

Agenda 2023

Catchment Resilience Committee

Date: Wednesday, 8 November 2023
Time: 1.00PM
Venue: Council Chamber
Environment Canterbury
200 Tuam Street, Christchurch



Catchment Resilience Committee

Membership

Committee Chair: Councillor Ian Mackenzie

Deputy Committee Chair: Councillor Craig Pauling

Committee Members:

- Chair Peter Scott
- Councillor Greg Byrnes
- Councillor Iaeen Cranwell
- Councillor Joe Davies
- Councillor Paul Dietsche
- Councillor David East
- Councillor Grant Edge
- Councillor Tutehounuku Korako
- Councillor Claire McKay
- Councillor Genevieve Robinson
- Councillor Vicky Southworth
- Councillor John Sunckell
- Councillor Deon Swiggs
- Councillor Nick Ward

CATCHMENT RESILIENCE COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Version 1.2 Adopted by Council 22 March 2023

REPORTING TO:	Council
MEMBERSHIP	All members of Council
QUORUM	Eight members (8)
MEETING FREQUENCY	Three meetings per annum
CHAIR	One Chair One Deputy Chair

A. PURPOSE

1. To oversee the development, implementation and review of Canterbury Regional Council's (the Council):
 - a. Strategic direction and policies for catchment resilience and Braided River Revival Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi; and
 - b. River related asset and infrastructure management, including land administered by the Council and the river rating district structure.
2. Have regard to the philosophy of ki uta ki tai — from the mountains to the sea — across streams, lakes, wetlands, estuaries, waterways, coastline, biodiversity, and water supplies, and to the importance and unique characteristics of braided rivers.
3. Work in the spirit of genuine partnership and assist the Council in fulfilling its duties as a partner with Ngāi Tahu and in alignment with the principles contained within the Tuia Agreement. In particular, the Committee will support effective partnerships with Papatipu Rūnanga, recognise the relevance of Te Ao Māori and affirm the importance of an enduring and collaborative relationship between the Council and Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga.

B. SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

4. Oversee activities within the Leading Flood and River Resilience Programme in the Climate Change and Community Resilience Portfolio and the Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi programme in the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Portfolio.
5. Consider and provide strategic direction on emerging issues and opportunities relating to the Portfolio programmes outlined in paragraph 4.
6. Engage with partnerships to deliver shared catchment resilience and Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi outcomes.

7. Receive regular monitoring reports and presentations on the matters set out in section A: Purpose.
8. Consider and where relevant, make submissions on, regional, national, and international developments; emerging issues and impacts; and changes in legislative frameworks in relation to the Portfolio programmes in paragraph 4 with regard to their implications for the Council's:
 - a. Environmental strategies, policies, plans, programmes, and initiatives; and
 - b. Regulatory systems, processes, and tools
9. Ensure that the committee's decision making:
 - a. considers climate-change related risks; and
 - b. is consistent with the Council's plans and initiatives to give effect to the Council's declaration of a climate emergency on 16 May 2019.

C. DELEGATIONS

10. Subject to other clauses within these Terms of Reference, the Council delegates to the Committee all the powers, functions, and duties necessary to perform the Committee's responsibilities, except the powers that the Council cannot lawfully delegate, including those under clause 32(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.
11. The Committee may make decisions on matters with a financial impact only where the related costs are budgeted for within a current, adopted Long-Term Plan or Annual Plan, otherwise the matter must be referred to the Council for decision.
12. The Committee may not make a decision that is materially inconsistent with the Council's Long-Term Plan or Annual Plan.
13. If all Councillors of the Council are appointed to the Committee, then the Committee can change any part of its own Terms of Reference.
14. Only Councillors of the Council may vote on a change to the Committee's Terms of Reference.

Document history and version control

Version	Date approved	Approved by	Brief description
1.0	29 April 2021	Council	New Committee Terms of Reference.
1.1	14 December 2022	Council	<p>Changed name of committee</p> <p>Reporting line updated to Council</p> <p>Removed references to Tumu Taiao</p> <p>Changed membership to all members of Council</p> <p>Changed quorum</p> <p>Updated meeting frequency</p> <p>Changed from Co-chairs to Chair and Deputy Chair</p>
1.2	22 March 2023	Council	<p>Changes to reflect scope of committee encompasses all river related work.</p> <p>Added Braided River Revival Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi to purpose.</p> <p>Aggregated specific monitoring and review responsibilities.</p> <p>Updated specific responsibilities to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portfolio programmes - Emerging issues - Making relevant submissions <p>Updated delegations to include changes to TOR</p>

Catchment Resilience Committee

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1. Karakia/Mihi Timatanga - Opening

The meeting will be opened with a karakia, followed by a member of the Catchment Resilience Committee with mihi whakatau.

2. Apologies

At the time the agenda closed there were no apologies received.

3. Conflicts of Interest

Members are reminded to be vigilant and to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a representative and any private or other external interest they might have.

4. Public Forum, Deputations, and Petitions

There were no requests for public forum, deputations and petitions at the time the agenda was prepared.

5. Extraordinary and Urgent Business

The Chairperson will give notice of items requiring urgent attention not on the agenda as follows.

Matters Requiring Urgent Attention as Determined by Resolution of the Catchment Resilience Committee:

A meeting may deal with an item of business that is not on the agenda where the meeting resolves to deal with that item and the Chairperson provides the following information during the public part of the meeting:

1. The reason why the item is not on the agenda; and
2. The reason why discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

Items not on the agenda may be brought before the meeting through a report from either the chief executive or the Chairperson.

The item may be allowed onto the agenda by resolution of the Catchment Resilience Committee.

Minor Matters relating to the General Business of the Catchment Resilience Committee:

A meeting may discuss an item that is not on the agenda only if it is a minor matter relating to the general business of the meeting and Chairperson explains at the beginning of the public part of the meeting that the item will be discussed. The meeting may not make a resolution, decision or recommendation about the item, except to refer it to a subsequent meeting for further discussion.

6. Notices of Motion

At the time the agenda closed there were no notices of motion received.

7. Minutes

7.1. Unconfirmed Minutes - Catchment Resilience Committee - 2 August 2023

Catchment Resilience Committee

Date of meeting	Wednesday, 8 November 2023
Author	Vivienne Ong, Committee Advisor
Endorsed by	Petrea Downey, Team Leader Governance

Purpose

1. The previously circulated minutes from the Catchment Resilience Committee on 2 August 2023 are to be confirmed.

Recommendations

That the Catchment Resilience Committee:

1. Confirms the minutes from the Catchment Resilience Committee meeting held on 2 August 2023.

Attachments

1. 2023 08 02 UNCONFIRMED minutes CRC 2 August 2023 (1) [7.1.1 - 5 pages]

Minutes of the Catchment Resilience Committee, held at Environment Canterbury, Council Chamber, 200 Tuam Street, Christchurch, on Wednesday, 2 August 2023 at 1.00pm.

Present

Committee Chair Ian Mackenzie, Committee Deputy Chair Craig Pauling, Chair Peter Scott, Councillors Greg Byrnes, Iaeen Cranwell, Joe Davies, David East, Grant Edge, Tutehounuku Korako, Claire McKay, Vicky Southworth, John Sunckell, Deon Swiggs, and Nick Ward.

1. Karakia/Mihi Timatanga - Opening

Cr East joined the meeting at 1.00pm during the commencement of the opening session.

The Committee Chair Ian Mackenzie opened the meeting. The karakia was provided earlier in the day.

Cr East and Cr Pauling left the meeting at 1.01pm.

Cr East and Cr Pauling rejoined the meeting at 1.01pm during consideration of apologies.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Paul Dietsche and Councillor Genevieve Robinson.

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, or petitions.

Cr Iaeen Cranwell joined the meeting at 1.01pm while the session was in progress, during the discussion of Extraordinary and Urgent Business.

5. Extraordinary and Urgent Business

There was no extraordinary or urgent business.

6. Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

7. Minutes

7.1 Unconfirmed Minutes - Catchment Resilience Committee - 8 March 2023

Refer pages 9 - 14 of the agenda.

Resolved CRC/2023/06

Staff recommendation adopted without change.

That the Catchment Resilience Committee:

1. Confirms the minutes from the Catchment Resilience Committee meeting held on 8 March 2023.

Cr Scott/Cr Pauling
CARRIED

Cr Korako left the meeting at 1.02pm prior to item 8.

8. Report Items

Refer pages 15 – 57 of the agenda.

8.1 Catchment Resilience Committee Resolutions Status Report - August 2023

Refer pages 15 - 17 of the agenda.

Staff provided visibility on the status of resolutions made by the Committee.

Resolved CRC/2023/07

Staff recommendation adopted without change.

That the Catchment Resilience Committee:

1. Notes the status of previous resolutions provided in the Catchment Resilience Committee Resolutions Status Report – August 2023.

Cr Pauling/Cr Swiggs
CARRIED

Cr Southworth joined the meeting at 1.05pm during the questioning session for agenda item 8.2.

Cr Korako rejoined the meeting at 1.05pm during the questioning session for agenda item 8.2.

8.2 Catchment Resilience Committee Quarterly Work Programme Update

Refer pages 18 - 24 of the agenda.

Staff updated the Committee on the progress of the Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi programme in the Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio and the Leading Flood and River Resilience programme in the Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio.

Resolved CRC/2023/08

Staff recommendation adopted without change.

That the Catchment Resilience Committee:

1. Receives the work programme report for quarter four 2022/23 for the Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi programme in the Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio and the Leading Flood and River Resilience programme in the Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio.

Cr East/Cr Byrnes
CARRIED

8.3 Lifting the Resilience of New Zealand's Critical Infrastructure

Refer pages 25 - 40 of the agenda.

The Committee Chair noted this report was being presented to this Committee rather than Council due to timing issues.

Staff sought the approval of the Committee for the Canterbury Regional Council (Environment Canterbury) submission on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's (DPMC) Critical Infrastructure Phase 1 Consultation - *Strengthening the Resilience of Aotearoa New Zealand's Critical Infrastructure System*.

The Consultation was primarily aimed at soliciting the views of critical infrastructure owners and operators who would be affected by changes in the regulatory environment of infrastructure to inform further options in 2024. This consultation presented Environment Canterbury, as an infrastructure owner and regional leader, with an opportunity to guide future options to be fit-for-purpose for Canterbury.

Resolved CRC/2023/09

Staff recommendations adopted without change.

That the Catchment Resilience Committee:

1. Approves the Canterbury Regional Council submission (attachment 8.3.1) on the *Strengthening the resilience of Aotearoa New Zealand's Critical Infrastructure System* consultation.
2. Delegates to the Chief Executive the authority to make any minor amendment to the submission, prior to submitting to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Cr Southworth/Cr Edge
CARRIED

The Committee Chair and Deputy Committee Chair expressed their intent to structure the Committee's deliberations with a primary focus on the potential changes sought in the Long-Term-Plan:

- Establish funding mechanisms.
- Implement protective measures for infrastructure.
- Transition towards a comprehensive catchment approach.
- Facilitate the necessary work to be accomplished.
- Define resource requirements: Additional resources and staffing for the Long-Term-Plan work programme.

Cr Davies left the meeting at 1.48pm and rejoined at 1.50pm during the questioning session of agenda item 8.4.

Cr Cranwell left the meeting at 1.50pm and rejoined at 1.55pm during the questioning session of agenda item 8.4.

Cr Swiggs left the meeting at 1.52pm and rejoined at 1.54pm during the questioning session of agenda item 8.4.

8.4 Work Programme Overview

Refer pages 41 - 57 of the agenda.

Staff provided the Committee with an overview of the key rivers work programmes undertaken by Environment Canterbury.

The work programmes and budgets were contained in programmes in two portfolios - the Leading Flood and River Resilience programme in the Climate Change & Community Resilience Portfolio and the Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi Programme in the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Portfolio.

Resolved CRC/2023/10

Staff recommendation adopted without change.

That the Catchment Resilience Committee:

1. Notes the overview of the key rivers works programmes.

Cr Pauling/Cr Ward
CARRIED

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 8 November 2023.

10. Karakia/Whakamutunga - Closing

The meeting concluded at 2.21pm with a karakia from Cr Davies.

CONFIRMED 8 NOVEMBER 2023

Committee Chair Ian Mackenzie
Councillor, Environment Canterbury

8. Report Items

8.1. Catchment Resilience Committee Resolutions Status Report - November 2023

Catchment Resilience Committee report

Date of meeting	Wednesday, 8 November 2023
Author	Vivienne Ong, Committee Advisor
Responsible Director	David Perenara-O'Connell, Te Pou Herenga – Director Ngāi Tahu/Māori Relationships

Purpose

1. To provide visibility on the status of resolutions made by Catchment Resilience Committee.

Recommendations

That the Catchment Resilience Committee:

1. **Notes the status of previous resolutions provided in the Status of Catchment Resilience Committee Resolutions report November 2023.**

Status Reporting

2. The status of resolutions is reported at each ordinary Committee meeting. The report includes all resolutions from the previous meeting plus any incomplete actions from prior meetings. Comments and progress updates on incomplete actions are provided where applicable.

Cost, compliance, and communication

Financial implications

3. The report was compiled using existing staff resources, therefore there were no additional financial implications.

Risk assessment and legal compliance

4. This gives visibility to the Committee of matters outstanding to ensure appropriate actions have been taken as resolved.

Engagement, Significance and Māori Participation

5. Not applicable.

Consistency with council policy

6. Under Environment Canterbury Standing Orders 28.3 discussion of minutes is limited to their correctness. This report allows members to be updated on the status of resolutions and to monitor progress.

Climate Change Impacts

7. Not applicable.

Communication

8. Not applicable.

Next steps

9. An updated report will be provided to the 17 April 2024 meeting of the Catchment Resilience Committee.

Attachments

1. 2023 11 08 Catchment Resilience Committee Resolution Status Report [8.1.1 - 1 page]

Catchment Resilience Committee Resolutions Status Report - Meeting November 2023

Meeting Name	Report	Resolution Number	Resolution	Status
Catchment Resilience Committee – 2023-08-02	7.1 Unconfirmed Minutes – Catchment Resilience Committee 2 August 2023	CRC/2023/06	That the Catchment Resilience Committee: 1. Confirms the minutes from the Catchment Resilience Committee meeting held on 8 March 2023.	Complete
Catchment Resilience Committee – 2023-08-02	8.1 Catchment Resilience Committee Resolutions Status Report - August 2023	CRC/2023/07	That the Catchment Resilience Committee: 1. Notes the status of previous resolutions provided in the Catchment Resilience Committee Resolutions Status Report – August 2023.	Complete
Catchment Resilience Committee – 2023-08-02	8.2 Catchment Resilience Committee Quarterly Work Programme Update	CRC/2023/08	That the Catchment Resilience Committee: 1. Receives the work programme report for quarter four 2022/23 for the Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi programme in the Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio and the Leading Flood and River Resilience programme in the Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio.	Complete
Catchment Resilience Committee – 2023-08-02	8.3 Lifting the Resilience of New Zealand's Critical Infrastructure	CRC/2023/09	That the Catchment Resilience Committee: 1. Approves the Canterbury Regional Council submission (attachment 8.3.1) on the Strengthening the resilience of Aotearoa New Zealand's critical infrastructure system consultation. 2. Delegates to the Chief Executive the authority to make any minor amendment to the submission, prior to submitting to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.	Complete
Catchment Resilience Committee – 2023-08-02	8.4 Work Programme Overview	CRC/2023/10	That the Catchment Resilience Committee: 1. Notes the overview of the key rivers works programmes.	Complete

8.2. Catchment Resilience Committee Quarterly Work Programme update

Catchment Resilience Committee report

Date of meeting	Wednesday, 8 November 2023
Author	Stephen Hall, Director of Operations Kate Rutherford, Principal Advisory – Portfolio Management Advisor
Responsible Director	Stephen Hall, Director of Operations

Purpose

1. To update the Committee on the progress of the Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi programme in the Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio and the Leading Flood and River Resilience programme in the Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio.

Recommendations

That the Catchment Resilience Committee:

1. **Receives the work programme report for quarter one 2023/24 for the Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi programme in the Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio and the Leading Flood and River Resilience programme in the Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio.**

Background

2. On 17 June 2021, the Council adopted its Long-Term Plan 2021-31 (LTP) which established the Biodiversity and Biosecurity portfolio and the Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio. Within those portfolios sits the:
 - Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi programme
 - Leading Flood and River Resilience programme
3. The terms of reference for the Catchment Resilience Committee states that the specific responsibility of this committee is to oversee activities within the Leading Flood and River Resilience Programme in the Climate Change and Community Resilience Portfolio and the Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi programme in the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Portfolio.
4. Through these programmes we are creating landscape-scale alignment to revive our critical ecological corridors from the mountains to the sea/ki uta ki tai and restore connections between people and rivers. We are also reducing river flood risk to people and property through building and maintaining high quality flood protection, land drainage and erosion control infrastructure, while managing associated land.

5. The Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi programme has a total budget of \$4.1 million for the 2023/24 year. The Leading Flood and River Resilience programme has a total budget of \$20 million for the 2023/24 year. These budgets were established through the LTP and updated where necessary in the Annual Plan 2022/23 and Annual Plan 2023/24.

Key updates to the work programme

6. In August 2023, Councillors endorsed improvements to quarterly reporting that now sees performance for all five portfolios reported first to the Audit Finance, Risk Committee. The organisational performance reporting pack will include levels of service, key initiatives and financial information for all portfolios.
7. The committee with responsibility for oversight of portfolio work programmes will receive the relevant portion of the reporting pack at the meeting following the Audit, Finance and Risk Committee meeting.
8. A quarter one, 1 July – 30 September, organisational performance update was provided to Audit, Finance, Risk Committee on 1 November. The sections relevant to this committee are provided here as Attachment 8.2.1. Please note that the overview report for the Committee contains more detailed information on these work programmes.

Cost, compliance and communication

Financial implications

9. At the end of quarter one it is noted that the Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi programme is currently underspent due to its seasonal nature. Spending is expected to catch up in line with budget as the year progresses.
10. No decisions concerning funding are sought through this report, and financial portfolio and programme reporting is provided to the Audit, Finance and Risk Committee.

Risk assessment and legal compliance

11. No legal compliance issues have been identified for this progress report.

Engagement, Significance and Māori Participation

12. Engagement with ngā Papatipu Rūnanga, mana whenua and the community are an important aspect of much of the work that occurs in these programmes and is embedded within the programmes.

Consistency with council policy

13. The levels of service, programmes and initiatives outlined in this report are consistent with the LTP.

Climate Change Impacts

14. Climate Change impacts are factored into river management planning and decisions. With the expectation of more frequent and intense climate change induced flood

events, we are reviewing how our river management and flood protection schemes operate and if adapted or new infrastructure or solutions are needed.

15. Climate resilience will be enhanced by the accelerated delivery of projects under the programme of work to support the COVID-19 delivery.

Communication

16. The information included in this report will be available online (<https://www.ecan.govt.nz/reporting-back/>) on Environment Canterbury's website. This reports the progress of our work to our communities.

Next steps











17. Staff will continue to deliver the work programme and provide quarterly updates to the Committee on the progress made.


Attachments











1. 2324 Q1 CRC committee update (1) [8.2.1 - 3 pages]





Legal review	
Peer reviewers	

Catchment Resilience Committee Performance Update for Quarter One 2023/24

Biodiversity and Biosecurity			
Levels of Service reporting			
Level of Service	Target result 22/23	Commentary	Projected year end status at end of Q1
16. Partner with Ngāi Tahu, agencies, landowners and the community to maintain the natural character and restore the mauri of braided rivers, ki uta ki tai	 Achieved	Target 16.1a Support Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi projects On track. In the next quarter we will be focussing on the clearance work on the Waipara and Rakitata Rivers (including Stoddards Island).	 On track to achieve
	 Achieved	Target 16.1b Develop and implement ki uta ki tai river revival strategies with partners for priority rivers The Rakitata Revival Strategy was released for public consultation and in the next quarter there will be a focus on analysing community feedback, incorporating it into the draft strategy and continuing to engage with the community on next steps.	 On track to achieve
	 Achieved	Target 16.2 Deliver three priority biodiversity protection projects on Environment Canterbury-owned land On track. A focus for the coming months will be to continue the environmental weed control in the Kaikōura, Ahuriri wetland, West Melton and Kaitorete Spit reserves, provisions for banded dotterel habitat at Kaitorete Spit reserve, and the ongoing predator control at Kōwhai Bush to protect forest birds.	 On track to achieve
	 Achieved	Target 16.3a Sponsor or support at least three events annually to connect the community with braided river mahinga kai, biodiversity and recreational values in a regional park On track. Next quarter we will be coordinating a corporate rubbish pick up day in November and exploring the possibility of running a Rogaine event in early December.	 On track to achieve
	 Achieved	Target 16.3b Develop a regional parks strategy On track. Initial scoping has been undertaken and the focus for the next quarter is to connect with other parts of the organisation to ensure alignment with existing strategies.	 On track to achieve

Biodiversity and Biosecurity				
Key Initiative reporting (Please note, this list does not reflect much of our 'business-as-usual' work or work that is supports delivery across the organisation)				
	Q1 status	Q4 22/23 progress	Q1 23/24 progress	FY 23/24 next steps
Managing Wilding Conifers on our Land (Takapō Regional Park)	 On track	Funding options are being explored for stages 2-5 of the business case	Harvest of stage one complete. Staff walked the 500metre strip surrounding the park and removed all visible wilding conifers spreading from the park. It was noted due to dense scrub will need to go back in March	Communications to go out to stakeholders and the community to update them on works completed and next steps. Complete a second sweep of wilding conifers from the park.

Climate Change & Community Resilience Levels of Service reporting			
Level of Service	Target result 22/23	Commentary	Projected year end status at end of Q1
26. Maintain flood protection and drainage infrastructure to agreed standards, while considering broader outcomes	 Achieved	Target 26.1a Commence implementation of a regional river strategy Extraction is being undertaken in accordance with the Regional Gravel Management Strategy (2012). It is noted that a review of the 2012 strategy was not completed last year as per the 2022/23 target for this level of service. Progress on the Gravel Management Strategy is being reported as a key initiative.	 On track to achieve
	 Achieved	Target 26.1b Publish an annual report on scheme condition, for all schemes in accordance with relevant Asset Management Plans This work is on track. The focus for the coming months will be updating Asset Management Plans and completing a first round of fairway and berm condition assessments for all relevant rivers.	 On track to achieve
	Not measured	Target 26.1c Not measured this year	Not measured
	 Achieved	Target 26.2 Initiate scheme reviews in accordance with the 30-Year Infrastructure Strategy. This work is on track. The next reviews to be scoped are the Selwyn/Waikirikiriri and Rangitata Rivers.	 On track to achieve
	 Not achieved	Target 26.3 Undertake extraction in accordance with the Regional Gravel Management Strategy Extraction is being undertaken in accordance with the Regional Gravel Management Strategy (2012) so achieving this target is on track. It is noted that a review of the 2012 strategy was not completed last year as per the 2022/23 target for this level of service. Progress on the Gravel Management Strategy is being reported as a key initiative.	 On track to achieve
27. Provide flood alerts and warnings when trigger levels are exceeded	 Achieved	Target 27.1 Communicate warnings and alerts via the Environment Canterbury website as outlined in the Flood Manual On track	 On track to achieve

Climate Change & Community Resilience Key Initiative reporting (Please note, this list does not reflect much of our 'business-as-usual' work or work that is supports delivery across the organisation)				
	Q1 status	Q3 22/23 progress	Q4 22/23 progress	FY 23/24 next steps
Gravel Management Strategy	 On track	The comprehensive engagement process with partners and stakeholders to ensure the review produces a durable, fit for purpose approach is taking longer than anticipated. Staff are working in partnership with ngā Papatipu Rūnanga and met to progress this in quarter four 2022/23. A commitment has been made to continue this work.	Staff are currently exploring opportunities to develop this work within the context of the wider river related conversations in our review of the Regional Policy Statement (RPS) and the regional planning framework for Waitaha	Engage with our partners and stakeholder groups to explore the opportunity to connect the Gravel Management Strategy with the RPS.
2021 Flood recovery programme	 On track	Focus for winter 2023 is reinstatement of significant areas of flood protection vegetation.	In the last quarter we have continued to focus on reinstatement of flood protection vegetation. As a result we have undertaken our largest ever pole planting operation.	This work is on track to be completed by the end of the financial year.
Climate Resilience programme COVID-19 recovery fund	 On track	Good progress has been made in the last quarter with 4 projects nearing completion.	The Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment-Kānoa have approved a variation to extend the programme to the end of April 2024. All major physical works across most projects are complete.	All but one project are on track for completion by the end of December 2023. The remaining project is on track to be completed by April 2024.
MfE funded Nature Based Solutions projects	 On track		The first payment from MfE has been received. The project teams have been assembled and have commenced scoping key deliverables.	We are working to engage with our partners and key stakeholders so that we can finalise the scope for each project and commence procurement. All final project plans need to be submitted to MfE by the end of January 2024.

8.3. Work Programme Overview

Catchment Resilience Committee report

Date of meeting	8 November 2023
Author	Leigh Griffiths, Acting General Manager-Field Operations
Responsible Director	Stephen Hall, Director Operations

Purpose

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide the Catchment Resilience Committee with an overview of the key rivers work programmes undertaken by Environment Canterbury.
2. The work programmes and budgets are contained in programmes in two portfolios – the Leading Flood and River Resilience programme in the Climate Change & Community Resilience Portfolio and the Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi Programme in the Biodiversity and Biosecurity Portfolio.

Recommendations

That the Committee Catchment Resilience Committee:

1. **Endorses the following actions**
 - 1.1 **Environment Canterbury will complete the majority of physical work in flood recovery (weather permitting) by 31 December 2023, with a project final completion date of June 2024.**
 - 1.2 **Environment Canterbury will complete Climate Resilience Programme ‘shovel ready’ projects by 31 December 2023 (excluding exempted Halswell/Huritini weed screen).**

Key points

3. Our Climate Resilience Programme of ‘shovel ready’ projects is on target for completion in December 2023, with the exception of the Halswell/Huritini weed screen which has been granted a timeline extension by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE).
4. The latest flood recovery report covering April to September 2023 is available. Works are on track for completion by June 2024.
5. An initial round of early rating district meetings were held in September to seek advice on rates and expenditure for inclusion in the 30-year Infrastructure Strategy as part of the 2024-54 Long-Term Plan process.
6. After carrying out urgent works to fix our hydrometric network (including water level recorders and rain gauges) after the May 2021 floods, we are now carrying out upgrades to safeguard the system if damage occurs from extreme weather events or earthquakes.

7. Environment Canterbury has received \$360,000 for three two-year projects (for completion by June 2025) to investigate ways of working with nature to build resilience and better protect communities from future flooding.

Background

8. Our work within the two portfolios encompasses Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi, protecting the natural character of rivers ki uta ki tai, flood response and recovery, flood protection, land drainage, fluvial gravel management and land survey. We manage significant assets protecting people and property, including land occupied by forestry, grazing and regional parks.
9. The components are in the Annual Plan Mahere ā Tau 2022/23.
10. This report supplies a general overview of the key work programmes. Our progress towards agreed milestones is contained in committee paper Quarterly Work Programme Update.

Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi

11. The purpose of Braided River Revival/Whakahaumanu Ngā Awa ā Pākihi is revival of the mauri of braided rivers, ki uta ki tai - and to align collective action at a landscape level to achieve that goal.
12. There is both an external focus – the alliance for collective action with mana whenua partners, other agencies and communities – and an internal alignment focus, albeit working closely with others, to integrate Environment Canterbury's functions, roles and responsibilities in rivers.

100 Year Regional River Strategy (LOS 26.1)

13. A strategy to recognise the range of values in braided rivers has been scoped, initial feedback received, and objectives developed focussed on climate change adaptation and Te Mana o Te Wai implementation.
14. This work is being woven into the wider river related conversations in the review of the Regional Policy Statement and the regional planning framework for Waitaha.

Environment Canterbury Land Strategy (Environment Canterbury owned land)

15. Discussions on the opportunities for Environment Canterbury land to contribute to our priorities and outcomes across a range of values have been held with Te Paiherenga and Council. Feedback on the principles and priorities is guiding ongoing strategy development.
16. Staff are preparing to bring a briefing to Council on the Land Strategy, with a particular focus on forestry, early in 2024.

Regional Parks and Forestry (Environment Canterbury owned land) (LOS 16.2, 16.3)

17. Managing Environment Canterbury land as regional parks helps to protect critical flood protection assets and deliver broader community outcomes. More information on our regional parks (Waimakariri, Ashley/Rakahuri and Takapō Regional Parks) and their activities can be found on our website.
18. Takapō Regional Park Pest Conifer Removal

- Stage 1 of the five-stage, 25-year pest conifer removal and replanting programme completed harvesting late September with 32ha of primarily Pinus Contorta removed. Juvenile totara were protected and a large volume of slash was chipped and dispersed for native replanting
 - Upcoming tasks include the removal of merchantable logs, reinstating recreational spaces, regeneration spraying, replanting of exotics and natives and some new native node installation.
19. Perpetual Forestry – the equivalent of 1.5ha of new native perpetual forest has been planted with 15,000 plants installed in mixed large-scale afforestation in Waimakariri Regional Park at McLeans Island, West Melton and The Willows.
 20. Parks habitat enhancement, river berm vegetation stabilisation, invasive weed suppression and planting (equivalent of 1.5ha of increased native planted area) has been undertaken in Waimakariri (Rockspur, Karaki Beach, Te Raukaka, Banyons Break and McLeans Island) and the Ashley/Rakahuri River Regional Park.
 21. Coutts Island Regeneration Project – progress has been made to regenerate a long-term metal screening space in Coutts Island to a recreational parks area with restored native planting, mobility restricted access paths and a New Zealand Motor Caravan Association camping area. MBIE is funding 50% of the revised road entry installation for the project. The reduced speed limits required for the road entry are included in a wider Christchurch City Council consultation process finishing in March 2024. The project is expected to be completed by August 2024.

River Revival Strategies (LOS 16.1b)

22. The public engagement on the draft Rakitata Revival Strategy closed in early October and the project team is now working through the feedback. This strategy is part of a comprehensive multi-agency programme of work in the Rakitata that includes Ko te Whakahaumanu o te Rakitata Awa / the Rakitata Revival Strategy, written with Te Rūnaka o Arowhenua. Core information about the work is currently hosted on the Department of Conservation Rakitata River Revival webpage.

Braided River Biodiversity – on-ground projects

23. The Regional Braided River Flagship programme will begin shortly in the upper Rangitata and Rakaia. This is a weed control programme undertaken in collaboration with the Department of Conservation and Land Information New Zealand. The upper Rakaia weed strategy and upper Rakitata predator strategy have recently been reviewed and updated.
24. A range of other collaborative work with a focus on understanding how to improve protection and management of high value biodiversity is underway across the region including island enhancement (for bird breeding), predator control, investigations, and outcome monitoring. Ongoing work on landscape scale weed control (upper Rakaia and Waimakariri River catchments) and predator trapping (Shark's Tooth on the Waiau Uwha River) is continuing.

Flood Recovery

25. Our latest flood recovery report covering the six-month period of April to September 2023 is available on our website.

26. At the end of September 2023, the total spend was \$18.3m. We have received co-funding from the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) for approximately \$5m of this expenditure, meaning Environment Canterbury's contribution to 30 September 2023 is approximately \$13.3m. Claims to NEMA for co-funding of approximately \$1.8m of the \$3.3m spent from April to September 2023 are being prepared.

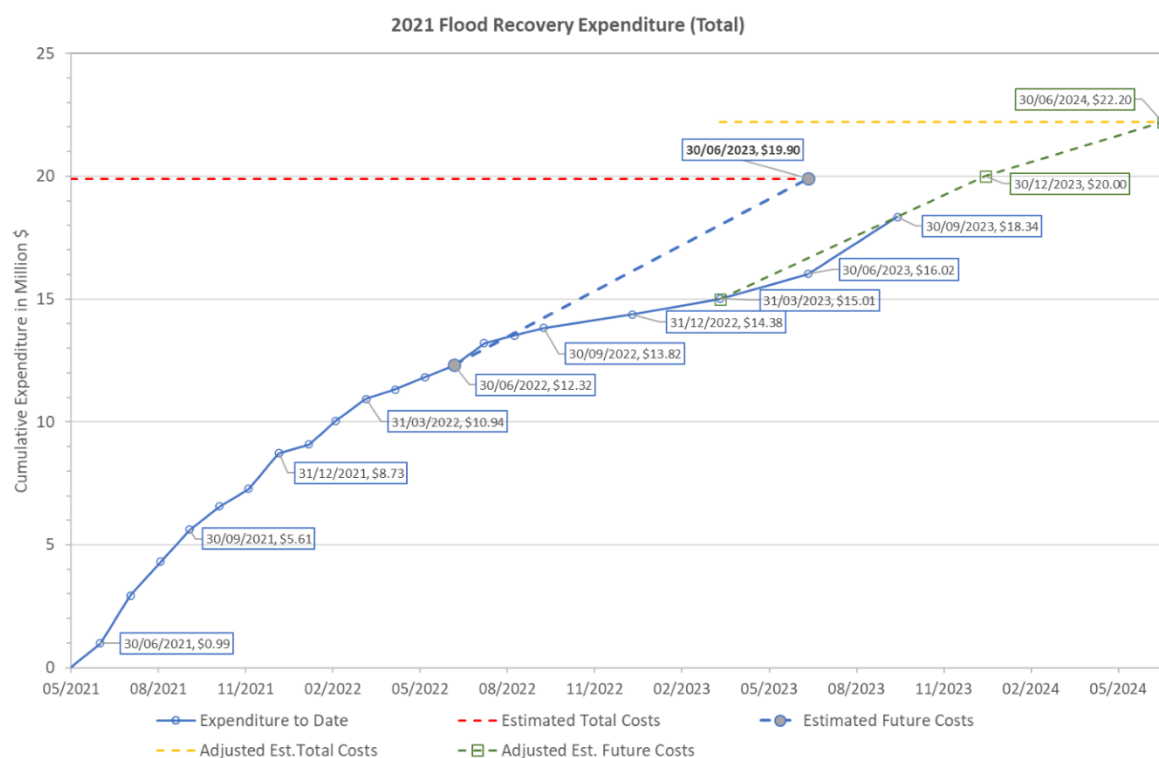


Figure 1 – Flood Recovery Expenditure Profile as at 30 September 2023

27. The total estimated cost at the completion of works (June 2024) is \$21.5m. The estimated total NEMA contribution at the completion of works is \$8m. Environment Canterbury's total contribution will be \$13.5m.
28. The total contribution of \$13.5m is \$1.7m higher than the original cost estimate prepared in July 2021 and this extra \$1.7m has been included in the 2023/24 Annual Plan.
29. Physical works completed in the April-September 2023 period has largely focussed on implementing a pole planting programme to replace approximately 250ha of river berm vegetation lost in the 2021 flood. This includes over 45,000 trees within the project. This programme is now closed with some minor pole planting to be completed in April-May 2024.
30. Weather permitting, it is our expectation that the majority of physical work will be completed by December 31 2023, with a project final completion date of June 2024.

Climate Resilience Programme - supporting the COVID-19 Recovery

31. We have entered final stages of delivery of our Climate Resilience Programme supported by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's (MBIE) Kānoa

(Regional Economic and Development Investment Unit) COVID-19 recovery funds. Two projects were completed earlier in 2022, and the remaining projects are tracking well towards completion. We have had an extension to our funding agreement (now April 2024) approved by MBIE-Kānoa. Details of the programme of work and the latest summary updates can be found on our [website](#).

32. At the end of September 2023, over 88% overall budget has been spent and staff are prioritising delivering this work in the remaining months of the programme. A summary of the outstanding activities per project is provided in Attachment 8.3.1.
33. In the last six months the following have been completed - pole planting activities across various workstreams, the physical works to reinforce the flood protection infrastructure on the Rangitata river, securing the Waitarakao Washdyke drainage pipes, installation of more fish-friendly flood gates, and notable progress with procurement of the Halswell/Hurutini weed barrier replacement.
34. Berm transition projects are being finalised and progress can be viewed for each site on the [online progress map](#). In summary
 - Planting - The majority (75%) of planting was installed through winter 2022 and the remainder through winter 2023. Sites are now well established and early growth looks encouraging with some strong results in certain rivers for example Ashburton/Hakatere and Ōrāri.
 - Targeted weeding areas –including Kowhai River Kaikōura, Ōrāri Gorge berms, Te Pirita Rakaia, Upper Waimakariri
 - Large scale tree clearance from fairways complete –including Stoddard’s Island Rakitata, Waipara, Takapō, Ashburton/Hakatere south branch and Ashley River/Rakahuri south branch. Follow up control of regrowth is scheduled.
35. Strong connections have been built with local communities through this work, particularly through the Berm Transition project. Native enhancement planting has been completed in collaboration with rūnanga, schools, landowners and community groups. The funding has also enabled local businesses to develop their staff capability and capacity through the work.

Co-investment

36. In January 2022 our staff led the release of a report from Te Uru Kahika – Regional and Unitary Councils Aotearoa highlighting that New Zealanders cannot afford to bear the future burden of increasingly severe and frequent floods that pose a real danger to lives and livelihoods. In December 2022 the proposal for co-investment in river management and flood protection (Before the Deluge) was released reiterating a strong need for central government support and showcasing significant impact the one-off COVID shovel-ready funds have made across Aotearoa.
37. Although no budget allowances were made in May 2023 for further ‘one-off’ funding or permanent co-investment, Environment Canterbury together with other councils across Aotearoa continue to advocate to central government for further financial support to ease the financial burden on the ratepayers and create a sustainable future when it comes to flood risk resilience.

38. We are working on a webpage on the Environment Canterbury website that would serve as a single source of information for all co-investment updates and associated collateral. All relevant reports and media releases will be posted there.

Rating District programme of work

39. Environment Canterbury has 58 River and Drainage Schemes with a total asset value of \$832M. Information about our schemes and assets can be found on our website link [here](#).
40. An initial round of rating district meetings have been held over the period 12-28 September consisting of 13 meetings covering 15 schemes.
41. This is the earliest such meetings have been held within the annual calendar. The purpose was to seek confirmation of targeted rates and expenditure for inclusion in the 30-year Infrastructure Strategy as part of the 2024-54 Long-Term Plan process.
42. Themes arising from the meetings to date include
- the acknowledgement that expenditure needs to increase to meet both maintenance and capital/renewal projects,
 - that targeted rates need to adjust accordingly,
 - financial reserves should not be drawn down as they are needed to respond in a timely fashion to flood events. Some larger schemes may need to look at debt funding capital works projects to assist with maintaining a healthier cash reserve.
43. The remainder of schemes will meet or be contacted prior to the end of 2023 to run through normal agenda items updating the community on progress.

Ministry for Environment Project Funding

44. The Ministry for the Environment (MfE) announced \$5 million in funding to 15 regional councils and unitary authorities to investigate nature-based solutions for river or coastal flood risk, partnering with mana whenua and local communities. Environment Canterbury has received \$360,000 for three two-year projects (for completion by June 2025) to investigate ways of working with nature to build resilience and better protect communities from future flooding.
45. The project teams have been assembled and are scoping the following projects:
- a. Room for the River – A case study of implementation
 - b. Coastal flood mitigation through protection and restoration of coastal freshwater and brackish wetlands
 - c. Mātauranga Māori – Waitaha flood protection
46. We are exploring opportunities to scope and deliver these projects with Papatipu Rūnanga partners and key stakeholder groups to ensure consistency and efficiency with existing workstreams.

Asset Management

47. An annual condition report (as at June 2023) was published [here](#), building on the information from the previous report. Individual condition assessments were presented at September rating meetings to River Rating Committees.

48. Staff are involved in work to develop and implement a nationally consistent risk assessment for stopbanked rivers. The method is being used in the draft Ashley/Rakahuri scheme review.

Hydrology / Telemetry

49. We record water levels, flow rates and rainfall data at rivers and lakes in Canterbury through a network of 152 water level recorders and 87 rain gauges. One of the largest hydrometric networks of its kind in the country, it enables us to monitor, report and make information available to the public.
50. In the May 2021 flood, our hydrometric network was significantly damaged, with 19 flow recorders lost or destroyed.
51. The first two months following the flood were spent carrying out urgent remedial works at a cost of approximately \$200,000, in case of further flooding.
52. Longer-term, staff planned upgrades to enable equipment to withstand a one in 200-year event and safeguard the system if damage occurs from extreme weather events or earthquakes. Upgrades include ensuring the network can operate under two different telemetry systems/data transmission networks and increasing the number of sensors and recorders over a river/catchment.
53. There are 45 locations from the Rakaia River to the Waitaki River identified for upgrades and to date 14 have been completed. This work is funded through central government's climate resilience fund and local funding.
54. A number of requests have been received for new telemetry sites post May 2021. Staff are working through the regional priority of these and incorporating into the draft LTP where appropriate.

Waitarakao Washdyke Catchment Strategy

55. 'Our Waitarakao' is a collaborative project to develop a strategy for the Waitarakao Lagoon Catchment. It is guided by both a Working Group and Steering Group, made up of key staff and representatives from partner organisations (Department of Conservation, Environment Canterbury, Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua, Timaru District Council, and Ōrāri Temuka Ōpihi Pareora Zone Committee (OTOP)). Agency relationships are strong and working well.
56. Between March and July 2023, phase one of engagement was carried out. There was a very positive response from the community and local businesses wanting to be involved in improving the lagoon catchment. Phase two of engagement will involve working with partners, community, and stakeholders to develop the evaluation criteria, indicators, and measures for assessing options for inclusion in the strategy.

Gravel Management (LOS 26.3)

57. The Gravel Management Strategy (GMS) 2012 review was initiated in late 2021. This process is complex, in part due to changes in the regulatory framework and community expectations for gravel management over the last decade.
58. The engagement process with our partners and stakeholders to ensure the review produces a durable, fit for purpose approach is taking longer than initially anticipated

Staff are currently exploring opportunities to develop this approach within the context of the wider river related conversations in the review of the Regional Policy Statement and the regional planning framework for Waitaha. Feedback from ongoing engagement with our partners and stakeholder groups will be used to inform this process.

Cost, compliance and communication

Financial implications

59. Flood Recovery cost implications have been incorporated as part of annual plan deliberations.
60. There will be some decisions to be made in preparation for the Long-Term Plan as its development progresses. Development of a 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy is a legal requirement and is currently in development. Other possible considerations for council include, but are not limited to, changes to the scope of our work and the way we fund it.
61. Financial information was discussed with twelve river and drainage rating meetings in September 2023 in order to receive advice on future work programmes and projects.

Communications, Engagement, Significance and Māori Participation

62. Themed engagement campaign 3 is underway. Based on feedback received from our communities via campaign 1, campaign 3 will seek priorities and level of support for Freshwater Management Units, their visions, and other proposed environmental and climate change goals. This information will be used to help write draft policies, strategies and plans.
63. The Waitarakao/Washdyke Strategy public engagement commenced in May 2023 and will continue into 2024.
64. A cross-functional team of Environment Canterbury staff are continuing discussions with Papatipu Rūnanga on a regional approach to gravel management. A hui was held in August and another is scheduled in November.
65. As part of the multi-agency Whakahaumanu o Te Rakitata Awa/Rangitata Revival Programme, a workshop with landowners and land users in the south branch of the river is scheduled for November. This is likely to be the first workshop in a series of engagement conversations and the focus is to share reports on the current state of the south branch, discuss key values and aspirations for the south branch, and hear from community members.
66. Environment Canterbury is in the process of renewing the resource consents that allow for the use of herbicide for weed control, as part of its flood and erosion protection, drainage, and river enhancement responsibilities. The consent was publicly notified, and the submission period is now closed. Public hearings are currently proposed for late February/early March 2024. The annual aerial spraying work will commence at the same time under the current consent conditions. A communications campaign will share information with our partners, key stakeholders and community prior to the works commencing.

Consistency with council policy

67. This work is consistent with Council policy.

Climate Change Impacts

68. The work being reported to this Committee is central to addressing the impacts of climate change.
69. Climate change impacts are factored into river management planning and decisions. With the expectation of more frequent and intense climate change induced flood events, we are reviewing how our river management and flood protection schemes operate and if adapted or new infrastructure or solutions are needed.
70. Climate resilience will be enhanced by the accelerated delivery of projects under the programme of work to support the COVID-19 delivery.
71. Climate action planning at both a regional and local level is integral to addressing the impacts we are currently experiencing from climate change. Effective advocacy and input on river and coastal hazard management has the potential to improve the collective government agency response to a changing climate.

Next steps

72. Complete majority of physical work in flood recovery (weather permitting) by 31 December 2023, with a project final completion date of June 2024.
73. Complete Climate Resilience Programme of 'shovel ready' projects by 31 December 2023 (excluding exempted Halswell/Huritini weed screen).
74. Staff will continue to work on all work programmes to achieve agreed outcomes, Levels of Service and key initiatives within agreed time frames.

Attachments

1. Climate Resilience Programmes Update (1) [8.3.1 - 2 pages]

Legal review	
Peer reviewers	Shaun McCracken, Flood Protection– Recovery Manager Maree Willetts, Principal Strategy Advisor

Project	Status	Total project budget	% Budget spent as of end Sept'23	Comments and remaining scope
Ashley River/Rakahuri Protection and Fairway Management	In progress	\$1,467,500	95%	One more round of follow-up spraying is scheduled for spring before project completion in December 2023. All other vegetation clearance work is now complete.
Halswell/Hurutini Weed Barrier Replacement	Delayed	\$1,000,000	31%	The tender for the civil works has closed and the evaluation has been undertaken. Value management exercise is underway with the preferred contractor. The estimated total project cost is now \$1.16m and the projected overspend will be covered by the rating district reserves. The manufacturing of the winch and screen is underway.
Rangitata 2019 Flood Recovery	In progress	\$8,500,000	94%	All major infrastructure works on this project are now complete. Vegetation clearance of Stoddard's Island is nearing completion with over 60ha cleared. Restoration work across 5 sites is progressing well with over 10,000 plants in the ground (sourced from Arowhenua Nursery and installed by Te Kete Tipuranga o Huirapa). Pole planting was completed this winter with over 8,000 poles in the ground. Initial investigations on the current state of the South Branch are now complete and the first community workshop is scheduled for late November. All major erosion repairs on the Lower Waitaki are complete.
Regionwide Planting and Berm Transition	In progress	\$9,532,500	86%	This project is progressing at pace and is on track for completion by end of December 2023. All the large planting is now complete with follow-up weed control to be undertaken in the remaining months of the project. All the scour bay replanting work is also finished, and the sites are being disestablished. All the invoices from contractors are coming through now which is reflected in monthly expenditure. Over 285,000 plants are now in the ground across all sites and the project map is being updated regularly to reflect the progress.

Fish Passage Remediation	In progress	\$280,161	69%	Fish passage remediation work is now complete on 9 out of 15 sites with further works underway on 5 more sites. Work on one site hasn't started yet subject to the remaining project budget. Fish habitat monitoring post remediation work is scheduled for spring 2023 prior to scheduled completion of the project in December 2023.
Waitarakao/Washdyke Pipes Capping	In progress	\$232,350	95%	All physical works to secure the pipes at the Waitarakao Washdyke Lagoon are complete. Enhancement planting at the Seadown outlet is being planned for and plants have been secured from the Arowhenua nursery with McCain's staff volunteering to plant them.
Waiau Township Stopbank Repair and Upgrade Project	Complete	\$878,660	100%	Complete.
Waimakariri River – McIntosh's Bend – Kaiapoi Community Flood Protection Project	Complete	\$2,308,829	100%	Complete.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Catchment Resilience Committee is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, 17 April 2024. Any changes to this time will be publicly advertised and updated on the Environment Canterbury website.

10. Karakia Whakamutunga - Closing

The meeting will conclude with a karakia by a member of the Catchment Resilience Committee.