Updates for Committee

Committee members updated the meeting on activities they have been involved in over the last month that contribute to the implementation of the CWMS in the OTOP zone, including —

- Biodiversity champions Cr Gilchrist is the biodiversity champion for Timaru District Council, Cr Munro is the Mackenzie District Council biodiversity champion and Cr Fabia Fox is the Waimate District Council biodiversity champion.
- Slow Water Phil Driver is drafting a paper soon on this.
- Biosecurity work is continuing on a strategy for wallaby control.
- Fresh Water information is being collated and discussions are taking place with District Health Boards.

9.2 Swimming Water Quality Update

The Committee considered more detailed information from the summary report on Canterbury water quality monitoring for primary contact recreation, following consideration of an initial report from Senior Water Quality Scientist Shirley Hayward, at the OTOP meeting on 2 November 2020.

Shirley highlighted aspects of the report and answered questions including the drivers for cyanobacteria.

A request was made for the Pareora Catchment Group to be advised (via Cr Tom O'Connor) when monitoring on the Pareora is being carried out.

The Committee agreed to ask ECan to review Recommendation 4.8.4 in the OTOP ZIPA to continue to support resources being applied to ongoing research on cyanobacteria.

4.8.4 Recommendation: Phormidium

- i. Environmental flow regimes, including those that are managed, will consider the potential impact on Phormidium blooms.
- ii. Regional council completes further locally relevant research on Phormidium controls for future decision.

Recommendation

That Recommendation 4.8.4 of the OTOP Zone Implementation Programme Addendum around water quality in terms of swimmable rivers be checked and OTOP continues to support resources being applied to cyanobacteria research and monitoring.

9.3 Water Management - The Changing Context

The Committee considered a report by the Team Leader Zone Facilitator informing the Committee of the changes to water management that are underway across New Zealand, Canterbury and the OTOP zone so that members can help their community navigate what is going to be a complex and uncertain environment for the next couple of years.

The Committee agreed that it would be useful to promote the role of Land Management Advisors, the work they do and the assistance they can provide to farmers, catchment groups, and other groups.

9.4 Facilitator's Update

The Facilitator presented an update on actions from previous OTOP meetings, covering Waitarakao/Washdyke stormwater, Immediate Steps projects, Pareora Catchment and the role and purpose of the committee going forward.

Revised Terms of Reference for Zone Committees have been confirmed by the Mayors and are going to the Regional Council later this week.

The Zone Committee refresh process commences in March 2021, later than usual due to the Terms of Reference still to be confirmed.

In regard to the Immediate Steps process, the Ohapi Creek and Spider Lagoon projects have been referred to the runanga for review, no response has been received as yet, but this will be followed up.

The Committee noted the information on the sprays to be used on the various IMS projects.

Resolution 2020/25

Moved: Phil Driver Seconded: Lucy Millar That the Facilitator's report be received and noted, and the Committee accepts ECan's advice that the sprays indicated are the best options to apply in these Immediate Steps projects.

Carried

10 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

Flow and Allocation

There was discussion around potential conflicts of interest in respect of flows and allocations, with differing viewpoints expressed.

While not declaring an interest, the Chairperson opted to step back from the table. A discussion ensued on whether the OTOP Committee should revisit flows and allocations in the zone. Some Committee members are aware of concerns raised in the community around flow and allocation and in response to these concerns, there was some suggestion that the Committee should revisit the ZIPA.

Phil Driver presented his paper referring to aspects of the ZIPA that were not unanimously agreed on, and felt the ZIPA should be updated regularly, especially on flow and allocation.

It was suggested that the Committee awaits the outcome of Plan Change 7, although there was some suggestion that the PC 7 process does not prevent the Committee from working on the ZIPA as it has value in its own right.

As a way forward, it was proposed that the Committee discusses flow and allocation at the first meeting in 2021 where a full complement of the refreshed Committee is present. At this point the Terms of Reference will be available and the Committee will have some understanding of its direction.

Motion

Resolution 2020/26

Moved: Elizabeth McKenzie Seconded: Tom O'Connor

That the Committee discusses flows and allocations at the first meeting in 2021 where there is a full complement of the refreshed Committee.

Carried

Lucy Millar resumed the chair.

11 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

There were no minor nature items to consider.

12 Closure Karakia

The Meeting closed at 11.15am with a karakia from Luke Reihana.

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<insert chairperson="" name<="" th=""></insert>
Chairpersor

9 Reports

9.1 Private Drinking Water Supplies

Author: Lucy Millar, Chairperson

Recommendation

- 1. That the report be received.
- 2. That the following resolution of the minutes of the OTOP Committee meeting of 2 November 2020 be **revoked** –

The OTOP Zone Committee receives the report from and:

- 1. **Agreed** to develop an awareness raising campaign for domestic drinking water supplies in order to ensure the OTOP community has "safe and reliable drinking water for community and domestic supplies both now and in the future".
 - (ZIPA Community Outcome page 13)
- 2. **Agreed** that phase 1 of the campaign will be to;
 - (a) Disseminate existing information to committee member's networks and catchment groups;
 - (b) Discuss existing information with community members at four farmers markets to determine what they know, what they would like to know and what they see as the barriers to ensuring their drinking water is safe.
- 3. **Agreed** that phase 2 of the campaign will address the information gaps and barriers that have been identified through the discussions at farmers markets. This may include a community meeting with representatives of registered testing laboratories, South Canterbury District Health Board and district and regional council as well as preliminary screening of samples for nitrate levels.
- 4. **Agreed** that phase 3 will evaluate the campaign and decide on what next.
 - 3. That the resolution be **replaced with** –

The OTOP Zone Committee receives the report and:

- 1. Agreed to develop an awareness raising campaign for private drinking water supplies in order to ensure the OTOP community has "safe and reliable drinking water for community and domestic supplies both now and in the future". (ZIPA Community Outcome page 13)
- 2. Agreed that phase 1 of the campaign will be to;
- (a) Disseminate existing information to committee member's networks and catchment groups;
- (b) Discuss existing information with community members at four farmers markets to determine what they know, what they would like to know and what they see as the barriers to ensuring their private drinking water is safe.

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- 3. Agreed that phase 2 of the campaign will address the barriers that have been identified through the discussions at farmers markets. This may include a community meeting with representatives of registered testing laboratories, South Canterbury District Health Board and district and regional council as well as preliminary screening of samples for nitrate levels.
- 4. Agreed that phase 3 will evaluate the campaign and decide on what next.
 - 4. That the Zone Committee determines whether they would like to continue with phase 1 b) Discuss existing information with community members at four farmers markets to determine what they know, what they would like to know and what they see as the barriers to ensuring their private drinking water is safe.
 - 5. That the Zone Committee agrees/disagrees to continue with phase 2.

Purpose of Report

This report is to revisit and, where needed, amend the minutes of item 9.5 of the Zone Committee meeting on Monday, 2 November 2020. This is to clarify whether the focus is on domestic drinking water or specifically private drinking water supplies.

Background

In November 2020 the committee agreed to an awareness raising campaign for drinking water. While the phased campaign proposal was agreed to, further clarification is required to ensure the correct target audience is reached. Domestic drinking water could be District Council and scheme supplied drinking water whereas private drinking water is specific to landowners with private wells.

Discussion

- 3 Collateral has recently been developed by Environment Canterbury's Communications team that can be used to engage with the community. Committee members have received this information and can distribute this information as they see fit. We are now heading into phase1 b) where Committee members agreed to discuss existing information with community members at four farmers markets.
- 4 Details of the relevant minutes from the OTOP meeting held on Monday, 2 November 2020 which were confirmed on Monday, 7 December 2020 are set out below, together with proposed amendments in red -

Item 9.5 Private Drinking Water Supplies - Surface Water, Groundwater and Rainwater

The Committee was provided with a draft campaign proposal to raise awareness among private landowners to regularly test and manage the risks associated their private drinking water supplies.

There are two Zone Committees that are looking at bore water, with the plan being to help people test their own water. This would involve showing how to undertake the test correctly, but also what to test for and to assist with solutions.

Private drinking water is connected to outcomes in the ZIPA, raising awareness for people to think about their own private water supplies, bores and water collection from roofs.

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The intention is to find the right way to get this information out to the target audience, including the possibility of attending several farmers' markets with information.

ECan staff will be running this project and will provide advice, with some support being sought from the OTOP Committee.

The Committee supported and endorsed ECan staff to continue with the planning of phase 1 of this project.

The OTOP Zone Committee receives the report from and:

- 1. Agreed to develop an awareness raising campaign for domestic private drinking water supplies in order to ensure the OTOP community has "safe and reliable drinking water for community and domestic supplies both now and in the future". (ZIPA Community Outcome page 13)
- 2. Agreed that phase 1 of the campaign will be to;
- (a) Disseminate existing information to committee member's networks and catchment groups;
- (b) Discuss existing information with community members at four farmers markets to determine what they know, what they would like to know and what they see as the barriers to ensuring their private drinking water is safe.
- 3. Agreed that phase 2 of the campaign will address the information gaps and barriers that have been identified through the discussions at farmers markets. This may include a community meeting with representatives of registered testing laboratories, South Canterbury District Health Board and district and regional council as well as preliminary screening of samples for nitrate levels.
- 4. Agreed that phase 3 will evaluate the campaign and decide on what next.

Attachments

Nil

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9.2 Flows and Allocation Request

Author: OTOP Committee Members - Phil Driver, Cr McKenzie, Cr O'Connor

Recommendation

- 1. That the Zone Committee ratifies the Flow and Allocation request letter presented.
- 2. That the Committee agrees to send the letter to Environment Canterbury for consideration.

Purpose of Report

A letter to Environment Canterbury has been drafted by Phil Driver, Cr Elizabeth McKenzie, and Cr Tom O'Connor and is attached.

Attachments

1. Request for Review Flow and Allocation Letter

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March 2021

The Chair Canterbury Regional Council

Request for review

The Orari, Temuka, Opihi, Pareora (OTOP) Zone Committee formally request Environment Canterbury undertake an urgent review of flow and allocation regimes for rivers in OTOP catchments.

Our request reflects the growing concern of catchment groups, stakeholder groups and Ngāi Tahu for the health and sustainability of the rivers following a period of unprecedented decline due to climate and land use change.

We believe the review should be undertaken separately from and regardless of the final outcome of proposed Plan Change 7 to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan. Flow and allocation within the proposed plan allows the significant over-allocation of many waterways to continue, some beyond 2035. It also lacks a clear plan for restoring the ecologically healthy flows required for the restoration of mahinga kai and other intrinsic values.

It has been known for some time that many of our mid- and lowland rivers are at crisis point, degraded, depleted and no longer a reliable natural resource able to provide for the cultural and physical wellbeing of our community. The Pareora River in particular has been historically "over-allocated" resulting in a reduction in dilution factors, increasing nutrification, dramatic loss of biodiversity and riverbed, and ongoing damage to mahinga kai. This is particularly distressing for members of Te Arowhenua Rūnanga of Ngai Tahu who have seen traditional resources completely disappear in a few years. The salmonid sports fishery, protected under the Conservation Act (1991), is also severely depleted. The effects of climate change exacerbate the effects of over allocation and the time to act is now.

In 2020, in response to a lack of progress in the development of effective regional water management plans nationwide the Government introduced a National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFM) which provides direction to local authorities on managing freshwater under the Resource Management Act 1991.

The NPSFM requires, among many other things, local government to;

- Give effect to Te Mana o te Wai
- Work with tangata whenua and communities to set out long-term visions in the regional policy statement
- Prioritise the health and wellbeing of water bodies, then the essential needs of people, followed by other uses.
- Improve degraded water bodies, and maintain or improve all others using bottom lines defined in the Freshwater NPS.
- Give compulsory values to threatened species and mahinga kai and joint ecosystem health and human health for recreation.
- Develop plan objectives that describe the environmental outcome sought for all values, including an objective for each of the five individual components of ecosystem health.
- Develop new attributes, aimed specifically at providing for ecosystem health, include fish index of biotic integrity (IBI), sediment, macroinvertebrates (MCI and QMCI), dissolved oxygen, ecosystem metabolism and submerged plants in lakes
- Develop action plans and/or set limits on resource use to achieve these attributes.

- Apply tougher national bottom lines for the ammonia and nitrate toxicity attributes to protect 95% of species from toxic effects (up from 80%)
- Avoid any further loss or degradation of wetlands and streams, map existing wetlands and encourage their restoration.
- Identify and work towards target outcomes for fish abundance, diversity and passage and address in-stream barriers to fish passage over time.
- Set an aquatic life objective for fish and address in-stream barriers to fish passage over time.
- Monitor and report annually on freshwater (including the data used); publish a synthesis report every five years containing a single ecosystem health score and respond to any deterioration.

The current Environment Canterbury (ECan) flow and allocation regime makes the implementation of the Freshwater NPS requirements impossible and proposed Plan Change 7 does not provide solutions.

We note also that this issue has been recognised by some ECan councillors for some time with Councillor Lan Pham writing in the Institute for Governance and Policy Studies publication *Policy Quarterly* of August 2019;

"The Canterbury Water Management Strategy as currently implemented is a continuation of the thinking that business as usual will somehow deliver us different environmental outcomes. No matter what our 'opinion', we will eventually find that the environment cannot and will not 'compromise' on its ecological limits. In my view, the ecological/environmental targets need to be prioritised above all others, with all other targets only pursued in a manner that is consistent with the overarching ecological realities.

The collaborative water management strategy process has shown that even if shared values and sentiment exist, they do not in themselves equate to environmental improvement. We need a rethink of

society's long-held view that we can 'balance' the environment with the economy and move instead toward a recognition that economic sustainability implicitly requires environmental sustainability at its core. In the context of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy, this means placing greater resourcing and focus on the priority areas of environment, customary use and drinking water and taking seriously, and urgently responding to, the climate and ecological alarm bells that our scientific community and the public are sounding".

We concur.

For and on behalf of the Orari, Temuka, Opihi, Pareora Zone Committee

Lucy Millar, Chair

c.c. Canterbury Mayoral Forum

9.3 Facilitator's Report

Author: Janine Roux, Facilitator

Recommendation

That the report be received and noted.

Purpose of Report

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

2 CWMS Zone Committee Review

The Mayoral Forum confirmed the zone committee review approach, including a revised Terms of Reference, the introduction of the Letter of Shared Priorities and Zone Committee Action Plans for zone committees (27 November 2020). Following this, the Regional Council confirmed the revised Terms of Reference at its 10 December meeting. Attached is Regional Council Paper including the revised Terms of Reference for information.

With zone committees being joint committees of councils, a significant next step will be scheduling a similar confirmation process for all Territorial Authorities associated with the CWMS in the first half of the year.

3 Zone Committee Community members refresh process

Applications will open mid-April and close mid-May. The induction process will commence in June. Community representatives will be appointed by a panel of CWMS partners — a Councillor from each council and a representative from each rūnanga whose takiwā is within the zone. The panel will be chaired by the Independent Chair. Phil Driver and Glen Smith are up for refresh this year along with two vacant seats.

4 Environment Canterbury decision on the CWMS Regional Committee review

The decision of the Council on the CWMS Regional Committee review is set out below:

- Retain the function (monitoring progress and providing advice) of the Regional Committee (minor amendments)
- Retain the Regional Committee as a committee of council
- Reduce the size of the committee by removing zone committee and territorial authority representatives and reducing representation of Environment Canterbury to one councillor.
- Invite a District Health Board representative to join the committee as a member

As noted in the 10 December Council paper, Council recognise the need for continued engagement across zone committees and will look to facilitate more regular Chairs/Deputy Chairs meetings and encourage bilateral committee workshops, meetings, and field trips. Council have also scheduled more regular governance to governance meetings with territorial

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authorities around the region and will look to make the most of the various forums now established under the Mayoral Forum.

The first of the Chairs and Deputy Chairs meeting is being held on 9 April 2021.

5 Zone Committee honorarium breakdown from Environment Canterbury

Zones	Community members	Chair	Deputy Chair	Total	Total Hon	Estimated mileage	Ecan Contribution	TA Contribution
Orari- Temuka- Opihi- Pareora	7 (\$4000 p/p)	1 (\$6000)	1 (\$5000)	9	\$39,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	50% of total Hon	Shared Timaru, Waimate and Mackenzie

6 Updated Action List

The Action List below updates the committee on progress on items identified at previous zone committee meetings in 2020 and 2021.

OTOP Zone Committee – April 2021 Action list

Date of meeting	Action	Who	Status
1 March 2021	Request the current financial commitment available to Zone Committee from Territorial Authorities and Environment Canterbury	Barbara, Janine and Tom	Environment Canterbury's contribution included in facilitators report.
1 March 2021	Draft a discussion document, rationale and letter to Environment Canterbury for them to review the river flows and allocations	Liz, Phil and Tom	Draft letter circulated asking for committee members to feedback.
1 March 2021	Discuss and consult with Runanga representative on 'past, present and future' event series could look like	Lucy, Barb and Glen	
7 Dec 2020	Circulate Canterbury water quality monitoring for primary contact recreation	Shirley Hayward / Zone Facilitator	Completed
7 Dec 2020	Write a letter to the CWMS Regional Committee describing the Zone Committee's views on the reduced regional representation being proposed.	Zone Chair / Zone Facilitator	Completed

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7 Dec 2020	Draft paper on the concept of 'Slow Water' to be considered by committee	Phil Driver	Completed
7 Dec 2020	Recommend Environment Canterbury review Recommendation 4.8.4 of the OTOP Zone Implementation Programme Addendum to continue to support resources being applied to ongoing research on cyanobacteria.	Zone Committee	
7 Dec 2020	Recommend Environment Canterbury promote the role of Land Management Advisors in the zone.	Zone Committee	
7 Dec 2020	Discuss whether to revisit flows and allocations in Zone Implementation Programme Addendum.	Zone Committee	On hold until refresh process has been completed and Committee has its full complement of members.

Attachments

1. CWMS Revised Terms of Reference Paper U

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Zone Committee Revised Terms of Reference

Date of meeting	10 December 2020
Author	Lesley Woudberg
Responsible Director	Tim Davie

Purpose

- To provide the timeline for confirmation and implementation of changes to the role and function of zone committees designed to support the implementation of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy.
- 2. To provide the final draft of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy's zone committee's Terms of Reference to the Regional Council for confirmation.
- 3. To provide a summary of the priorities identified by councils in their Letter of Shared Priorities to zone committees.
- To provide an outline of the next steps to communicate the outcome of the review to committees and local communities, refresh community membership and develop zone committee action plans.

Recommendations

That the Council:

- **1. Notes** the timeline for confirmation and implementation of changes to the role and function of zone committees.
- 2. **Confirms** the Canterbury Water Management Strategy's zone committees Terms of Reference.
- **3. Notes** the summary of priorities identified by councils in their Letter of Shared Priorities to zone committees.
- **4. Notes** the next steps to communicate outcomes of the review and begin a process to refresh community members.

Key points

- 5. The Mayoral Forum, in 2019, affirmed the Canterbury Water Management Strategy and zone committees, and requested Environment Canterbury to lead the development of advice on how to help zone committees' transition from a focus on policy and planning to one of implementation.
- 6. A new Terms of Reference is now finalised and ready to be confirmed by the Regional Council. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum confirmed the revised Terms of Reference and the introduction of the Letter of Shared Priorities and Zone Committee Action Plans for the Canterbury Water Management Strategy zone committees at their meeting 27 November 2020.
- 7. Once confirmed by the Regional Council, we will advise territorial authorities and suggest that they follow a similar confirmation process.
- 8. For three zone committees; Christchurch West Melton, Banks Peninsula and Selwyn Waihora, Christchurch City Council has requested their Terms of Reference be amended to enable an alternate for the Council's representative if/when the nominated representative is unavailable.
- 9. Hurunui District Council are continuing to explore options for a new joint committee focused on water and land in the Hurunui district.
- 10. As at 23 November, six territorial authorities had drafted and/or confirmed their Letter of Shared Priorities. The remaining councils are part-way through their council discussions, and we hope to receive the final versions by the end of the year.
- 11. Rūnanga are invited to add their priorities to the Letter if they wish to do so.
- 12. Once the Terms of Reference have been confirmed and Letters of Shared Priorities completed, the process to refresh community members will begin (1st March 2020) and committees will prepare their Action Plans.

Background

- 13. As part of the Fit for Future project (populating the CWMS with 2025 and 2030 targets) the Mayoral Forum reaffirmed their support for zone committees and then asked Environment Canterbury to lead further advice on how to help zone committees focus more on implementation.
- 14. Since their establishment, zone committees have played a lead role in their communities to advance recommendations that sub-regional sections of the *Land and Water Regional Plan* have been based.
- 15. The proposed changes to the Terms of Reference for zone committees aims to provide committees with clarity on their purpose (uphold the mana of freshwater bodies within their zone by facilitating enduring land and water management solutions that give effect to the Canterbury Water Management vision, principles and targets in their zone) and to shift their focus to implementation.

- 16. The new functions of zone committees are to;
 - Facilitate community engagement and collaboration continuing an active programme of engaging with communities on freshwater management matters; and
 - Facilitate the provision of advice through to councils (relevant Territorial Authorities and Environment Canterbury) and others (eg. private sector) contributing to freshwater management; and
 - Enhance delivery capability and coalition of the willing working with stakeholders across all sectors to extend the resources available to implement the CWMS, including connecting others to additional resources and seeking opportunities to promote, support, leverage and expand catchment-based initiatives that deliver the CWMS; and
 - **Provide progress reports** annual progress reporting to Councils and Rūnanga on progress towards delivery of the zone-specific priorities and CWMS target areas identified in the Zone Committee Action Plan.
- 17. The intention is to have a generic Terms of Reference that apply across the Canterbury region. For three zone committees, Christchurch West Melton, Banks Peninsula and Selwyn Waihora, Christchurch City Council has requested their Terms of Reference be amended to enable an alternate for the Council's representative if/when the nominated representative is unavailable. Hurunui District Council are continuing to explore options for a new joint committee focused on water and land in the Hurunui district.
- 18. A new tri-annual joint letter of shared priorities from councils, and Rūnanga who choose to do so, has been introduced as a way for the Canterbury Water Management Strategy partners to clarify their priorities and expectations of zone committees.
- 19. Zone committee Action Plans are another new mechanism that has been introduced to help committees focus on the actions they can take. When developing Action Plans zone committees are to work within their Terms of Reference, the CWMS and Targets and the Letter of Shared Priorities, and to be guided by Iwi Management Plans, Zone Implementation Plans and their Addendums and community engagement and feedback.
- 20. Committees will report, at least annually, to councils on the progress and actions they have taken to implement their Action Plan.
- 21. The timeline to confirm the Terms of Reference and Letters of Shared Priorities, refresh the community members and prepare Action plans is set out in Table 1.

Table 1. Timetable to finalise and implement the outcomes of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy zone committee review

Timeline & Anticipated Actions

Terms of Reference

27 November 2020

Canterbury Mayoral Forum

Confirmed of the revised Terms of Reference, introduction of the Letter of Shared Priorities and Zone Committee Action Plans for the Canterbury Water Management Strategy zone committees

10 December 2020

Environment Canterbury

Confirmation of the revised Terms of Reference

February – March 2020

Territorial Authorities

Confirmation of the revised Terms of Reference for their zone committees

Letter of Shared Priorities

10 December 2020

• Environment Canterbury

Notes the priorities set out in the Letters of Shared priorities

December 2020 - February 2021

Territorial Authorities

Confirmation of priorities and Letter of Shared Priorities signed and shared

Refresh Community Members

1 March 2021 - Applications open

25 March 2021 - Applications close

5-9 April 2021 – Selection workshops

12 April 2021 - Decisions

May - June 2021 – Formal appointments made by Environment Canterbury and Territorial Authorities

Zone Committee Action Plans

March – April 2021

Proposed New Zone Committee Terms of Reference

22. Appendix 1. sets out the new generic Terms of Reference.

New Letter of Shared Priorities

- 23. The Letter of Shared Priorities aims to provide committees with specific regional and zone priorities that councils and Rūnanga wish to progress and would welcome opportunities to work in concert with zone committees. The Letter of Shared Priorities provide short-term (3 year), challenging but achievable goals, to help guide a zone committee's Action Plan.
- 24. Rūnanga are invited to add their priorities to the Letter if they wish to do so.
- 25. The Letter is a more dynamic mechanism than the Terms of Reference and can respond to specific circumstances within a zone (e.g. recognise Co-Governance in Selwyn Waihora zone and Mackenzie Alignment in Upper Waitaki zone) and be amended and changed if councils and Rūnanga covering the zone agree.
- 26. A summary the priorities contained in the Letter of Shared Priorities is contained in Appendix 2.

Cost, compliance and communication

Financial implications

- 27. Until zone committees develop their Action Plans it is difficult to quantify the costs of this shift in focus toward implementation. Each zone committee will be different.
- 28. Some additional costs across all zone committees will include: honoraria for youth members; independent chair to run the community member refresh process; induction and training of all members including Treaty of Waitangi training and noho marae experience. Operating budgets for zone committees will fund these aspects.

Risk assessment and legal compliance

29. There will be significant uncertainty over the next few years for local communities and councils as a number of nationally led initiatives, such as the Essential Freshwater package, Three Waters Reform, the Draft National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity and responses to the Randerson Report are progressed. The recent court action taken by Ngāi Tahu seeking a declaration of their rangatiratanga over freshwater in their takiwā is another significant initiative currently underway. Zone committees' actions and work programmes will need to evolve as understanding of the implications of each of these initiatives becomes clearer.

Significance and engagement

- 30. Engagement discussions on the review of the zone committees Terms of Reference included hui in February 2020 with the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Rūnanga representatives. The initial proposed changes to the Terms of Reference were tested and refined with Environment Canterbury councillors. Since then, feedback has also been received through Te Paiherenga (July and September) and Te Rōpū Tuia (June and September) hui.
- 31. The proposed changes to the Terms of Reference, the introduction of a Letters of Shared Priorities and zone committee Action Plans have been discussed with territorial authorities, zone committees and the Mayoral Forum.

Climate Change Impacts

32. The Canterbury Water Management Strategy and its effective implementation is one of the adaptation strategies Canterbury has in place to respond to climate change and support community resilience.

Communication

- 33. A communication plan has been prepared. The plan covers three phases.
 - a. Phase 1. Before Christmas
 Communicate Environment Canterbury's 10 December decisions to those affected zone committees, councils and Rūnanga
 - b. Phase 2. January March 2021
 Communicate changes to the wider community and recruit new members
 - c. Phase 3. March May 2021 Induction of new committee members, preparation and implementation of Action Plans, progress reporting to councils.

Next steps

34. December 2020 - Finalise Letter of Shared Priorities

February - March 2021 - Territorial Authorities confirm the Terms of Reference

February - May 2021 - Zone Committees present their 2020 Annual Reports to councils

12 March 2021 - Chairs and Deputy Chairs meeting

March - May 2021- Community members refreshed, and appointments made by councils

March - April 2021- Prepare and implement Action Plans

Appendix 1.

Confirmed by Canterbury Regional Council (10 December 2020) **Zone Committee's Terms of Reference**

Yellow = details that vary for each zone

Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS)
 xx Water Management Zone Committee

 Terms of Reference

AREA

- The area of the xxx Water Management Zone is shown on the attached map.
- The xxx Water Management zone includes the takiwā of xx Rūnanga and xx Rūnanga and the administrative areas of xx District Council, xx District Council and Environment Canterbury.

BACKGROUND

• The committee is an expression of the partnership between xxx District Council, xxx District Council, Environment Canterbury (the Regional Council), Rūnanga and local communities to implement the Canterbury Water Management Strategy.

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 xx District Council, xx District Council and xx District Council (the Territorial Authorities) and Environment Canterbury (the Regional Council).

• Relevant Territorial Authority Standing Orders apply to the operation of the committee. This includes requirement to make a declaration of conflict of interest, keeping a register of interests and guidance on attendance and absences at meetings.

The committee will work as a committee and as individual members in accordance with Canterbury Water Management Strategy Zone Committee Code of Conduct.

PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS

The Committee's purpose is to uphold the mana of the freshwater bodies within their zone by facilitating enduring land and water management solutions that give effect to the Canterbury Water Management Strategy vision, principles and targets in their zone.

• The committee functions include:

- Facilitating community engagement and collaboration continuing an active programme of engaging with communities on freshwater management matters;
 and
- **b. Facilitating the provision of advice** through to councils (relevant Territorial Authorities and Environment Canterbury) and others (eg. private sector) contributing to freshwater management; and
- c. Enhancing delivery capability and coalition of the willing working with stakeholders across all sectors to extend the resources available to implement the CWMS, including connecting others to additional resources and seeking opportunities to promote, support, leverage and expand catchment-based initiatives that deliver the CWMS; and
- **d. Progress Reporting** annual progress reporting to CWMS partners on progress towards delivery of the zone-specific priorities and CWMS target areas identified in the Zone Committee Action Plan.

ZONE COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN AND PROGRESS REPORT

- 1. Ensure the purpose and functions of the committee are fulfilled by preparing a Zone Committee Action Plan that;
 - a. Covers a three-year period
 - b. Focuses on three five priorities
 - c. States objectives that the zone committee is seeking to achieve
 - d. States the actions that the zone committee will take to achieve the objective
 - e. States SMART measures to track actions and outcomes.
- 2. Review and amend the Zone Committee Action Plan at the beginning of every year to ensure the zone committee is still in agreement with the priority areas and the actions are still those the zone committee believes will achieve their objectives.
- 3. Prepare a Progress Report annually that;
 - a. Highlights the actions of the zone committee and the progress it has made toward its objectives.

- b. Identifies the challenges and opportunities the zone committee see in the coming year.
- c. Present the report to CWMS partners.
- 4. In developing the Zone Committee Action Plan, the committee must work within and be aligned to the;
 - a. Zone Committee Terms of Reference
 - b. Canterbury Water Management Strategy and Targets
- 5. In developing the Zone Committee Action Plan, the committee will also be guided by;
 - a. Committee's Zone Implementation Programme and Zone Implementation Programme Addendum
 - b. Iwi management plans that cover the zone
 - c. Community engagement and feedback
 - d. The triennial 'letter of shared priorities' providing joint direction on priorities for the zone committee from the relevant Territorial Authorities, Environment Canterbury and Rūnanga.

LIMITATIONS OF POWER

- The Committee does not have the authority to commit any Council to any path or expenditure and its recommendations do not compromise the Council's freedom to deliberate and make decisions.
- The Committee does not have the authority to submit on proposed Resource Management or Local Government Plans.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

- The committee will comprise:
 - One elected member appointed by each Territorial Authority operating within the Zone Boundary
 - 2. One elected member appointed by Environment Canterbury
 - 3. One or two Rūnanga nominated representatives from xx Rūnanga and xx Rūnanga whose rohe covers the zone, with provision for an alternate Rūnanga

member to attend zone committee meetings where desired

- 4. Between 4-7 community members with provision that this number may be exceeded if each Territorial Authority and Environment Canterbury operating within the zone boundary agree. Community members are to be appointed in accordance with the process below.
- 5. One youth representative may be added to committee (in addition to the 4-7 community members) on recommendation of the zone committee on a case-by-case basis.
- 6. Where a youth representative is recommended expressions of interest will be drawn from Environment Canterbury's Youth Rōpū, Territorial Authorities Youth Councils and Rūnanga and confirmed by XX District Council, xx District Council and Environment Canterbury.
- 7. XX District Council, xx District Council and Environment Canterbury, will appoint their own representatives on the Committee. Rūnanga will appoint their representatives and notify xx District Council, xx District Council and Environment Canterbury.
- 8. Proxies or alternates are not permitted except for Rūnanga representatives.
- 9. Any Committee may co-opt such other expert or advisory members as it deems necessary to ensure it's able to achieve it purpose. Any such co-option will be on a non-voting basis.

• SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS

- Community representatives are appointed by a panel of CWMS partners a councillor from each council and a Rūnanga representative from each Rūnanga whose takiwā is within the zone. The panel will be chaired by the Independent Chair.
- To be eligible for appointment to a Committee the candidate must live in or be able to demonstrate a significant relationship with the zone.
- The process involves:
 - 1. A public call for expressions of interest.
 - 2. Application
 - 3. Interview and/or workshop
- Assessment will be based on the:

- Ability of an applicant to:
 - o Work in a collaborative, consensus seeking manner
 - o Work with local Rūnanga
 - o Establish effective partnerships
 - o Understand the complexity of freshwater management issues
 - o Focus on solutions and actions, considering future generations
 - o Understand the CWMS, the vision, principles and ways of working
 - o Demonstrate
 - Commitment to community
 - Existing community networks
 - Previous experience in a leadership role
 - Experience working with community processes and/or groups
 - Initiate and inspire local action
- The Committee's
 - o Geographic spread of members across the zone
 - o Balance of backgrounds, experience and interests
- The selection process above will be primarily focused on appointment of community members to zone committee and may also serve to identify potential future appointees should a community member vacancy arise.

QUORUM

- The quorum at a meeting consists of;
 - Half of the members if the number of members (including vacancies) is even; or
 - A majority of members if the number of members (including vacancies) is odd.

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, which may be extended on a case-by-case basis if each Territorial Authority operating within the zone boundary and Environment Canterbury agree.
- Youth members will initially be appointed for a term of one year, with the option to extend their term up to three years subject to availability.
- Each Committee requires confirmation of membership by each Territorial Authority operating within the zone boundary and Environment Canterbury.
- Committee membership refresh will not occur within four months of Local Government elections.
- There is no limit on the number of consecutive terms a member may serve.

FINANCIAL DELEGATIONS

None

OPERATING PHILOSOPHY

- The Committee will always operate in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and Standing Orders of Territorial Authorities.
- The Committee will observe the following principles:
 - 1. Be culturally sensitive observing Ngāi Tahu tikanga;
 - 2. Apply a Ki Uta Ki Tai (from the mountains to the sea) holistic approach that also enables cultural elements including mahinga kai philosophies held by mana whenua to be encompassed;
 - 3. Consider and balance the interests of all water interests in the region in debate and decision making;
 - 4. Work in a collaborative solution-focused approach using best endeavours to reach solutions that take account of interests of all sectors of the community;
 - 5. Contribute knowledge and perspectives but not promote the views or positions of any interest or stakeholder group;

- 6. Promote a philosophy of integrated water management to achieve multiple objectives of the range of interests in water; and
- 7. Seek consensus in decision-making. If neither unanimous agreement can 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 respective Councils disband them and appoint a new Committee.

MEETING AND REMUNERATION GUIDELINES

- 1. The Committee will formally meet at least four times per annum and will hold workshops and host additional community engagement opportunities as required throughout the year. At times, the workload will be substantially higher.
- 2. 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

- 3. An expert or adviser who has been co-opted on to the committee is eligible for an honorarium at the same rate as an appointed member.
- 4. Staff or elected members of Territorial Authorities or Environment Canterbury are not be eligible for remuneration.
- 5. Mileage will be reimbursed.

COMMITTEE SUPPORT

• The committee shall be supported by staff from the Territorial Authority and Environment Canterbury, primarily through the Committee Secretary and the Zone Facilitator and senior staff member from relevant Territorial Authority and Zone Manager/Lead from Environment Canterbury.

Appendix 2.

Summary of Priorities contained in the Letter of Shared Priorities

- KAIKOURA DISTRICT COUNCIL (DRAFT)
- Kaikoura zone
 - Ecosystem Health & Biodiversity in particular
 - Progress improvements to stormwater and wastewater infrastructure to reduce ecological damage to lowland streams from sediment and contaminants, and fulfil requirements to obtain and comply with stormwater consents for townships by 2025.
 - Review the state and operation of the district's wastewater treatment plant infrastructure to address and reduce potential impacts on the district's highly valued rivers.
 - Continue regular community education/ behaviour change campaigns on stormwater issues and management.

Protecting biodiversity in our District by:

- Implementing a system to protect SNAs and maintain indigenous vegetation and work with Environment Canterbury to develop a biodiversity monitoring strategy
- ii. Review vegetation clearance rules as part of District Plan review
- iii. Continue to identify and map SNA sites throughout district for inclusion in District Plan review in line with NPSIB criteria and requirements by 2026
- iv. Advocate for indigenous biodiversity through regular education/behaviour change campaigns to improve understanding of the importance of protecting and conserving indigenous vegetation
- Source Water Quality
 - Priority will be given to planning for water supply wells and treatment plant upgrades, in particular Suburban, Fernleigh and East Coast water supplies.
 - Running campaigns to recommend regular testing of private bores and consider options for secure water supply.
- Water use efficiency

- Improve compliance with national regulations on the measurement and reporting of water takes.
- Manage water demand through meeting requirements under LWRP and continue regular community education/behaviour change campaigns on water use management and conservation.
- HURUNUI DISTRICT COUNCIL (TBC)
- Hurunui Waiau Uwha zone

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• WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL (DRAFT)

- Waimakariri zone
 - Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity in particular
 - To maintain or improve existing high-quality indigenous dryland ecosystems in intermontane basins and on the plains.
 - The reduction in threatened or at-risk status of indigenous fish species compared to 2020.
 - All coastal lagoons, hāpua and estuaries show improvement in key ecosystem health indicators compared with key ecosystem health indicators compared to 2010.
 - Drinking Water in particular
 - Implementation programmes in place for each zone to achieve catchment load limits.
 - Achieve nutrient efficiency targets for the zone on all new irrigated land and 80% of other land in major rural land uses (pasture, major arable, and major horticulture crops, and have 100% of rural properties working towards these targets (and of properties within urban boundaries that apply nutrients over significant areas).
 - Recreation and Amenity Opportunities in particular, cyanobacterial risk for priority contact recreation sites in Canterbury rivers and lakes is understood and managed for public health.
- CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL (DRAFT)
- Christchurch West Melton zone, Banks Peninsula zone & Selwyn Waihora zone
 - Public Awareness and engagement
 - In particular to;

- i. To model manaakitanga (caring and respect) for the waters in the zone;
- ii. To promote takohanga (commitment) and kaitiakitanga (stewardship) of the freshwaters in the zone
- Through;
 - i. Supporting implementation of TeWai Ora o Tāne Integrated Water Strategy, in particular Objective 1. Awareness and Engagement, such as leading or sponsoring water forums and supporting City Council initiatives to give effect to Te Mana o Te Wai
 - ii. Advocacy of and support for Community Water Partnership, including connections with members' community and professional networks
 - iii. Supporting erosion & sediment control workshops for construction industry and developers
- SELWYN DISTRICT COUNCIL (TBC)
- Selwyn Waihora zone
- ASHBURTON DISTRICT COUNCIL
- Ashburton zone
 - Ashburton Lakes water quality and future preservation
 - Carters Creek enhancement project
 - Wakanui hāpua project
- TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL (TBC)
- Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora zone
- MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL (TBC)
- Upper Waitaki zone
- Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora zone
- WAIMATE DISTRICT COUNCIL
- OTOP zone
 - Safe drinking water free of contaminants for humans and animals

- Rivers and wetlands have healthy ecological flows and high water quality
- Rural and urban communities are fully engaged and have ownership of water management processes
- Native and indigenous wildlife associated with waterways have adequate habitats
- Lower Waitaki zone
 - Increased community engagement on water quality issues and improvement opportunities across the wider community (including schools)
 - Improving water quality and enhance immediate environs of Lake Wainono and the Waihao River and catchment area
 - Achieving a higher uptake of water quality responsibility from landowners to ensure water quality improves as it travels along the waterway stream

WAITAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

- Upper Waitaki
 - Safe drinking water free of contaminations for humans and animals
 - Rivers and wetlands have healthy ecological flows and high water quality
 - Rural and urban communities are fully engaged and have ownership of water management processes
 - Native and indigenous wildlife associated with waterways have adequate habitats
 - The objectives of the Waitaki Whitestone Geopark are supported and strengthened through the above
 - The objectives of the Mackenzie Basin Alignment Programme are supported and strengthened through the above.
- Lower Waitaki
 - Increased community engagement on water quality issues and improvement opportunities across the wider community (including schools).
 - Achieving a higher uptake of water quality responsibility from landowners to ensure water quality improves as it travels along the waterway system.
 - The objectives of the Waitaki Whitestone Geopark are supported and strengthened through the above.

ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY

Kaitiakitanga Wāhi Taonga and Mahinga Kai Target Area
 In particular, working alongside landowners, Rūnanga, communities, councils and others to inspire and grow support and resources to achieve the 2025 mahinga kai

target of five mahinga kai projects in each zone.

- Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity Target Area
 In particular, working alongside landowners, Rūnanga, communities, councils and
 others to inspire and grow support and resources to achieve the 2025 target of
 improved freshwater ecosystems by;
 - a. Increased riparian management to protect aquatic ecosystems;
 - b. Reducing the number of fish barriers in the zone
 - c. Protection and enhancement of named wetlands.
- 3. Recreation and Amenity Target Area In particular, water based recreational opportunity through working alongside landowners, Rūnanga, communities, councils and others to support and grow resources to achieve the 2025 target to restore priority freshwater recreation opportunities in each zone, that do not meet contact recreation standards and developing plans and actions to achieve and show measurable progress.

- 10 Consideration of Urgent Business Items
- 11 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters
- 12 Closing Karakia