

# **Minutes of the Inaugural Water and Land Committee, held at Environment Canterbury, Council Chamber, 200 Tuam Street, Christchurch on Wednesday 22 February 2023 at 10.32am.**

## **Present**

Committee Chair Iaeen Cranwell, Committee Deputy Chair Claire McKay\*, Councillors Joe Davies, David East, Grant Edge, Ian Mackenzie, Craig Pauling, Genevieve Robinson, Vicky Southworth, John Sunckell, Deon Swiggs, and Nick Ward.

\*via online link for part of the meeting.

## **1. Mihi/Karakia Timatanga - Opening**

Cr Cranwell opened the meeting with a mihi whakatau, followed by Cr Swiggs with a karakia.

Cr Cranwell acknowledged Cyclone Gabrielle which struck the North Island's northernmost region from 12 February 2023 and tracked down the east coast causing widespread havoc. Cr Cranwell also acknowledged that today was the 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canterbury's earthquake. Cr Swiggs acknowledged that natural disasters know no boundaries.

## **2. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Chair Scott, Councillors Byrnes, Korako and Dietsche and an apology for early departure was received from Cr McKay.

## **3. Conflicts of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest reported.

## **4. Public Forum, Deputations, and Petitions**

There were no requests for public forum, deputations, and petitions.

## **5. Extraordinary and Urgent Business**

There was no extraordinary or urgent business.

## **6. Notices of Motion**

There were no notices of motion.

## **7. Minutes**

Refer page 8 of the agenda.

### **7.1. Minutes - Water and Land Committee**

Refer page 8 of the agenda.

#### **Resolved WLC/2023/001**

Staff recommendations adopted without change.

That the Water and Land Committee:

1. Notes that this is the first meeting of the Water and Land Committee and therefore there are no prior minutes to confirm.

Cr McKay/Cr Davies  
CARRIED

## **8. Report Items**

Refer pages 9-44 of the agenda.

### **8.1. Portfolio Work Programme - Water and Land**

Refer pages 9-13 of the agenda.

Staff updated the Committee on the progress of key work initiatives for the Water and Land Portfolio.

#### **Resolved WLC/2023/002**

Staff recommendations adopted without change.

That the Water and Land Committee:

1. Receives the key initiative report for the Water and Land portfolio.

Cr Ward/Cr East  
CARRIED

Cr East left the meeting at 11.01am and returned at 11.03am during discussion on item 8.2.

Cr Robinson left the meeting at 11.01am and returned at 11.05am during discussion on item 8.2.

## **8.2. Drinking Water Nitrate Testing - Response to Notice of Motion 18 August 2022**

Refer pages 14-21 of the agenda.

Staff provided this report as a response to a notice of motion and resolution of the Council meeting of 18 August 2022.

Updated staff recommendations:

That the Water and Land Committee:

1. Approves option 2, with staff from Environment Canterbury conducting an information campaign, without water testing events, to promote awareness among private well owners about their responsibilities for their drinking-water supplies, and the potential risks to those supplies from contaminants.

Proposed amendment moved by Councillor Southworth:

2. Request staff from Environment Canterbury to invite territorial authorities, Te Mana Ora and zone committees to work with Environment Canterbury in an investigation into running private well water testing events following on from an information campaign.

Cr Southworth/Cr Pauling

This proposed amendment was added to the substantive motion.

### **Resolved WLC/2023/003**

Committee decision:

That the Water and Land Committee:

1. Approves option 2, with staff from Environment Canterbury conducting an information campaign, without water testing events, to promote awareness among private well owners about their responsibilities for their drinking-water supplies, and the potential risks to those supplies from contaminants.
2. Request staff from Environment Canterbury to invite territorial authorities, Te Mana Ora and zone committees to work with Environment Canterbury in an investigation into running private well water testing events following on from an information campaign.

Cr Sunckell/Cr Robinson

**CARRIED**

Cr Davies abstained from voting on the above resolutions and requested his abstention be recorded

Cr East left the meeting at 11.39am and returned at 11.43am during discussion on item 8.3.

Cr Swiggs left the meeting at 11.55am and returned at 11.58am during discussion on item 8.3.

### **8.3. Monitoring of Water Quality for Contact Recreation**

Refer pages 22-31 of the agenda.

Staff informed the Committee of the Contact Recreation Monitoring Programme operated by Environment Canterbury, provided information on how Environment Canterbury utilises Ministry of Health and Ministry for the Environment guidelines on contact recreation monitoring, and updated the Committee on the latest results from the 2022/23 summer. Staff provided a powerpoint presentation 'Contact recreational monitoring programme update February 2023' attached.

#### **Resolved WLC/2023/004**

Staff recommendations adopted without change.

That the Water and Land Committee:

1. Receives the information provided on monitoring of water quality for contact recreation in Canterbury.

Cr Edge/Cr Southworth  
CARRIED

Cr McKay left the meeting at 12.22pm and returned online at 12.35pm prior to the reconvening of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12.24pm and reconvened at 12.35pm

Cr Robinson left the meeting at 12.24pm and returned to the meeting at 12.36pm before discussion on item 8.4

### **8.4. Update on NES Regulations Implementation**

Refer pages 32-39 of the agenda.

Discussion on item 8.4 was started prior to the 12.51pm remembrance and continued after this time of reflection.

12.51pm Cr Cranwell provided a mihi with a moment of silence to reflect on the earthquake and what is happening at this time in the North Island.

## 8.4. Update on NES Regulations Implementation

Refer pages 32-39 of the agenda.

Staff provided the Committee with an overview of the National Environment Standards for Freshwater 2020 and outlined Environment Canterbury's Implementation Programme. Staff provided a PowerPoint presentation 'National Environmental Standard for Freshwater 2020 (NES) Regulations Implementation February 2023' attached.

### **Resolved WLC/2023/005**

Staff recommendations adopted without change.

That the Water and Land Committee:

1. Receives the information in this paper about Environment Canterbury's programme to implement the National Regulations and progress.

Cr Pauling/Cr Sunckell

CARRIED

## 8.5. longairo: Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū (the Banks Peninsula Hydrographic project)

Refer pages 40-44 of the agenda.

Staff provided an update on longairo: Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū (Banks Peninsula Hydrographic project) and highlighted the effective partnership established between Rūnanga, government agencies and researchers.

### **Resolved WLC/2023/006**

Staff recommendations adopted without change.

That the Water and Land Committee:

1. Receives this update on the progress of longairo: Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū (Banks Peninsula hydrographic project).

Cr Davies/Cr Ward

CARRIED

## 9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 3 May 2023 at 10.30am.

## **10. Mihi/Karakia Whakamutunga - Closing**

A karakia was provided by Cr Swiggs.

Meeting concluded at 1.09pm.

CONFIRMED 3 MAY 2023

---

Chair, Councillor Iaeen Cranwell  
Environment Canterbury



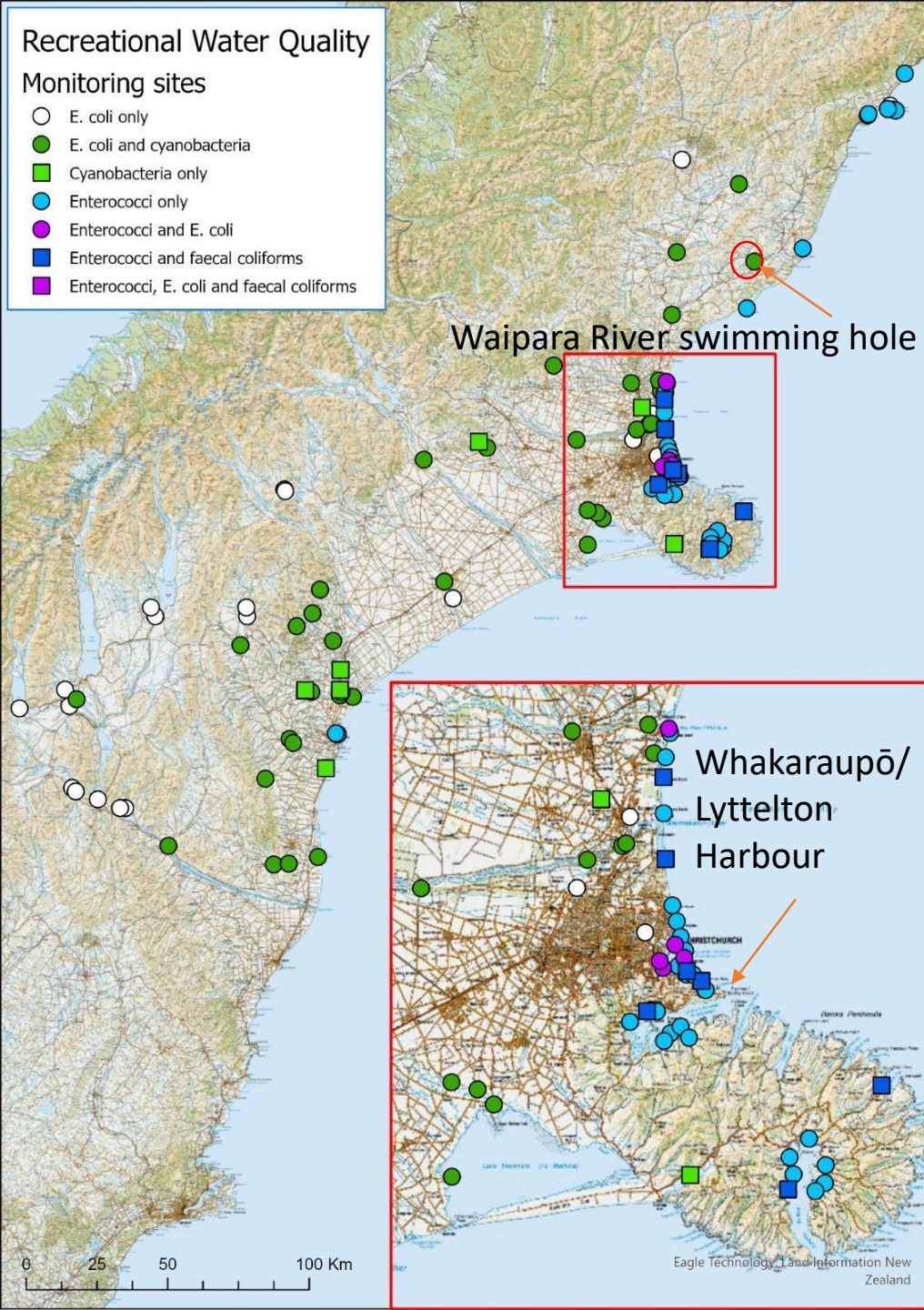
# Contact recreational monitoring programme update

February 2023

Shirley Hayward

Corsair Bay, Canterbury





## ➤ Environment Canterbury monitor:

57 freshwater sites (lakes and rivers)  
46 coastal sites and estuaries

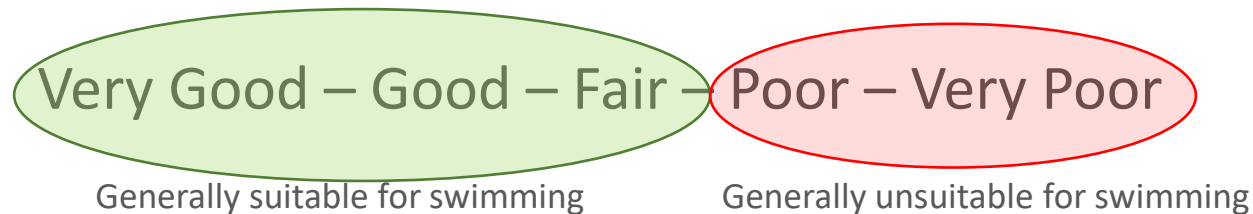


# MfE/MoH guidelines 2003

## Microbial quality of recreational areas

Two components to assessing health risks

- Long term grades – determine overall level of health risk – uses past 5 years sampling data and a site assessment of known risks (e.g., stormwater outfalls)



- Weekly surveillance sampling – helps identify short-term health risks – especially at sites graded suitable for swimming

# Whakaraupō/ Lyttelton Harbour

- Five out of eight sites graded as poor at the start of this season
- Last season, only one site graded poor



## Recreational water quality

### Monitoring site grades

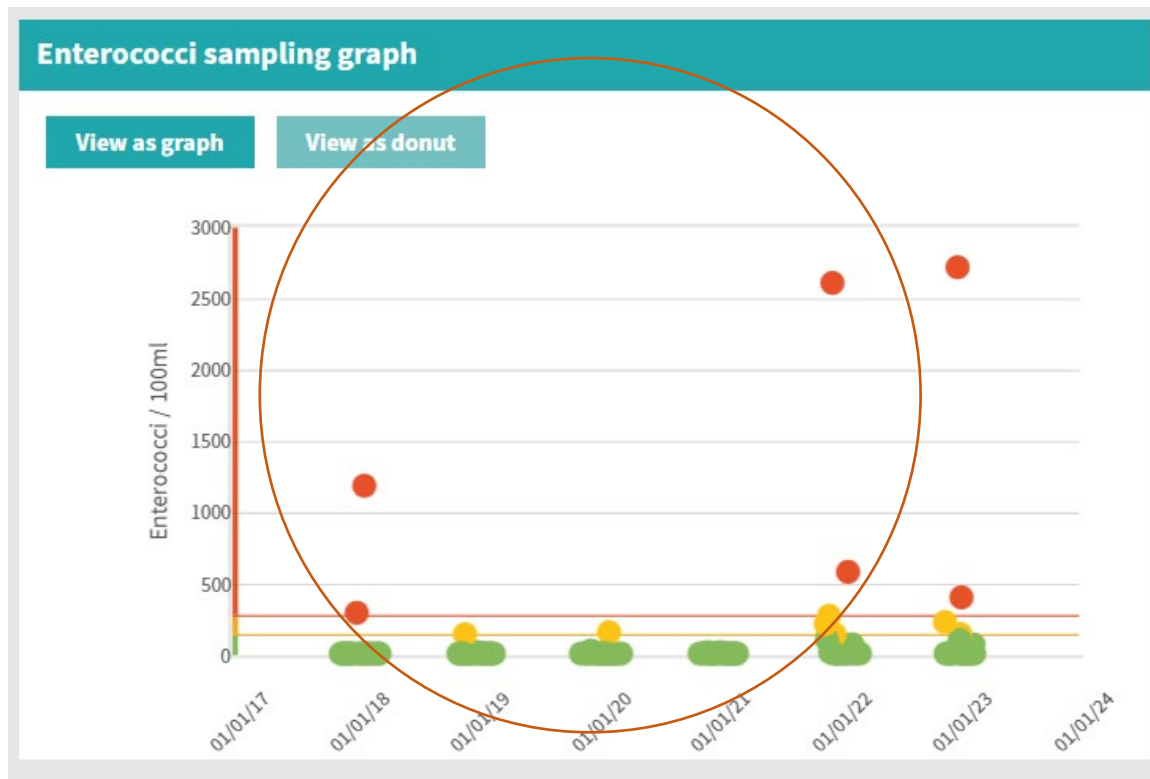
- Very good (Blue dot)
- Good (Green dot)
- Fair (Yellow dot)
- Poor (Orange dot)
- Very poor (Red dot)
- Insufficient data (Grey dot)

0 0.75 1.5 3 Kilometers

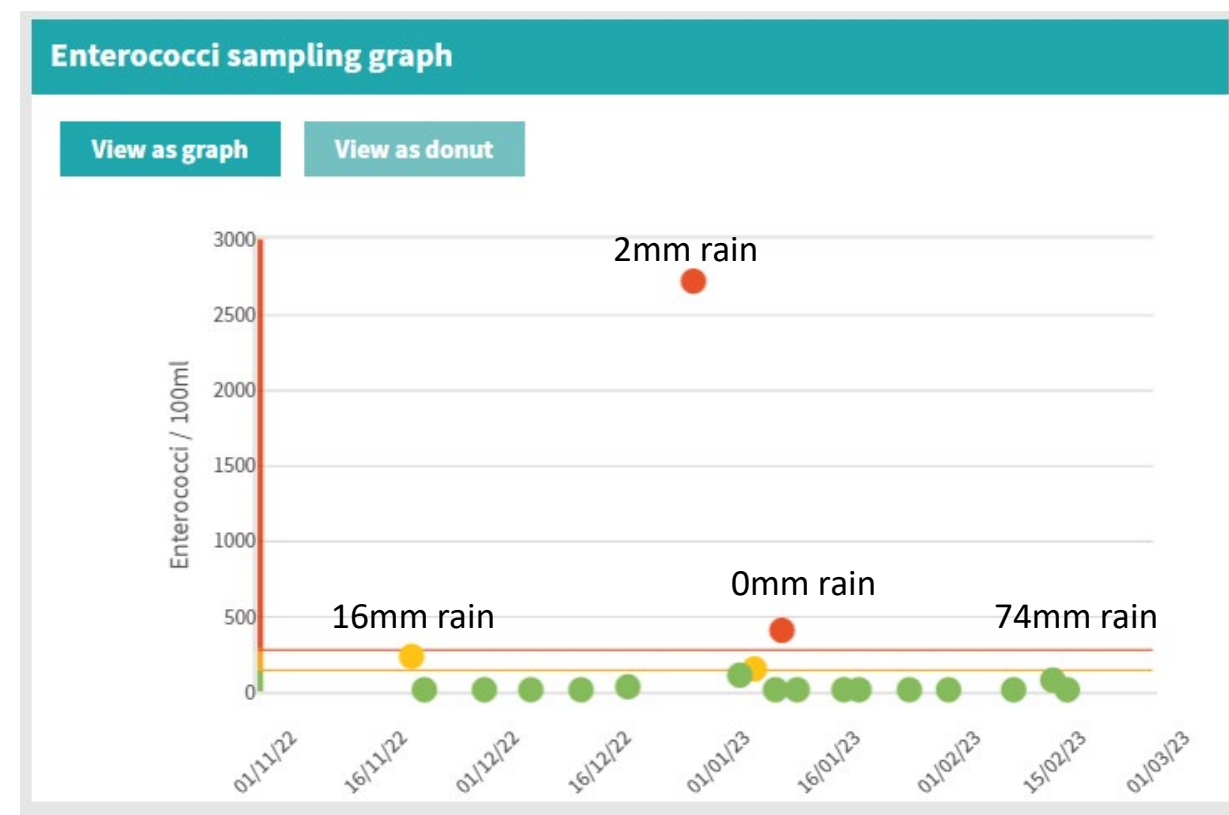


# Cass Bay

Five years of data used for grade calculation



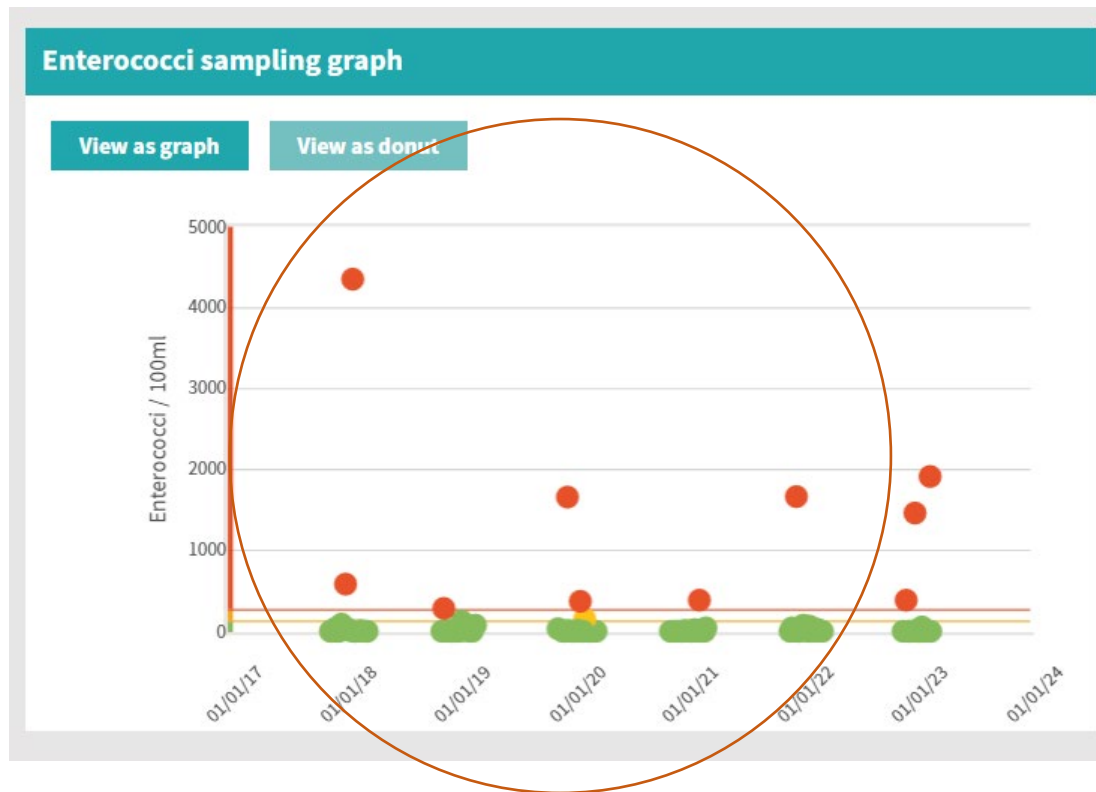
This season (2022-2023)



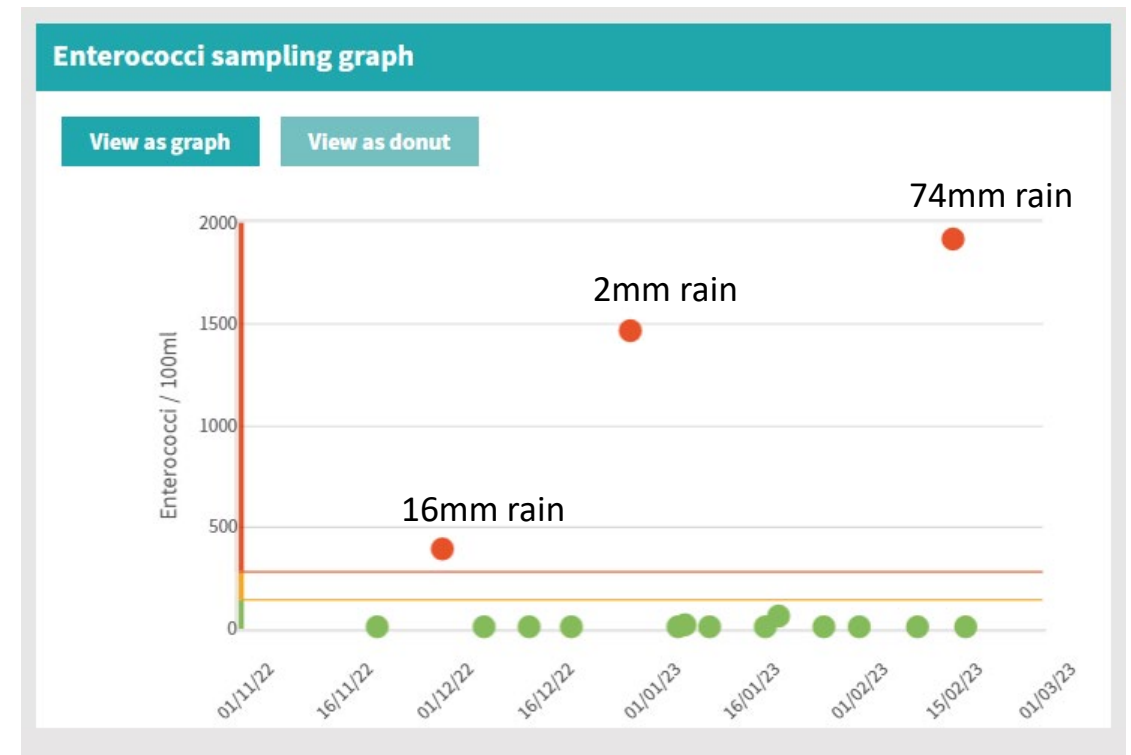
Rainfall is from Coopers Knob, within 48 hours of sampling

# Corsair Bay

Five years of data used for grade calculation



This season (2022-2023)



Rainfall is from Coopers Knob, within 48 hours of sampling



# Investigations to understand drivers and sources of faecal contamination

Hot weather sampling – (given the high faecal contamination event on 29<sup>th</sup> December 2022)

- We have undertaken to additional sampling during periods of hot and dry weather days (18-20<sup>th</sup> Jan and Waitangi weekend).
- No high faecal results found

Rainfall event sampling – 15-18<sup>th</sup> February - 76 mm at Coopers Knob

- Sampling on first day of rainfall resulted in most sites exceeding health thresholds (Te Mana Ora issued health warning for Whakaraupō and Akaroa harbour sites 17<sup>th</sup> Feb)
- Resampling daily – most sites improved below health threshold within 24 hours
- Samples for Faecal Source Tracking have been collected, to be analysed



Cyanobacteria -  
River and lake  
health warnings  
currently in place  
(20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023)

● Lakes

● Rivers



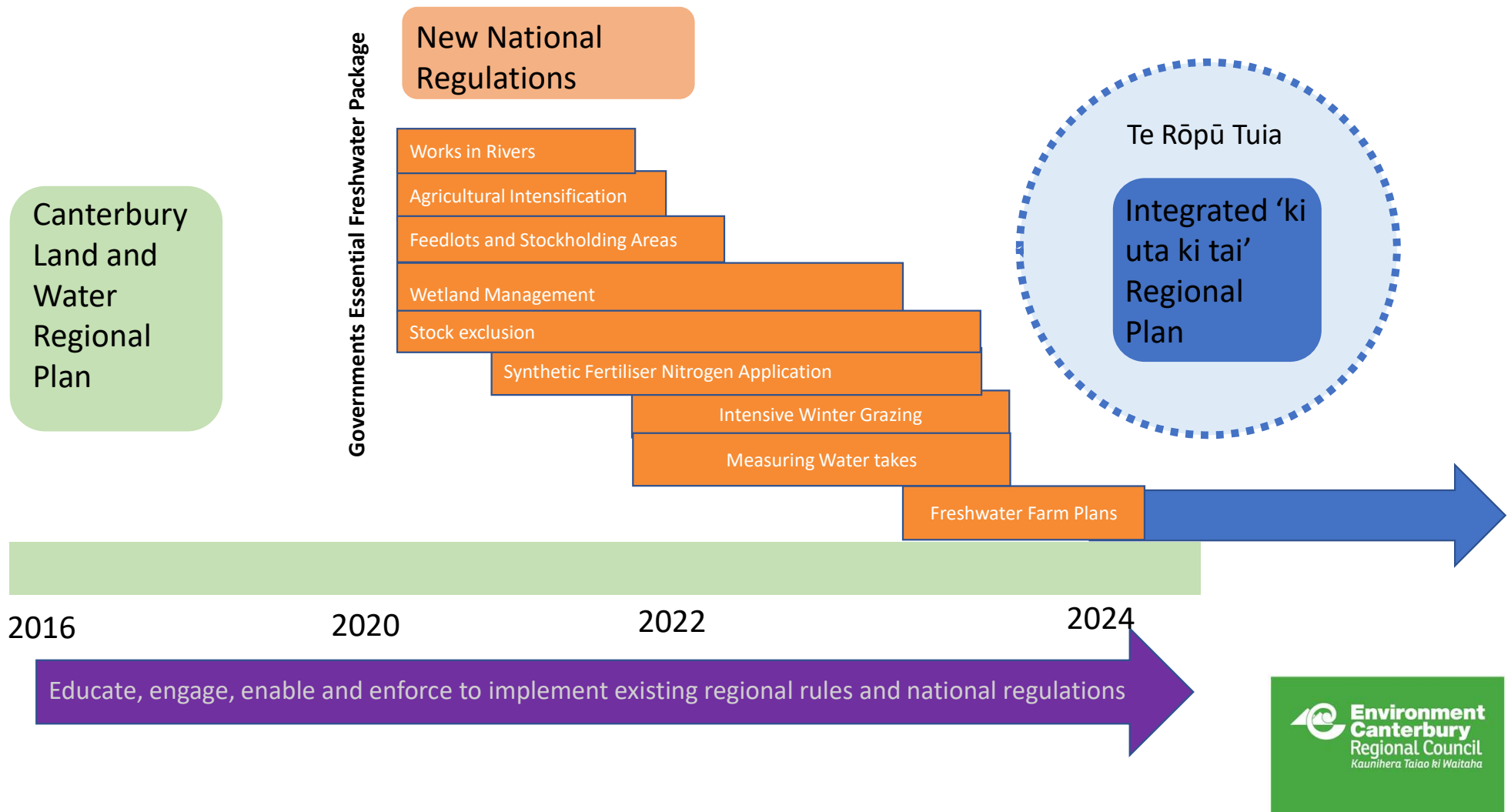


# National Environmental Standard for Freshwater 2020 (NES) Regulations Implementation

February 2023

Rangitata River, Canterbury

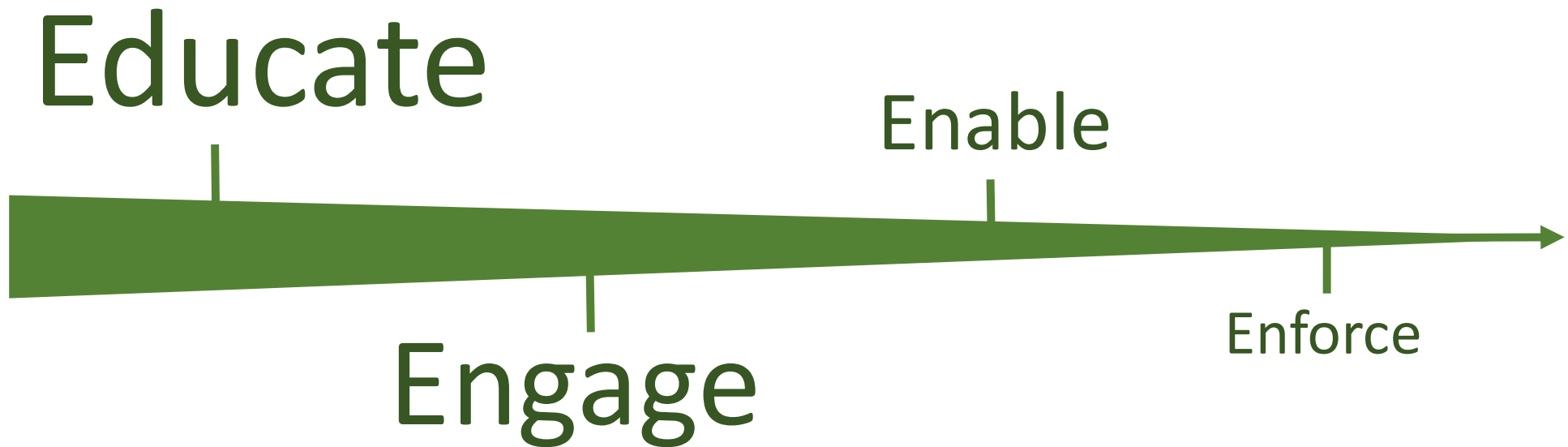
## Timeline of regional & national regulation





## Our approach to Implementation

### The 4 E's model



## Progress of NES regulation implementation

Implementation for each new NES regulation has been designed to connect with and support rural community with accurate information and includes:

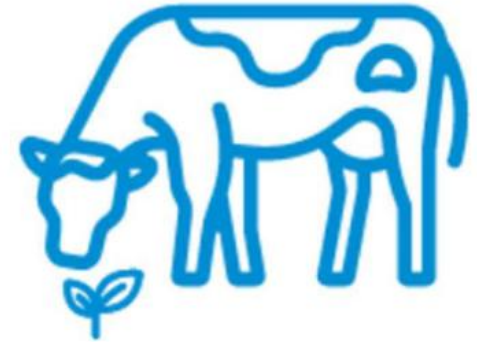
- Industry engagement
- Updated information on the Famers hub website
- New factsheets and templates

## Progress of NES regulation implementation: Intensive Winter Grazing (IWG)

### Regulation timeline:

**November 2022** – New IWG rules came into effect

**May 2023** – Resource consent required if the Permitted Activity standard cannot be met



### Our approach:

- 2022/23 is year one of a three-year campaign – Engagement and Education phase
- Website resources, factsheets, a consent application form, and key messages communicated in newspapers and social media
- Region wide drop-in sessions planned for March and April
- Collaboration with Industry
- In 2022, a pilot flyover to monitor winter grazing practices was undertaken, potential for further flights to be scoped
- Year two/three will focus on a prioritised campaign to follow up with individual farmers and ensure they are compliant with the regulations. Priorities based on environmental risk, current framework, resourcing, alignment with other work programmes
- 3 IWG consents granted, 8 in process

## Progress of NES regulation implementation: Synthetic Fertiliser Nitrogen Application (NCap)

### Regulation timeline:

**July 2021** – New synthetic nitrogen fertiliser cap applies

**31 July every year** – Dairy farmers required to report their use

### Our approach:

- 2022/23 is year two of a three-year campaign – Engage and Educate.
- Website resources, factsheets, letters and key messages in newspapers and social media
- A National Reporting Tool for the collection of data developed, improvements to the Tool underway
- 667 dairy farms (approximately 47% of the dairy farms that need to report) in Canterbury reported their use in 2022
- Year two/three of the campaign will focus on further supporting farmers to reduce their synthetic nitrogen fertiliser use and complying with reporting requirements

