

ASHBURTON WATER MANAGEMENT ZONE COMMITTEE AGENDA

A **Meeting** of the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee will be held as follows:

DATE: Tuesday 22 November 2022

TIME: 1:00 pm

VENUE: Council Chamber, 137 Havelock Street, Ashburton

MEETING CALLED BY: Hamish Riach, Chief Executive, Ashburton District Council
Stefanie Rixecker, Chief Executive, Environment Canterbury

ATTENDEES: Chris Allen
Adi Avnit
Clare Buchanan
Angela Cushnie
Genevieve de Spa
Bill Thomas
Sidinei Teixeira
James Meager (Te Runanga o Arowhenua) (via MS Teams)
Arapata Reuben (Te Ngai Tuahuriri Runanga)
Les Wanhalla (Te Taumutu Runanga)
Brad Waldon-Gibbons (Tangata Whenua Facilitator)
Councillor Rodger Letham (Ashburton District Council)
Councillor Ian Mackenzie (Environment Canterbury)
Mayor Neil Brown (Ashburton District Council)

Zone Facilitator

Dave Moore

Tel: 027 604 3908

dave.moore@ecan.govt.nz

Environment Canterbury

Committee Advisor

Carol McAtamney

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carol.mcatamney@adc.govt.nz

Ashburton District Council

Tangata Whenua Facilitator

Brad Waldon-Gibbons

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Environment Canterbury



4 Register of Interests

Chris Allen	Farm owner of sheep, beef, lambs, crop Water resource consents to take water from tributary of Ashburton River and shallow wells National board member Fed Farmers of NZ with responsibility for RMA, water and biodiversity Member of Ashburton River Liaison Group
Adi Avnit	Mid Canterbury Community Vehicle Trust - Treasurer
Clare Buchanan	Head of Environment & Innovation at Align Farm Align Farms holds an irrigation resource consent to take water from shallow wells hydraulically linked to the Ashburton river Align Farms holds MHV water and Fonterra Shares Align Farms suffered significant flood damage on their support block
Neil Brown	Mayor Acton Irrigation Limited - Director Irrigo Centre Limited - Director Acton Farmers Irrigation Co-operative Limited - Director Browns Farm Limited – Director and Shareholder
Angela Cushnie	Owner of Country Copy, a communication and promotion business based in Mid Canterbury Freelance writer for Latitude Magazine Kanuka Mid Canterbury Regeneration Trust - Trustee Hinds Reserve Board Committee member Mid Canterbury Catchment Collective - Coordinator
Genevieve de Spa	Owner of Kakariki Camps focusing on ‘Head, Hands, Heart’ approach to biodiversity education Contractor and member of Staveley Campsite Committee (Previous recipient of Immediate Steps Funding) Rakaia Environmental Enhancement Trust
Rodger Letham	
Ian MacKenzie	Environment Canterbury Councillor
James Meager	Rakaia Catchment Environmental Enhancement Society Committee – Arowhenua Representative Senior Solicitor at Simpson Grierson (who act for a number of Territorial Authorities, Regional Councils and Ngai Tahu) Resident at Ross Farms, Laghmor – no financial interest (150ha arable cropping) Founder and Principal, Oath Advisory
Arapata Reuben	Trustee – Tuhono Trust Trustee – Mana Waitaha Charitable Trust Member - National Kiwi Recovery Group Rūnanga Rep – Christchurch – West Melton Water Zone Committee
Bill Thomas	Farm owner of Longbeach Estate Ltd (sheep, beef, lambs, arable, dairy) Member of Eiffelton Irrigation Scheme Hekeao/Hinds Water Enhancement Trust – Settler Director of Longbeach Estate & Longbeach Dairies
Sidinei Teixeira	Chemistry Teacher at Christ’s College Master student at Lincoln University Studying Masters in Water Resource Management Intern at MHV Water (groundwater scientist) Past Head of Scient at Mt Hutt College Passionate about use of natural resources sustainability
Les Wanhalla	Returning good health and mauri O Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere Kaitiakitanga, Whakapapa Rugby league, life member, honorary south Kiwi Trustee – Central Plains Water for Selwyn District Council

5 Confirmation of Minutes

Unconfirmed Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of the **Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee** held on Tuesday 23 August 2022, commencing at 1.00pm in the Council Chamber, 137 Havelock Street, Ashburton.

Present

Councillor Stuart Wilson, Bill Thomas (Chair), Chris Allen, Adi Avnit, James Meager, and Les Wanhalla.

MS Teams – Sidinei Teixeira

In attendance

Environment Canterbury: Dave Moore (Facilitator) and Carol McAtamney (minutes)

Dr Christian Chukwuka (ADC Ecologist/Biodiversity Advisor) (via MS Teams)

2 members of the public in attendance

1 Welcome

James Meager opened the meeting with a Karakia.

2 Apologies

That apologies for absence be received on behalf of Mayor Neil Brown, Clare Buchanan, Angela Cushnie, Ian Mackenzie and Genevieve de Spa

Thomas/Allen

Carried

3 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

4 Register of Interests

Chris Allen – Remove National Board member of Federated Farmers

James Meager – Remove Senior Solicitor at Simpson Grierson

5 Confirmation of Minutes

Amendment - The following resolution be included:

That the issue of improved communication with the public regarding the Zone Committee activities was raised with the suggestion of a dedicated Facebook page being established. Investigations as to the practicalities of this to be undertaken.

Avnit/Meager

Carried

That the minutes of the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee meeting held on 26 July 2022, incorporating the above amendment, be taken as read and confirmed.

Thomas/Meager

Carried

1. Matters Arising

A member of ECan's digital communications team to attend a meeting to discuss media options.

6 Correspondence

Inward:

Nil.

Outward:

Nil.

7 Public Contributions

Nil.

8 Election of Chair and Deputy Chair

Facilitator Dave Moore took the chair for the elections process.

Nominations for the Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee

That Bill Thomas be nominated as Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee for the term of one year.

Allen/Avnit

Confirmed

Nominations for the Deputy Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee

That James Meager be nominated as Deputy Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee for the term of one year.

Wanhalla/Avnit

Withdrawn

That Chris Allen be nominated as Deputy Chair of the Ashburton Zone Committee for the term of one year.

Meager/Wilson

Confirmed

9 Ōtūwharekai/Ashburton Lakes Water Quality Monitoring

Tom Drinan and Tina Bayer

Lake Clearwater

- Very high algal biomass and nutrients in 2020/21, cyanobacteria health warning
- Increase started 2019/20 summer after flood in December 2019
- Loss of clarity, concerns for aquatic plants who are shaded out by high algae biomass

Lake Heron

- Nuisance algae (Ceratium)
- Pronounced increase in algal biomass (chlorophyll a)
- Effects on ecosystem function with loss of dissolved oxygen at lake bed and lower water clarity
- Lake visibly more turbid, concerns for aquatic plants

Key messages

- Lakes failing to meet most Land and Water Regional Plan objectives in 2021/22
- Particular concerns for Clearwater and Heron (loss of clarity is visible, shift in algae communities, risk to aquatic plants)
- Increasing algae in majority of lakes
- Large nutrient reductions needed to meet lake objectives
- Expect a delay in response between load reduction and reduction in algae
- Increased knowledge on lakes and catchments will form action plans and on-farm mitigation

10 Hinds Drains Working Party Recommendations Review

Maria Captein, Craig Fleming and Phil Everest

Presented a summary of progress in actions for some of the key projects developed from the HDWP Recommendations being:

- Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) and Near River Recharge (NRR)
- Boundary Drain Adaptive Minimum Flow trial
- Instream Habitat Diversity trials
- Community water quality monitoring partnership
- Changes made via Plan Change 7

What's Next

- HDWP to discuss this project review with wider members, set/prioritise actions and involve Catchment Collective to help move forward.
- Next formal progress review planned for 2-3 years' time (2024-2025), which will include a review of the validity of the recommendations.
- Next HDWP meeting will be after annual Hinds water quality monitoring and ECan State of the Environment reports are completed, due end September. Also the Boundary Drain Trial final report which is currently being completed. All of this information will be considered in setting HDWP work priorities.

Congratulations was extended to the HDWP for what they have achieved to date.

11 Wakanui Pine Tree Removal

The removal of pine trees from the Wakanui hāpua to enable the planting of species that will grow on the drier parts of the reserve has been undertaken.

A request was made that when purchasing the native plants consideration be given to the Arowhenua and Motukarara Nurseries for the supply of the plants.

Val Clemens joined the meeting and presented photographs of five species of native birds that had been spotted at the Wakanui hāpua since it filled with fresh water a month ago (Black fronted dotterel, Pied stilt, South Island pied oystercatcher, Grey teal and Banded dotterel)

12 Other Business

Request for:

- Groundwater team to provide an update to the Committee
- Update on how the consent process is tracking as it has been noted that the process is very slow at the moment.

13 Rakaia Enhancement Trust (Les Wanhalla)

An application for funding totalling \$35k has been received from the Boat Creek Rakaia Restoration project. Ashburton Zone Committee pledged their support to this application.

Simon Hay is currently a Committee member of the Rakaia Enhancement Trust in his capacity as the Selwyn Zone Committee representative. Simon is not continuing on the Selwyn Zone Committee but it has been requested that he remain as a committee member of Rakaia Enhancement Trust.

14 DOC Update

It was advised that Duncan Toogood has resigned from his position as Operations Manager in the Geraldine office. Tony Preston has been appointed Acting Operations Manager

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Ashburton Water Zone Committee will be held in the Ashburton District Council Chamber at 1:00pm on Tuesday 22 November 2022.

The meeting closed at 2.50pm with a Karakia by James Meager.

Dated this 22nd day of November 2022 _____ (Chair)

17 October 2022

Ashburton Water Zone Committee (AZC)
C/- Bill Thomas, Chair

Good afternoon

Re: MPI Essential Freshwater Fund

On behalf of the Mid Canterbury Catchment Collective Committee we would like to thank Ashburton Zone Committee for their Letter of Support, and can officially announce that our MPI Essential Freshwater Funding proposal has been successful. This was announced by Minister O’Conner at the NZ Landcare Trust National Conference earlier this month.

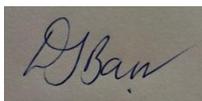
The funding will run through until year-end June 2025 with \$950,000 committed to meeting the four criteria requirements below:

- a) Improving long-term capability and capacity across the spectrum of roles associated with the freshwater management system;**
- b) delivering on the ground action, improved land use practice, and healthier freshwater;**
- c) creating momentum for improvement and resilience from within catchment communities; and**
- d) monitoring, evaluating and clearly communicating achievements and lessons from the projects.**

One of our priority focuses has been the Science Update Project, led by Phill Everest, and we are grateful for the valuable input to date from AZC. Collaboration on these complex matters is essential.

Another significant focus is the ongoing development of our MCCC strategic vision, which will include a high degree of collaboration also.

In conjunction with the three existing Catchment Groups (Hekeao Hinds Hill Country, Hekeao Hinds Lowlands and Foothills) we anticipate further development of new Catchment Groups as things evolve.



Regards,
Duncan Barr

HUI/MEETING: Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee	
AGENDA ITEM NO: 8	KAUPAPA/SUBJECT: Introduction to Hekeao Hinds Science Collaboration group
KAITUHI/AUTHOR: Brett Painter (HHWET)	WĀ/MEETING DATE: 22 November 2022

Purpose

To introduce the Zone Committee to the Hekeao Hinds Science Collaboration group.

Recommendation

That the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee receives this paper and provides feedback on the group's draft priorities, the consultation parties and specific workstreams of interest or collaboration.

Introduction

The Hekeao Hinds Science Collaboration group formed out of a series of meetings led initially by MHV Water and then MHV Water / Mid Canterbury Catchment Collective. Invitees to these meetings included technical experts from around New Zealand and representatives from local resource management groups. A key purpose of the group is to co-ordinate technical workstreams of relevance to resource management across the Hekeao Hinds Plains.

To date the group has:

- confirmed a list of draft priorities for the Hekeao Hinds Plains (with a wider list of current and potential workstreams collated for reference),
- assigned a lead organisation for each priority,
- started a list of groups who may wish to be consulted for each priority workstream,
- begun wider engagement regarding these draft priorities, and
- appointed Hekeao Hinds Water Enhancement Trust (HHWET) in an oversight role for the group.

HHWET are now introducing the group and its draft priorities to potentially interested parties while assigned workstream leads initiate their workstream/s. A key initial task for each workstream is identifying and discussing potential collaboration and consultation opportunities. Workstream scope, budget and timeframes are also being addressed.

Draft Hekeao Hinds Plains Priorities

	Lead Responsibility	Consulted	Timeframes
On Farm Workstreams			
What is the actual impact of Intensive Winter Grazing on nitrate leaching	MHV	DNZ (Ina & Virginia)	
Do we have differential Summer/winter leaching?	MHV		
What are the biggest point sources, can we resolve these easily, ie soak holes, offal pits, effluent ponds, septic tanks	MHV/MCCC	DNZ	
Irrigation nutrient recycling	HHWET	DNZ (Lee Burbery), MHV	
Summary for farmers on best bang for buck regarding improvements to their systems and/or resolution of potential point sources, subregion specific	MCCC/HHWET		
Surface Water/Biodiversity			
Local examples of "great" biodiversity to be shared and tagging each other	ALL	AEC/Arowhenua	
Support/knowledge for increased plantings, in, or near, river habitat enhancements	MCCC	AEC/Arowhenua/ADBAG	
How is 'healthy' defined for surface water and what is important	MHV/AEC	AEC/Arowhenua/HDWP/Ecan	
Applied Science			
Science Literature Review	MCCC		
Sharing/MOU's to share data to enable evidenced based decision making	HHWET	ALL	
Real time nitrate sensors scaled across/up/down catchment	HHWET/MHV		
Local proof-of-concept and benefit: cost analysis of Enviro Infrastructure Concepts (ie MAR, NRR, TSA, Wetlands, Bioreactors)	HHWET	MHV	
Age of Nitrate and H2O travelling	HHWET/MHV	Lee Burbery - DNZ	
Real time Vadose zone knowledge to inform decision making, including Carbon/Soil/pH/Landuse	MHV	Ian Ferguson, Aqualinc, David Keeley	
Connectivity/Social Science			
Power of visual education (biodiversity)	MCCC		
Mapping biodiversity	MCCC	MHV	
Catchment Collaboration	ALL		
Toolbox demonstrating how the tools can work	MHV/MCCC		
Communication plan for the catchment	HHWET/MHV/Ecan/ MCCC		

Feedback Request

The Hekeao Hinds Science Collaboration group welcome feedback on any aspect of this paper, but in particular on:

- Potential additions to or subtractions from the draft priority list,
- Potential additions to or subtractions from the draft list of consultation parties, and
- Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee interest in collaboration, consultation, and/or updates on specific workstreams.

HUI/MEETING: Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee	
AGENDA ITEM NO: 9	KAUPAPA/SUBJECT: HHWET Biodiversity funding request
KAITUHI/AUTHOR: Brett Painter (HHWET)	WĀ/MEETING DATE: 22 November 2022

Purpose

To request a funding contribution from the Zone Committee for native planting and maintenance at NRR1 (South Hinds) and MAR17 (Lennies Rd) sites.

Recommendation

That the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee receives this request for a funding contribution towards native planting and maintenance at NRR1 (South Hinds) and MAR17 (Lennies Rd) sites and provides a response in due course.

Introduction

The Hekeao Hinds Water Enhancement Trust (HHWET) was formed in 2019 to facilitate a coordinated approach to water management in the Ashburton District in order to enhance its water systems for the environmental, recreational, cultural, domestic and agricultural benefit of the community. HHWET Trustees include representatives from local farming, business, recreational, cultural, and community groups. HHWET inherited the Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) pilot project from the Hekeao Hinds MAR Governance Group (set up by the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee - AWMZC). This pilot project was one of the recommendations of AWMZC's Zone Implementation Programme.

In addition to the MAR pilot project, HHWET are currently leading and/or supporting other water enhancement initiatives including Near River Recharge (NRR), Targeted Stream Augmentation (TSA), Irrigation Nutrient Recycling, Bioreactors and Constructed Wetlands. Since Central Government funding (through the Provincial Growth Fund) concluded in June 2022, HHWET's sole funding source has been from a targeted environmental infrastructure rate to Hekeao Hinds Plains landowners.

Biodiversity Planting

Biodiversity planting is being undertaken at key NRR and MAR sites as a value-add. To-date, approximately 10,000 native plants have been added at or near NRR1 (South Hinds) and 1300 native plants have been added at or near MAR17 (Lennies Rd). Further planting areas at NRR1 have been agreed with the landowner, to be progressed as funding permits. The most noticeable response to the new native plantings at NRR1 has been the arrival of bird species not previously seen nearby. In the last year, these species include Australasian Bittern, Marsh Crane, Bellbird and White Heron.

HHWET also have plans for new site plantings (e.g., NRR3 at Winslow Rd), however these are reliant on a current consenting process concluding. Given anticipated delays in processing of consents by Environment Canterbury, HHWET are not including these sites in current funding requests.

Funding Request

HHWET's 2022/23 goal for plant maintenance and new plantings is \$50,000. The Rabo Community Fund have offered an initial contribution of \$7500. An Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee contribution for 2022/23 is requested, with any level of funding allocation greatly appreciated.



HUI/MEETING: Ashburton Zone Committee	
AGENDA ITEM NO:	KAUPAPA/SUBJECT: Committee update
KAITUHI/AUTHOR: Judith Earl-Goulet, GM Regulatory Services, Environment Canterbury	WĀ/MEETING DATE: 22 November 2022

Purpose

To present to the Committee the second Ōtūwharekai Update on the work underway to address declining water quality and ecosystems values.

Recommendation

The Zone Committee receive the Ōtūwharekai Update

Report/Background

The attached Ōtūwharekai Update has been produced by the Ōtūwharekai Working Group, recognising the need to provide more visibility of both the agencies, organisations and individuals who are working to address decline within Ōtūwharekai and the types of activities that are been undertaken.

It is recognised that this update is very high level. The intent is that if the Zone Committee would like more information on a particular workstream then we are happy to facilitate the attendance of the lead agency of that workstream at future Zone Committee meetings to give an update and be available to answer questions.

Environment Canterbury has developed a webpage to host information relating to Ōtūwharekai and make it easier for groups and individuals to find the information they are looking for. This website includes copies of these Zone Committee updates, articles, presentations and you can also sign up to receive an e-newsletter on activities in Ōtūwharekai.



Ōtūwharekai Update Ashburton Zone Committee

November 2022

This is a progress update from the Ōtūwharekai Working Group to highlight the range of work underway within the catchment. The Ōtūwharekai working group is working collectively to halt the degradation of Ōtūwharekai ecology and values and undertake actions to restore the mana of this area. This group currently meets monthly to share progress on individual and collective actions; discuss emerging issues; and explore the opportunities to progress new initiatives.

Membership of Working Group:

- Rūnanga: Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua; Te Taumutu Rūnanga; Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga
- Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (TRoNT)
- Ashburton District Council (ADC)
- Department of Conservation (DOC)
- Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand (LINZ)
- Central South Island Fish & Game (CSIF&G)
- Ministry for the Environment (MfE)
- Environment Canterbury
- Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)
- Farmers: Castleridge, Arrowsmith, Mt Possession and Lake Heron Stations

Update on work programmes:

There is an extensive range of work taking place at Ōtūwharekai. This is across a range of organisations, agencies and individuals that have a role to play in protecting and restoring the health of this unique and important environment.

This update is to provide you with visibility and understanding of the range of activities that are underway. It is important to note that some of these activities relate to an agency's normal business-as-usual work, while others are additional activities that go above and beyond.

A summary of key workstreams occurring within Ōtūwharekai is presented in the table below. If you would like to know more about a specific workstream then feel free to make a request to the relevant lead agency.

Workstream	Description
<p>Lake Monitoring</p> <p>Lead: Environment Canterbury</p>	<p>Regular seasonal helicopter water quality monitoring of 8 lakes to resume in December (Dec-April).</p> <p>Recreational water quality monitoring to resume mid-November (to cover bathing season Nov-March) at Lakes Camp and Clearwater.</p> <p>Monthly boat sampling for Lakes Heron and Clearwater to continue to at least Sept 2023. Continuous monitoring equipment deployed (or to be deployed over Summer) in both lakes.</p>
<p>Stream Monitoring</p> <p>Lead: Department of Conservation and Environment Canterbury</p>	<p>Planning is underway to undertake further stream surveys of kākahi (for breeding status, and targeted juvenile searches) and host fish populations over the coming months.</p>
<p>Groundwater Monitoring</p> <p>Lead: Environment Canterbury with Ashburton District Council</p>	<p>Ongoing monitoring with work underway to analysis the groundwater data collected since February 2022.</p>
<p>Farm Nutrient Risk Assessments</p> <p>Lead: Environment Canterbury</p>	<p>Farm advisors continue to work with the four stations to develop their on-farm mitigations for the next 5 years which will contribute to nutrient load reductions both on-farm and in respective lake catchments within Ōtūwharekai.</p>
<p>Mātauranga Māori and Cultural Health Assessment</p> <p>Lead: Aoraki Environmental Consultancy and mana whenua</p>	<p>The cultural health monitoring in March almost completed.</p> <p>Waiting to hear outcome of funding application for further Mātauranga Māori and Cultural Health monitoring.</p>
<p>Oversight of LINZ-leased land</p> <p>Lead: Toitū te Whenua (LINZ)</p>	<p>Ongoing activity - no additional information since that provided in July 2022 update</p>
<p>Future of Clearwater Settlement Area Consultation</p> <p>Lead: Ashburton District Council</p>	<p>30 year plan adopted. 4WDs and ATVs now banned on southern boundary of Lake Camp. Camping is also no longer permitted along southern boundary.</p> <p>Educational brochure produced (a visitor's guide to local rules that protect this special environment). This will be handed out to members</p>

	<p>of the public by DoC, ECan and ADC staff. Copies are also available at key locations.</p> <p>Work has commenced on a possible District Plan Change aimed at ensuring the rules for the settlement are fit for purpose and communicated to those visiting the area. Please refer to the attached ADC brochure – Lake Camp & Lake Clearwater: A visitors guide to local rules that protect this special environment</p>
<p>Game Bird Survey</p> <p>Lead: Central South Island Fish and Game</p>	Ongoing activity - no additional information since that provided in July 2022 update
<p>Geese Population Management</p> <p>Lead: Department of Conservation and Toitū te Whenua (LINZ)</p>	Ongoing activity - no additional information since that provided in July 2022 update
<p>Collective approach to managing inappropriate 4WD use in area</p> <p>LEAD: Multiple agencies</p>	<p>ADC, ECan and DOC are all agencies who all have some regulatory role on the impact and effects of the inappropriate use of Four-Wheel Drive vehicles (4WD), either in the environment or on their respective land.</p> <p>Inappropriate 4WD use also impacts farmers in the area and it clashes with the values that other groups or individuals have in utilising this environment. Efforts to contact vehicle owners possible and exploring other options to monitor 4WD use that is damaging and antisocial.</p> <p>Refer to attached ADC brochure – Lake Camp & Lake Clearwater: A visitors guide to local rules that protect this special environment</p>
<p>Pest Plant control on DOC land</p> <p>Lead: Department of Conservation</p>	Ongoing work
<p>Clearwater Settlement long drop decommissioning</p> <p>Lead: Ashburton District Council</p>	<p>All long drop toilets in the settlement have been decommissioned.</p> <p>A new dry vault toilet block is planned near the Aquatic Club in the current financial year. This will replace the now demolished public long drop toilets.</p>
<p>Joint Agency Communications Group</p> <p>LEAD: Multiple agencies</p>	<p>The communications group continues to discuss and share information about the programme with the community.</p> <p>Key outputs include:</p>

	<p>Article on the latest lake and stream water quality results : Ōtūwharekai Ashburton Lakes water quality results reinforce ongoing need for action Environment Canterbury (ecan.govt.nz). Published on stuff.co.nz, Ashburton Courier, Timaru Courier, and through partner channels.</p> <p>Updates to the Ōtūwharekai Working Group webpage: Ōtūwharekai Ashburton Lakes Environment Canterbury (ecan.govt.nz)</p> <p>Creation of an Ōtūwharekai newsletter sign up: Updates from the Ōtūwharekai Working Group Environment Canterbury (ecan.govt.nz)</p> <p>Provided information for the hutholder community in its latest newsletter.</p> <p>Provided information for the Stuff media article Water quality concern deepens at Ōtūwharekai/Ashburton Lakes Stuff.co.nz relating to a proposal to MfE for Mātauranga Maori monitoring.</p> <p>In addition, a public information day at the lakes is being planned for summer 2023.</p>
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Scree skink



Australasian bittern male



Black fronted tern



Wrybill female with eggs

Source: Department of Conservation.

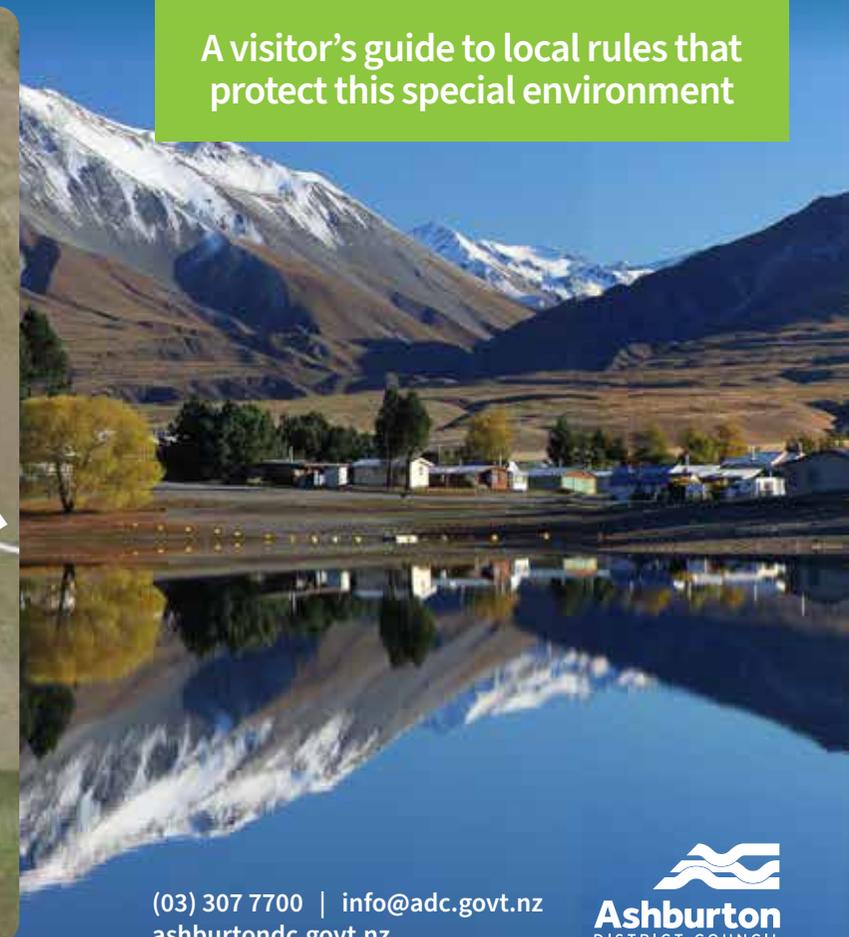
Cultural significance

Ōtūwharekai is the area known as the Ashburton Lakes, of which Lake Camp and Lake Clearwater are a part. Ōtūwharekai is an area of immense cultural significance to Ngāi Tahu Whānui, being both an important seasonal mahinga kai area and a major travelling route between the settlements on the eastern coast of Te Waipounamu (the South Island) and those on Te Tai Poutini (the West Coast).

For more information and to view our plan for the area, go to our website ashburtondc.govt.nz

Lake Camp & Lake Clearwater

A visitor's guide to local rules that protect this special environment



(03) 307 7700 | info@adc.govt.nz
ashburtondc.govt.nz



Introduction

Lake Camp (Ōtuatari) and Lake Clearwater (Te Puna a Taka) are part of a very special conservation area and we all have a role in making sure it is protected and, where possible, improved.

Council has a 30-year plan that recognises this sensitive environment and we want to make sure all those who use the area are aware of the rules and restrictions in place.

Why do we need rules?

Recent reports have shown that Lake Clearwater (Te Puna a Taka) is currently in a fragile state and its water quality is declining, meaning it's at risk of "flipping".



This means it could reach a point of degradation that could have severe impacts on biodiversity and the overall health of the area, which would be very difficult to reverse.

This would also have a significant effect on the recreational activities that we currently enjoy.

While the area around Lake Camp is a recreation reserve, it has important biodiversity values, and the water quality of this lake is also under threat.

We all want to see this area protected for the enjoyment of current and future generations, and this will require everyone to play their part, including local authorities and visitors.

Camping



Camping is permitted on the northern and eastern sides of Lake Camp, where there are existing public toilets. However **camping is not permitted on the southern side of Lake Camp.**

There is a camping ground near the boat ramp at the southern end of Lake Clearwater. Toilets and water (required to be boiled for drinking) are provided at the Lake Clearwater site but can be used by all campers. The Lake Clearwater Reserve has an honesty box provided.

No motorised craft are allowed on Lake Clearwater.

Recycling facilities



Please consider taking your rubbish and recycling home, however there are facilities available at the Lake Clearwater Huts.

If you are recycling larger volumes, recycling facilities are also available at Mount Somers (Ashburton Gorge Road) and at Staveley (Boyds Road, behind the hall), and these are open every day for aluminium and steel cans, plastics and glass bottles.

Four wheel drives (4WDs) and All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)



No recreational driving (4WDs and ATVs) is allowed on the southern boundary of Lake Camp, including on the lake shores, and the whole lake bed itself. The shores are home to indigenous flora and fauna, and need to be protected from damage caused by motorised vehicles.

Unauthorised 4WDs/ATVs activity and/or any damage to the environment may be an offence under the Reserves Act, the Resource Management Act and Ashburton District Council's Open Spaces Bylaw.

No dogs



There are absolutely **no dogs allowed** in the area, including:

- ✗ Lake Camp Reserve area
- ✗ Lake Clearwater hut and campground areas
- ✗ Lake Clearwater shores
- ✗ Lake Heron shores
- ✗ Maori Lakes shores

Dog owners are liable under Section 20(5) of the Dog Control Act and are in breach of the Dog Control Bylaw. **Owners will be issued a \$300 fine if found with a dog in any of these places.**

Toilets



Public toilets are available at the huts, along the northern side of Lake Camp and at the southern end of Lake Camp. Additional toilets are planned for the western end of Lake Camp.

HUI/MEETING: Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee	
AGENDA ITEM NO: 12	KAUPAPA/SUBJECT: Future productive landscapes for sustainable farming
KAITUHI/AUTHOR: Dave Moore	WĀ/MEETING DATE: 22 November 2022

Purpose

To update the Ashburton Water Zone Committee on his research as it relates to sustainable farm systems.

Introduction

Pablo Gregorini is Professor of Livestock Production at Lincoln University, as well as the director of the Lincoln University Pastoral Livestock Production Lab and Head of the Lincoln University Centre of Excellence for Designing Future Productive Landscapes.

Professor Gregorini will share his expertise on designing future productive landscapes for sustainable farming and how this relates to improving water quality, ecosystem health and biodiversity.

Recommendation

That the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee receives this presentation and considers how Professor Gregorini's research and expertise can be applied to improve water quality, ecosystem health and biodiversity within the Ashburton Zone.

HUI/MEETING: Ashburton Water Zone Committee	
AGENDA ITEM NO: 13	KAUPAPA/SUBJECT: Zone Committee updates
KAITUHI/AUTHOR: Dave Moore	WĀ/MEETING DATE: 22 November 2022

Purpose

To update the Committee on actions from the previous meeting, relevant information and upcoming engagement opportunities.

Recommendation

The Zone Committee receive the update and provides Feedback.

Report

1. Zone Committee Meeting dates 2023

Below are the tentative dates for next year's meetings/workshops/fieldtrips which are still to be confirmed with Environment Canterbury Council and Ashburton District Council:

24 January

28 February

28 March

No meeting in April (ANZAC Day)

26 May

27 June

25 July

22 August

26 September

24 October

28 November

2. Action Plan Budget

\$50,000 has been allocated by Environment Canterbury to support the Ashburton Zone Committee's Action Plan initiatives in this financial year (1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023). A workshop was held on 23 August to discuss the areas of focus for this year's budget. In summary, the Committee thought that the significant investment in supporting the establishment of the Mid Canterbury Catchment Collective last year had paid huge dividends and that the MCCC is now quite self-sufficient. This year, the suggested focus would be on Ōtūwharekai/Ashburton Lakes, river margins, mahinga kai and community engagement/education, while also maintaining some momentum with Wakanui hāpua.

a. Ōtūwharekai

The committee was keen to support work in the Ōtūwharekai area and in particular work that may not be being addressed by the Ōtūwharekai Working Group's actions. This might include supporting pest control and mahinga kai projects that other groups are undertaking in the area.

b. River Margins

Similarly to Ōtūwharekai, the Committee is interested in supporting biodiversity, trapping and mahinga kia projects around our rivers.

c. Mahinga Kai

The Committee would like to hear from ngā rūnanga what projects in the zone they would like support for.

d. Community Engagement and Education

The committee is keen to understand how it could expand its reach through social media. Environment Canterbury digital communications staff will be available early in 2023 to present options to the committee.

There was enthusiasm for sharing educational experiences such as guest speakers with other Zone Committees. Professor Pablo Gregorini is our first guest speaker and his talk will be live streamed for others to watch.

Ideally, we will be looking to present projects for funding consideration at the 24 January and 28 February Zone Committee meetings.

Ashburton Zone Committee Meeting

Tuesday 22 November 2022

Timetable	
Time	Item
1:00 pm	Meeting Commences

Order of Business

- 1 Welcome, Karakia
- 2 Apologies
James Meager
- 3 Extraordinary Business
- 4 Register of Interest 1
- 5 Confirmation of Minutes 2
- 6 Correspondence
 - Outward
 - o Nil
 - Inward
 - o Mid Canterbury Catchment Collective Group 6
- 7 Public Contribution
- 8 Hekeoa Hinds Water Science Collaboration Group 7
- 9 HHWET Funding Request 9
- 10 Mid Canterbury Catchment Collective Update..... Verbal
- 11 Ōtūwharekai Working Group Update 11
- 12 Professor Pablo Gregorini 18
- 13 Committee Updates 19
- 14 Other Business
- 15 Close Meeting and Karakia