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| <b>AWHEAWHE/WORKSHOP:</b> Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee |  |
| <b>WORKSHOP ITEM NO: 1</b>  | <b>KAUPAPA/SUBJECT:</b><br>Zone Committee Action Plan 2021-24 Review |
| <b>KAITUHI/AUTHOR:</b><br>Jaimee Grant                              | <b>WĀ/WORKSHOP DATE:</b><br>27 February 2024                         |

## Purpose

The purpose of this workshop item is for the Zone Committee to discuss and finalise any changes to be made to [Zone Committee Action Plan 2021-24 \(ZCAP\)](#).

## Introduction

As per their Terms of Reference, zone committees are required to annually review and amend their Action Plan to ensure the zone committee is still in agreement with the priority areas and the actions are still those the zone committee believes will achieve their objectives. Undertaking a progress review will help the Committee:

- Identify any changes the Committee may wish to make to it's [ZCAP](#)
- identify areas where further action may be required
- inform the next Action Plan for 2024-27

## 30 January 2024 workshop

At their workshop, the Committee systematically reviewed each priority area and their associated actions and undertook an analysis of progress to date to inform the review. Following significant discussion, several potential changes identified. A copy of the review document is discussed as **Workshop Item 1.1**. It was agreed that the Facilitator would mock up a draft copy of the Action Plan which would be shared with the Committee for feedback prior to this workshop. Further changes may be identified in this workshop.

A copy of the draft Action Plan with suggested changes is attached as **Workshop Item 1.2** and the changes as noted in the draft are described below:

- 1. Priority: We will focus on several waterbodies:**
  - a. Ōtūwharekai/Ashburton Lakes – added to the action to consolidate other actions relating to Ōtūwharekai noted in the Action Plan. *Remove duplication in the action plan.*
  - b. Stockwater races – addition as a focus area. *Recognised the importance of the ADC transition out of stockwater race management and the need to ensure the transition is well planned, unintended consequences are considered, and community is engaged.*
- 2. Priority: We will work to enhance mahinga kai values by:**
  - a. Increasing our knowledge of mahinga kai – removal of reference to a specific activity. *Opens up the options for how the Committee wishes to achieve this.*
- 3. Priority: We will work towards improving ecosystem health and meeting biodiversity targets by:**
  - a. Co-hosting a Rakaia field trip – removal of reference to date. *Not achieved in that timeframe though there is a desire for the fieldtrip to go ahead, impacted by COVID and staffing.*
  - b. Removal of Ōtūwharekai/Ashburton Lakes and combined with 1a.
- 4. Priority: We will support measures to enhance recreation and amenity targets by:**
  - a. Removal of Ōtūwharekai/Ashburton Lakes and combined with 1a.

## Other discussions:

5. Wakanui hāpua – discussions around whether this is still a priority for the Committee. There were mixed views and further information was required to determine.
6. Advocate for the protection of native fish species including uninterrupted access to the sea and the reduction of fish barriers where appropriate.
7. Enhancing recreation and amenity targets – discussions around how organisations can be brought together.

### **ZCAP Progress review – for finalisation**

Further discussion will now be undertaken to determine any other changes the Committee wishes to make.

### **Next steps**

Once the Committee have identified any required changes, these will be confirmed at the Zone Committee's meeting immediately following this workshop.

## Workshop Item 1.1: ZCAP PROGRESS REVIEW DRAFT (includes points from 30 January 2024 workshop)

The purpose of this document is to aid discussion at the January workshop to identify changes the Committee wishes to make to its [Action Plan](#) and any areas where further action may be required. This initial analysis has been undertaken by the Zone Facilitator and requires additions from the AZC at this workshop to get the full picture of progress.

| Priority                                 | Action   | Actions done by ZC  | Actions by other parties (note: not an inclusive summary)  | Next steps/Opportunities – to be agreed by zone committee<br><i>Italics – not discussed or confirmed.</i>  |
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| 1. We will focus on several waterbodies: | 1.1 Ō Tū Wharekai/Ashburton Lakes  | 1. Zone Committee (ZC) has received several updates on Ōtūwharekai/Ashburton Lakes from relevant staff or the working group over the years (incl. Jul, Aug and Nov 2022, May 2023, Oct 2023) and is supporting where appropriate.<br>2. Co-hosted Open Day in Feb 2023 including funding contribution<br>3. Recommended ZCAP funding for a portable nitrate sensor for water quality testing  | 1. Ōtūwharekai Working Group (made up of Papatipu Rūnanga with connection to the area, councils, crown agencies and landowners) and other organisations to restore and enhance this special location. These actions include nutrient reductions on-farm, additional science investigations, the removal of long-drop toilets at the settlement, and biodiversity surveys. Regular meetings.<br>2. Ashburton Lakes Catchment Group<br>3. ADC 30 year plan | Committee are keen to understand what level of involvement that Environment Canterbury wishes the Committee to have therefore a meeting is required to establish this and whether to keep it in the plan. Keep in if Committee involvement is still desired. Met with Judith Earl-Goulet, involvement of Committee in the coming months around the integrated plan. Therefore, keep in.  |
|  | 1.2 Hakatere/Ashburton River and its tributaries (including Carters Creek and Wakanui hāpua) | <b>Carters Creek:</b><br>1. Made recommendations to ADC and Environment Canterbury to work with the CCCG (23-24)<br>2. ZCAP funding: 15K funding for CC monitoring and analysis (22-23)<br>3. Received updates from CCCG and MCCC (2022 and 2023)<br><b>Hakatere/Ashburton:</b><br>1. ZCAP funding: Adele Webb Ashburton River Native Planting project - \$1K (22-23)<br><b>Wakanui hāpua:</b><br>1. ZCAP funding: Wakanui Hāpua restoration - pine tree removal \$4K (21-22) | 1. Environment Canterbury had a project going on with river mouth enhancement, consent review has been done.<br>2. Biodiversity Corridor - projects to support the<br>3. Wakanui restoration   | Keep in.<br>Follow up on Carters Creek testing and letter.<br><br>Wakanui – mixed views around hāpua. Discussion around how much water and how often is in the hāpua and noted there may be data and information to suggest this. Requested information from ADC who noted there has been no new information than what the Committee has received. Would need to undertake that work as part of a potential study to determine feasibility of increasing water to Wakanui. |

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|   | 1.3 Hekeao/Hinds catchment.   | 1. ZCAP funding: biodiversity planting at HHWET site - \$9.2K (22-13)<br>2. Receive updates from HHWET including annual reporting, MCCC which includes updates from CGs<br>3. Hekeao Hinds Field Trip in 2022 to see the MAR and NRR sites<br>4. Letter of support to ECan re: HHWET's work to enhance environmental outcomes<br>5. ZCAP funding for Hekeao Community Wetland Sensors - \$10K (21-22) | 1. Multiple parties leading or undertaking work in the catchment including: Hinds Drains Working Party; HHWET work; MCCC, Hinds Hekeao Hinds Hill Country Group which held a Biocontrol Weed and Pest Field Day, Hekeao Hinds Lowlands Catchment Group | No change noted.   |
|   | 1.4 – Support Mid-Canterbury plans for the ADC transition out of stockwater and use of infrastructure and volume, and involves Environment Canterbury.                                      |   |  | Add to Action Plan. Noted in several discussion that it will have impacts e.g. flooding and Carters Creek, mahinga kai impacts, Hekeao-Hinds catchment, MAR sites.               |
| <b>2. We will work to enhance mahinga kai values:</b> | 2.1 Working in partnership with papatipu rūnanga, with councils, government agencies, catchment and community groups, and landowners championing five mahinga kai projects across the zone. | 1. ZC has not sponsored anything specifically relating to mahinga kai. Some aspects of mahinga kai woven into projects that the ZC has supported e.g. HHWET planting. May need to check in with rūnanga re: mahinga kai projects as well as others e.g. Environment Canterbury.   | 1. Mana whenua will be leading projects  | <i>May need further discussion and follow up on how projects can be supported.</i>   |
|   | 2.2 Increasing our knowledge of mahinga kai, including by attending a hui on mahinga kai  | Were intending on having a noho marae which became a one-day event however, this was cancelled due to COVID in 2021. Look into this with Environment Canterbury staff if still a priority.  | 1. Possibility of a Mahinga Kai talk for community?  | Remove reference to specific activity so other options can be considered. Can tie this in with 2.3.<br><br>If Shedtalk is organised, Committee could potentially attend/support. |
|   | 2.3 Utilising our members' communications channels such as newsletters, news media and social media to educate and promote mahinga kai and tangata whenua values.                           | Nothing has specifically been done to educate and promote Mahinga Kai and Tangata Whenua values however, this could be tied in with the other ZCAP actions on mahinga kai.  |  | As above.  |
|   | 2.4 Ensuring mahinga kai is considered in all projects and decisions.   | This has been built into this years Action Plan Budget considerations.  |  | No further action required.  |

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| 3. We will work towards improving ecosystem health and meeting biodiversity targets | 3.1 Advocate for the protection of native fish species including uninterrupted access to the sea and the reduction of fish barriers where appropriate.  | Discussions are ongoing.  | There has been some work in Hinds Drains around improving fish habitat but unsure if this includes fish barriers.<br>For Hakatere/Ashburton, uninterrupted access ties into the Ashburton consent reviews as reason for having a higher minimum flow requirement was to keep the mouth open for longer. | Keep in.   |
|   | 3.2 Co-hosting a 2021/22 Rakaia field trip with the Selwyn Waihora Water Zone Committee, with a focus on biodiversity and recreation  | Upcoming event - Looking to co-host this possibly in April-May depending on calendar events.  |   | Keep in but remove reference to date as did not happen then. |
|   | 3.3 Supporting the Ō Tū Wharekai/Ashburton Lakes recovery project by keeping abreast of the project implementation and assisting with recommendations where appropriate, which may include community engagement and education                   | See 1.1 section above.  |   | Include in 1.1.  |
|   | 3.4 Working with partners and the community to review progress with the Hinds Drains Working Party recommendations and help facilitate the development of the Hekeao/Hinds biodiversity vision and providing ongoing support for agreed actions | Review of progress was done in 2022. The HH Biodiversity Vision was in development. May have been superseded by Mid Canterbury vision. Ongoing work to do following the review.<br>ZC input required to establish status.           | HH Biodiversity vision development.   | Keep in?   |
|   | 3.5 Facilitating a collaborative process to agree and support priority projects within the Hakatere/Ashburton River catchment. Examples of existing projects include the Hakatere river mouth enhancement, Ashburton                            | 1. Supporting Carters Creek Catchment Group - provided funding for monitoring and analysis project<br>2. ZCAP funding: Adele Webb Ashburton River native planting - \$1K<br>3. ZCAP funding: Wakanui hāpua pine tree removal - \$4K | Environment Canterbury had a project going on with Hakatere River Mouth enhancement.<br>Consent review has been done. Biodiversity Corridor (chris allen) - projects to support that. Means many projects fit under this.   | Keep in?   |

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|   | consent review and biodiversity corridor Ki Uta Ki Tai.   |   |   |  |
|   | 3.6 Supporting the Carters Creek Enhancement project group by assisting with community engagement, education and communications, to encourage behaviours that positively impact water quality in Carters Creek.                   | As above in Hakatere/Ashburton River actions. Note, progress has been made in this space.   |   | Keep in.   |
|   | 3.7 Engaging with councils, rūnanga, catchment groups and schools to support further restoration activities which positively impact the biodiversity and mahinga kai values of the Wakanui hāpua area.                            | ZC has been working with ADC and all three rūnanga, catchment groups and has worked with local schools at different times.<br>ZCAP funding for Wakanui Pine Tree removal provided - \$4K (21-22).<br>Could investigate reliability of water supply – although might be mixed views. Possibly reframe to focus on helping people to value the place. | Kanuka Trust are engaged with some local schools.   | <i>Facilitator: Further discussion required.</i><br><br>Requested information and data on Wakanui from ADC. No new data and information to share on water in Wakanui hāpua. Next step would be to undertake study to determine this and feasibility of providing water to the hāpua. |
| 4. We will support measures to enhance recreation and amenity targets | 4.1 Identifying waterways that do not meet contact recreation standards, and supporting and encouraging catchment groups and community groups to implement actions that achieve water quality improvements for contact recreation | ZC input required on what has been done.  | Possible development of swimming hole further upstream from bridge - ?Hakatere/Ashburton. Planting has been undertaken planting up there. Ashburton river mouth - have done a lot of work there and have set up a platform for bird viewing and created area for 4WD.<br>A lot of work done at the Hakatere/Ashburton hāpua but Department of Conservation (DOC) shut it down. DOC wouldn't give permission for 4WDs. Get the motorbikes off the whole area. Disappointing outcome due to DOC's decision.<br>Ōtūwharekai/Ashburton Lakes work to address water quality will feed into this.- water quality very important up there. On some lakes can't use motorboats etc. | <i>Facilitator: Are there any other waterways the zone committee wish to focus on? What information is needed?</i>   |

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|  | 4.2 Supporting the Ō Tū Wharekai/Ashburton Lakes recovery project to arrest the decline in high-country lake water quality for contact recreation by assisting with the implementation of recommendations where appropriate, which may include community engagement and education. | See 1.1 section above. |  | Add into 1.1 |
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## Ashburton Water Zone Committee

# Action Plan 2021-2024

Ōtūwharekai/Ashburton Lakes including supporting Recovery Project implementation and recommendations where appropriate, which may include community engagement and education.

## We will focus on several waterbodies:

- 1a** Ō Tū Wharekai/Ashburton Lakes, REPLACE WITH
- Hakatere/Ashburton River and its tributaries (including Carters Creek and Wakanui hāpua) and
  - Hekeao/Hinds catchment

- 1b** Stockwater races - Mid-Canterbury plans for the ADC transition out of stockwater and use of infrastructure and volume and involves Environment Canterbury.

## We will work to enhance mahinga kai values by:

- Working in partnership with papatipu rūnanga, with councils, government agencies, catchment and community groups, and landowners championing five mahinga kai projects across the zone
- 2a** Increasing our knowledge of mahinga kai, ~~including by attending a hui on mahinga kai at T Pā o Moki Marae with Te Taumutu Rūnanga in 2021~~
- Utilising our members' communications channels such as newsletters, news media and social media to educate and promote mahinga kai and tangata whenua values
- Ensuring mahinga kai is considered in all projects and decisions.

Not noted as a confirmed action but discussion was held around a mahinga kai shed talk instead. Recommended removing reference to specific activity. Could this be replaced with another activity e.g. supporting a Shed talk?

## We will work towards improving ecosystem health and meeting biodiversity targets by:

- Advocating for the protection of native fish species including uninterrupted access to the sea and the reduction of fish barriers where appropriate
- 3a** Co-hosting a ~~2021/22~~ Rakala field trip with the Selwyn Waihora Water Zone Committee, with a focus on biodiversity and recreation
- ~~Supporting the Ō Tū Wharekai / Ashburton Lakes recovery project by keeping abreast of the project implementation and assisting with recommendations where appropriate, which may include community engagement and education~~
- 3b** ~~Supporting the Ō Tū Wharekai / Ashburton Lakes recovery project by keeping abreast of the project implementation and assisting with recommendations where appropriate, which may include community engagement and education~~
- Working with partners and the community to review progress with the Hinds Drains Working Party recommendations and help facilitate the development of the Hekeao / Hinds biodiversity vision and providing ongoing support for agreed actions
- Facilitating a collaborative process to agree and support priority projects within the Hakatere / Ashburton River catchment. Examples of existing projects include the Hakatere river mouth enhancement, Ashburton consent review and biodiversity corridor KI Uta KI Tai
- Supporting the Carters Creek Enhancement project group by assisting with community engagement, education and communications, to encourage behaviours that positively impact water quality in Carters Creek
- Engaging with councils, rūnanga, catchment groups and schools to support further restoration activities which positively impact the biodiversity and mahinga kai values of the Wakanui hāpua area.

## We will support measures to enhance recreation and amenity targets by:

- Identifying waterways that do not meet contact recreation standards, and supporting and encouraging catchment groups and community groups to implement actions that achieve water quality improvements for contact recreation
- 4a** ~~Supporting the Ō Tū Wharekai / Ashburton Lakes recovery project to arrest the decline in high country lake water quality for contact recreation by assisting with the implementation of recommendations where appropriate, which may include community engagement and education.~~

Want to get involved? Head to [ecan.govt.nz/ashburton-water-zone](https://ecan.govt.nz/ashburton-water-zone)

In workshop, noted to combine these with 1.1 as there is duplication and if focus on supporting project implementation, then improved ecosystem health and meeting biodiversity targets, and enhanced recreation and amenity values should result.

