



**Notice is given of a Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting
to be held on:**

Date: Friday, 19 June 2020
Time: 9.30am
Location: Twizel Events Centre Lounge
Twizel

AGENDA

Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting

19 June 2020

Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Membership:

Simon Cameron (Chair)
Lisa Anderson
Matthew Bayliss
Richard Subtil
John Sunckell
John Wilkie
Joy Paterson
Kieran Whyte
Ross McRobie
Stuart Barwood
Michael McMillan

The purpose of local government:

(1) The purpose of local government is—

- (a) to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and
- (b) to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses.

(2) In this Act, good-quality, in relation to local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions, means infrastructure, services, and performance that are—

- (a) efficient; and
- (b) effective; and
- (c) appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

(Local Government Act 2002)

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Upper Waitaki Zone Committee Meeting Friday 19 June 2020 9.30am Twizel Events Centre Lounge			
9.00am	Item	Arrive	Lead
9.30am		Standing Items Apologies, Minutes, Correspondence, Conflicts of Interest, Action List, Matters arising	
9.45am	1	Encouraging responsible toilet use at Ruataniwha	Kate Doran, Environment Canterbury
10.00am	2	Ahuriri catchment - Update	Tami Woods, Environment Canterbury, Lisa Anderson & Richard Subtil
11- 11.15am		Morning tea	
11.15am	3	Mackenzie Basin Agency Alignment Programme - Update	Nadeine Dommissie, Environment Canterbury Hamish Barrell, Waitaki District Council Ann Rodgers, Mackenzie District Council Dave Wilkins and Barry Hanson, Department of Conservation
11.45am	4	Zone Facilitator's Report	Tami Woods, Environment Canterbury
12.00pm	5	General Discussion	All
12.30pm		Close	

5 REPORTS

5.1 MINUTES OF UPPER WAITAKI ZONE WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 21 FEBRUARY 2020

File Reference:

Author: Arlene Goss, Governance Advisor

Authoriser:

Attachments: 1. Minutes of the last meeting of the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee. [↓](#) 

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting held on Friday 21 February 2020 be received and confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.



Unconfirmed MINUTES

Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting

21 February 2020

**MINUTES OF MACKENZIE DISTRICT COUNCIL
UPPER WAITAKI ZONE WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE OMARAMA COMMUNITY CENTRE, OMARAMA
ON FRIDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2020 AT 9.30AM**

PRESENT: Chairperson Simon Cameron, Lisa Anderson, Matthew Bayliss, Richard Subtil, Cr John Sunckell, John Wilkie, Kieran Whyte, Cr Ross McRobie,

IN ATTENDANCE: Cr Miriam Morton (Waimate District Council), Tami Woods (Ecan Facilitator), Chris Eccleston (Ecan), Kate Doran (Ecan), John Benn (DOC), Shirley Hayward (Ecan), Henrietta Hazlett (Ecan), Jenna Hughes-Games (Ecan), Rick Ramsay (Alpine Salmon), Ruth Grundy (reporter from Omarama Gazette), Barry Shepherd, Arlene Goss (Mackenzie District Council – Governance Advisor).

1 OPENING

The chairman welcomed everyone and asked Kieran Whyte gave a karakia.

Cr Miriam Morton from the Waimate District Council was welcomed to the meeting as an observer. It was noted that the current Terms of Reference for the committee do not allow her to have voting rights. She was invited to join the table.

2 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cr Stuart Barwood, Joy Paterson, and Michael McMillan who will be the Arowhenua representative on the committee from the next meeting.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Tami Woods outlined the new Conflict of Interest rules and asked the members to review the two reports on conflicts of interest in the agenda. She drew their attention to the flow chart on page 25 of the agenda, and the list of conflicts on page 7.

She suggested that members add a list of the resource consents they personally hold, if any. She offered to search consents in the system and add these to the list for each member.

Richard Subtil asked for his consents to be added. Members asked questions about whether some of their individual situations were relevant.

Tami Woods circulated the hard copy of the interests register to the members so it could be updated and signed.

3.1 ATTACHMENT

Attachments

- 1 Interests Register Updated Feb 22 2020

4 VISITORS

There were no visitor presentations at the meeting other than from Environment Canterbury staff.

5 REPORTS**5.3 MINUTES OF UPPER WAITAKI ZONE WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 20 SEPTEMBER 2019**

John Benn from the Department of Conservation requested some changes to the minutes related to Lake Middleton. These changes were read out by Tami Woods and agreed to by the committee. The changes are:

Under Item 5.8: Lake Middleton, Track Around the Lake, the following to be added to the sentence beginning "There is still a boundary issue on the side of the lake to be resolved..."

... and a baseline, vegetation survey needs to be undertaken in the wetland before any decision on hard structures such as walkways, can be made. This was because there is a high rate of endemism in the Mackenzie Basin and if there are rare or threatened plants (or other species) in the wetland, constructing a walkway through it may be inappropriate.

Under Item 5.8: Ohau Conservation Trust, the following to be added:

John Benn provided a variety of examples of where DOC, local communities, private land owners and other organisations (e.g., ECan, LINZ) ARE, or have worked together on projects; some funded by the Zone Committee, including the Forks Stream fish barrier, wilding conifer control across the basin and weed control in the Hopkins & Dobson Valleys.

And the following to be added:

It was pointed out that ECan, via the harbourmaster, has jurisdiction over navigation rules and by-laws on the lake, not DOC.

Mr Benn then updated the committee on the work being carried out at Lake Middleton.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2020/55

Moved: Member Richard Subtil

Seconded: Member Lisa Anderson

That the Minutes of the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting held on Friday 20 September 2019 be received and confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting, with the changes noted above.

CARRIED

The chairperson asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves.

5.4 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence from the regional committee, on page 20 of the agenda, was received.

5.5 ACTION LIST

Tami Woods went through the action list with the committee.

She will continue to seek an update on Destination Mackenzie and the land survey report around Lake Middleton.

Tami Woods provided an update to item 3 on the Action List. Jeremy Severinsen had advised that he would pay for a survey and had been in touch with Alastair Ensor who represents the landowner. He recommended that the zone committee contact Alastair to follow-up.

John Benn from the Department of Conservation suggested that if the boundary was not an issue the money could go towards a management plan instead of carrying out a land survey. Richard Subtil replied that nobody knows where the boundary is so nobody can do things on the land. DOC needs to carry out the survey with the agreement of the neighbouring land owner.

Cr McRobie suggested the delay on Destination Mackenzie may be due to work being done South Island-wide at the Mayoral Forum level. The committee agreed that even if this was happening, an update was required. A resolution was drafted to register their disappointment with the lack of information.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2020/56

Moved: Cr Ross McRobie

Seconded: Member John Wilkie

That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee registers its disappointment that after five months nothing has been received from the parties involved in Destination Mackenzie.

CARRIED

5.6 MANAGEMENT OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The purpose of this report was to outline the recommended approach to managing zone committee conflicts of interest following the revocation of exemptions to the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968.

This report was considered earlier in the meeting, under Item 3 "Declarations of Interest".

5.7 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY, AND CONFIRMATION OF MEETING DATES

The purpose of the report was to elect, review and amend, if needed:

- Election of Chair, Deputy Chair and Regional Representative for 2020 as set out in the Terms of Reference; and
- Meeting dates, times and location.

Election of Chairperson

Chairperson Simon Cameron vacated the chair and the governance advisor called for nominations for the position of chairperson.

Simon Cameron was nominated by Richard Subtil. This was seconded by Matt Bayliss.

There were no further nominations, so Simon Cameron was appointed chairperson.

Cr John Sunckell thanked Simon Cameron for his work and leadership on the zone committee.

Election of Deputy Chairperson

Mr Cameron called for nominations for the position of deputy chairperson.

Matt Bayliss was nominated by Lisa Anderson. This was seconded by Simon Cameron.

There were no further nominations, so Matt Bayliss was appointed deputy chairperson.

Election of Regional Representative

The committee agreed to continue with a previous decision that whoever was available from the committee to attend in Christchurch would attend the regional committee meetings on behalf of the water zone committee.

Meeting Dates

The committee agreed that once a year they needed to meet in Otematata and Lake Tekapo.

The next meeting, in March, would be a hangi at Richard Subtil's property at Omarama. Mr Subtil asked to move the March meeting to March 27. Tami Woods will email members to allow them to check their calendars.

It was possible that a joint meeting of the Upper and Lower Waitaki Zone Committees could be held at Otematata in April.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2020/57

Moved: Member Richard Subtil

Seconded: Member Matthew Bayliss

That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee elects Simon Cameron as chairperson for 2020. Nominated by Richard Subtil.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2020/58

Moved: Member Lisa Anderson

Seconded: Chairperson Simon Cameron

That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee elects Matt Bayliss as deputy chairperson for 2020. Nominated by Lisa Anderson.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2020/59

Moved: Chairperson Simon Cameron

Seconded: Member Matthew Bayliss

That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee appoints "any member who can attend a regional meeting in Christchurch" as regional representative for 2020.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2020/60

Moved: Chairperson Simon Cameron

Seconded: Member Matthew Bayliss

That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee meets from 9.30am to 1pm on the following Fridays:

21 February – Omarama

20 or 27 March tbc – Hangi at Omarama

17 April

15 May

19 June

17 July

21 August

18 September

16 October

20 November

CARRIED

5.8 LAKE RUATANIWHA E.COLI REPORT

This report was from Henrietta Hazlett, Resource Management Officer at Environment Canterbury, and provided information on the high level of *E. coli* found in Lake Ruataniwha on the 1st of January 2020, and the subsequent compliance investigation.

Henrietta Haslett and Shirley Hayward took the committee through the power point presentation on page 32 of the agenda.

Discussion took place on whether the campground and its oxidation pond could have contributed to the high e.coli readings. It was agreed that even if it wasn't the source of the e.coli, the oxidation pond was still a risk to the lake in the event of an earthquake or other failure. The committee agreed to write to Mackenzie District Council in support of joining the campground to the main sewer line.

The committee also discussed how the impact on the lake was directly linked to human activity and signage linking poor water quality to human activity and the steps people could take should be installed at Lake Ruataniwha.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2020/61

Moved: Member Lisa Anderson

Seconded: Member John Wilkie

1. That the report be received.
2. That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee endorses the proposed next steps at Lake Ruataniwha, which are to wait for results from the campground oxidation pond review, continue to regularly sample the lake and continue compliance presence in the area, including FST sampling over high use periods.

3. That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee writes to Mackenzie District Council in support of the need to join the Lake Ruataniwha campground to the main sewerage system.
4. That the committee recommends that signage linking poor quality water to human activity is installed at Lake Ruataniwha.

CARRIED

5.9 AHURIRI ARM LAKE TROPHIC LIMITS

Richard Subtil and Lisa Anderson updated the committee on the response to the Ahuriri Arm Lake Trophic Level Limit exceedance, and the formation of an Ahuriri Catchment Group. They said that local farmers were strongly supportive of the formation of the Group.

The need for compliance to focus on the areas of nutrient highest impact, using information gathered by compliance and land management staff to next communicate steps farmers need to take, and a concern about whether the outcomes sought by the committee in their Zone Implementation Programme Addendum (ZIPA) would be achieved, was also discussed.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2020/62

Moved: Member Richard Subtil

Seconded: Member Matthew Bayliss

1. That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee notes progress on the response to the Ahuriri Arm Lake Trophic Level Limit exceedance.
2. That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee supports the formation of the Ahuriri Catchment Group;
3. That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee invites the Ahuriri Catchment Group to continue:
 - To engage with the Zone Committee; and
 - Seek support of the Committee, where needed, to help the group achieve its goals.
4. That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee asks Environment Canterbury to establish and prioritise robust compliance in the Ahuriri area, with the focus in the areas of the highest impact on nutrient loss.
5. That communication with farmers emphasises the steps they can take to improve trophic limits in the Ahuriri Arm, using the compliance and land management information gathered in the past six months.
6. That Environment Canterbury provides the committee with information about how effective the operative planning regime for Ahuriri Arm of Lake Benmore will be in achieving the outcomes as sought in their ZIPA.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 11.32am and reconvened at 11.50am.

5.10 IMMEDIATE STEPS FUNDING FOR THE FERINTOSH ROWAN CONTROL PROJECT

This report was submitted by Jenna Hughes-Games, Environment Canterbury. The purpose of this report was to formally confirm the allocation of Immediate Steps (IMS) funding to the Ferintosh Rowan Control project.

The Committee endorsed this project earlier in the year by e-mail. This report was to formally record the Committee's decision to allocate the funding.

Jenna Hughes-Games updated the committee on the work carried out so far. DOC are working with the landowners and they are heavily involved.

John Benn from DOC outlined work due to start within the next two weeks to address some very heavy infestation. He said it was a very worthwhile project from a biodiversity viewpoint.

Discussion took place on priorities for Immediate Steps funding. The committee expressed a desire to look into other sources of funding and ways to encourage tree planting. Tami Woods suggested holding a session on this at a future date.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2020/63

Moved: Member Lisa Anderson

Seconded: Cr Ross McRobie

1. That the report be received.
2. That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee approves Immediate Steps funding of \$10,000 towards the Ferintosh Rowan Control Project.

CARRIED

5.11 ZONE FACILITATOR'S REPORT

Tami Woods noted the committee had a replacement for Arowhenua representative Sandra Hamstead-Tipene. Michael McMillan would be at the next meeting.

The chairperson will be presenting the committee's annual report to the Environment Canterbury and Mackenzie District Councils. A volunteer was requested to present it at the Waitaki District Council. Richard Subtil agreed.

Discussion took place on key messages around litter and toileting. The committee saw a need to emphasise these messages to the public.

Kate Doran from Ecan answered questions on the 'Love Our Lake' Campaign. The branded bags will be reprinted for upcoming events.

The committee agreed to invite the region's responsible camping ambassadors to the next meeting.

Mackenzie District Council is currently consulting the public on the future management of Lakes Alexandrina and MacGregor. Tami Woods suggested the committee invite someone to speak on this matter. The consultant was happy to come along. An update was sought, but it was noted the Committee would be happy if this was in the form of a short update from Cr Stuart Barwood.

Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting Minutes

21 February 2020

Concern was expressed about a lack of representation on the committee from the north of the basin. Tami Woods was asked to follow-up with the community board and other contacts to see if there were people that could help bring issues from the north to the committee table.

Matt Bayliss suggested that members read the report on tourism from the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment on. He said this was important information and he would like to understand how Ecan and other councils would respond to this report. Discussion took place on this matter and the committee drafted the resolution below.

Tami Woods will email everyone a link to the report.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION UPP/2020/64

Moved: Member Matthew Bayliss

Seconded: Chairperson Simon Cameron

That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee asks the elected representatives on the committee to come back with a response on how their council intends to respond to the report on Tourism from the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment.

CARRIED

The Meeting closed at 12.36pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee Meeting held on 20 or 27 March 2020.

.....
CHAIRPERSON

5.2 INTERESTS REGISTER

File Reference: n/a
Author: Tami Woods, Zone Facilitator
Authoriser:
Attachments: Nil

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

That the information be noted and updated when required.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS REGISTER – AS AT 10 JUNE 2020

Keeping a Zone Committee Members' declarations of interest register allows Zone Committees to identify and manage a conflict of interest when it arises.

The Office of the Auditor General notes a conflict of interest can arise when: "A member's or official's duties or responsibilities to a public entity could be affected by some other interest or duty that the member or official may have."¹

If a member is in any doubt as to whether or not they have a conflict of interest, then the Member should seek guidance from Catherine Schache (General Counsel, Environment Canterbury), the Zone Facilitator and/or refer to the following guidance: <https://www.oag.govt.nz/2010/lamia>

Types of Interest to be documented in the register:

- Employment, trade or profession carried on by the Member or the Member's spouse for profit or gain
- Company, trust, partnership etc for which the Member or their spouse is a director, partner or trustee, or a shareholder of more than 10% shares
- Address of any land in which the Member has a beneficial interest and which is in the area of the Zone Committee
- The address of any land where the landlord is Environment Canterbury or [Name of TLA/s] and:
 - The Member or their spouse is a tenant;Or

the land is tenanted by a firm in which the Member or spouse is a partner, a company of which the Member or spouse is a director, or a Trust of which the Member or spouse is a Trustee.

- Any other matters which the public might reasonably regard as likely to influence the Member's actions during the course of their duties as a Member.
- Any contracts held between the Member or the Member's spouse and Environment Canterbury or [name of TLA/s]. Including contracts in which the Member or their spouse is a partner, a company of which the spouse is a director and/or holds more than 10% in shares, or a Trust of which the Member or their spouse is a trustee (noting that no

¹ Office of the Auditor General Good Practice Guide – Managing Conflicts of Interest: Guidance for public entities

committee member should be a party to a contract with Environment Canterbury or the relevant TLA if that value is more than \$25,000 per annum)

Zone Committee members are to ensure that the information contained in this register is accurate and complete.

Name	Committee Member Interests
Lisa Anderson	Farmer and irrigator in Lake Benmore Ahuriri Arm catchment. Resource consents CRC201984, CRC136698, CRC156110, CRC012017.
Stuart Barwood	Mackenzie District Council Councillor, Chairman Assets and Services committee MDC, trustee of Helwood Trust.
Mat Bayliss	Chairs the Meridian Energy Waitaki Community Fund. Asset Maintenance Manager for Meridian Energy in Twizel. Shareholder of Meridian Energy. Consents held CRC142283
Simon Cameron	Local Merino sheep farmer. Trustee of Ben Ohau Farming Trust. Trustee Cameron Investment Trust. Trustee of Mackenzie Wilding Trees Trust. Trustee Aoraki Mount Cook Museum Trust. Resource consents CRC952244, CRC952245, CRC952267, CRC952268, CRC952269, CRC100234,
Ross McRobie	Shareholding Director of RPM Management Limited, Chair of Otago Community Trust, Trustee Bayliss Family Trust. Councillor Ahuriri Ward for Waitaki District Council.
Joy Paterson	Member of Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board, Trustee of LineTrust South Canterbury. Husband is a Mackenzie District Councillor.
Richard Subtil	Farmer and irrigator in Omarama catchment. Member of Omarama Stream Water Users Group. Committee member of Omarama Airfield. Resource consents CRC010693.1, CRC010694, CRC010727.2, CRC110202, CRC122382, CRC174573, CRC194088, CRC194520, CRC203348.
John Sunckell	Environment Canterbury Councillor, Register of interest held by Environment Canterbury
Keiran Whyte	Te Rūnanga o Moeraki, Employee of Tuna Trap and Transfer Team.
John Wilkie	Te Rūnanga o Waihao. Representative on the Waitaki Native Fish Committee.
Michael McMillan	Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua.

5.3 ACTION LIST**File Reference:** n/a**Author:** Tami Woods, Zone Facilitator**Authoriser:****Attachments:** Nil**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the report be received.

BACKGROUND

This report is from Tami Woods, Zone Facilitator, Environment Canterbury.

The purpose of this report is to update the committee on progress on items identified at previous zone committee meetings in 2019 and 2020.

UPPER WAITAKI ZONE COMMITTEE – JUNE 2020 ACTION LIST (UPDATED FROM FEBRUARY 2020)

Date of meeting	Action	Who	Status
21 February 2019	Elected representatives on the committee to come back with a response on how their council intends to respond to the report on Tourism from the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment.	Zone Committee Council representatives	To be actioned
21 February 2019	Concern was expressed about a lack of representation on the committee from the north of the basin. To follow-up with the community board and other contacts to see if there were people that could help bring issues from the north to the committee table.	Tami Woods	To be actioned
21 February 2019	That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee writes to Mackenzie District	Tami Woods	Work in progress

	Council in support of the need to join the Lake Ruataniwha campground to the main sewerage system		
21 February 2019	Signage linking poor quality water to human activity is installed at Lake Ruataniwha	Tami Woods/Kate Doran	Refer item 1
21 February 2019	The Committee agreed that once a year they needed to meet in Otematata and Lake Tekapo.	Tami Woods/Arlene Goss	To be actioned
21 February	Joint meeting of the Upper and Lower Waitaki Zone Committees to be investigated in Otematata in April.	Tami Woods	To be actioned
21 February 2019	That the Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee registers its disappointment that after five months nothing has been received from the parties involved in Destination Mackenzie.	Tami Woods	Zone Committee to communicate as part of item 3.
20 September 2019	Staff update the Committee on progress with Destination Mackenzie within one week.	Tami Woods	No answer received
20 September 2019	ECan to follow up the September Clay Cliffs report with communication around the impact of erosion on the Clay Cliffs	Tami Woods & Kate Doran	Completed
20 September 2019	Committee recommends that DOC commission a survey report around lake Middleton and then return to the Committee for a discussion around next steps	Jeremy Severinsen	Jeremy Severinsen had advised that he would pay for a survey and had been in touch with Alastair Ensor who represents the landowner. He recommended that the zone committee

			contact Alastair to follow-up.
20 September 2019	The Committee recommends that Jeremy Severinsen draft a formal report on DOC timing and plans around the Drylands Heritage Area with how it aligns with the Mackenzie Trust and the MDC District Plan for November.	Jeremy Severinsen	Zone Committee to communicate as part of item 3.
16 August 2019	A technical group of Environment Canterbury staff and consultants to further discuss the options to address inequity between consent holders with TLI trigger levels of 2.75 and 2.9 and then further discuss options with consent holders.	Zella/Bianca and Irricon	Held 19 September
16 August 2019	A catchment group for Ahuriri Arm to be formed as soon as possible and determine what further science is needed to establish where the nutrients are coming from. Graeme Clarke's report to be discussed with the catchment group.	Marty Mortiaux	Completed
16 August 2019	Environment Canterbury to then identify where nutrients are originating from within the catchment area and report back to the catchment group.	Marty Mortiaux	Completed
16 August 2019	Make Available Environment Defence Society presentations on Mackenzie available to the Committee.	Tami Woods	E-mailed 10 September

16 August 2019	Explore options of replacement for Committee member Sandra Hampstead-Tipene, in regard to Arrowhenua rūnanga	Brad Waldon-Gibbons	Completed
16 August 2019	Regional Committee dates be included in Committee calendars and be a standing item on the agenda confirming who could attend	Tami Woods	To be confirmed as part of item 1 to this meeting
19 July 2019	Chair to write to Regional Committee asking for some Committee meetings to be held in Timaru.	Committee Chair	Completed
17 May 2019	Clay Cliffs – analyse (for P) a sample of the sediment being eroded from below Clay Cliffs.	Graeme Clarke	Item 2 on September 2019 Agenda
17 May 2019	Changes to Ahuriri delta – find out whether there is new LIDAR or other data that provides new information on build-up of the delta and sedimentation of the lake. If new data available, then advise committee and indicate whether this can be analysed and brought to the committee.	Graeme Clarke	Work in progress
17 May 2019	Refresh the committee’s “Posters” at the five locations across the zone	Kate Doran	Spring and Summer Posters prepared
15 February 2019	Kellands Pond/Wairepo Arm – will a hydraulic study be done on how these two waterbodies connect be done? Previously agreed that a study was needed.	Chris to follow up with ECan Science	Work in progress

15 February 2019	Develop a visual one-page summary to report progress against the Zone Delivery Work Programme	Chris Eccleston	Work in progress
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5.4 ENCOURAGING RESPONSIBLE TOILET USE AT RUATANIWHA

Author: Kate Doran, Senior Communications and Engagement Advisor

Authoriser:

Attachments: Nil

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

That the committee recommend the development of a communications campaign to raise awareness of responsible toilet use at Lake Ruataniwha to be developed and created in collaboration with key stakeholders ahead of summer 2020/21.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is from Kate Doran, Senior Communications & Engagement Advisor, Environment Canterbury.

This report outlines the outcomes from the on-line workshop on 15 May with the Committee and next steps.

WORKSHOP AND NEXT STEPS FOR COMMUNICATIONS FOR SUMMER 20/21

On Friday 15 May, members of the Zone Committee took part in a short online workshop to consider and discuss the proposed next steps for raising public awareness of responsible toilet use at Lake Ruataniwha in summer 2020/21.

This workshop followed up on a request from the Zone Committee in February for signage to be created after high levels of faecal bacteria resulted in the Lake Ruataniwha campsite beach area being shut down for more than a week during the January 2020 peak holiday period. The committee asked for the signage to highlight that holiday makers should be aware of their responsibility to protect (and not degrade) the quality of the water they are using for recreation.

Environment Canterbury communications, who support the committee, suggested widening the scope of the committee's request for signage to include other channels of communication and utilise the existing Love Our Lakes branding.

DISCUSSION:

The committee agreed on the approach to utilise the existing Love Our Lakes brand and collaborate with other key groups to raise awareness on responsible toilet use at and near Lake Ruataniwha this summer.

Targeted communication methods should be used to address key barriers to using toilets (eg. not knowing location of toilets/not understanding implications of E. coli entering swimming area).

NEXT STEPS AGREED:

Mid July	Site visit and meeting with key stakeholders to plan campaign overview (invite to include local rūnanga, Mackenzie District Council, Department of Conservation, Youth rōpū, Lake Ruataniwha Camping Ground, Mackenzie Tourism, Alps to Ocean Cycle Trail, Ruataniwha Rowing Club, Zone Committee Members.
August	Continue to develop campaign. Create collateral (including regular community posters and Love Our Lakes material for summer) and organise dates for any events.
September	Present campaign to stakeholders and zone committee.
October 2020 – April 2021	RUN CAMPAIGN
Peak summer	Measurement –survey of visitors on awareness of toilet locations.
Autumn	Review and debrief

Members of the Committee who volunteered to assist with next steps:

Input into collateral	Mid July site visit and meeting
Mat Bayliss	Mat Bayliss
Joy Paterson	Joy Paterson
Richard Subtil	Keiran Whyte
Keiran Whyte	

5.5 AHURIRI CATCHMENT UPDATE

Author: Tami Woods, Richard Subtil and Lisa Anderson

Authoriser:

Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is from Tami Woods, Richard Subtil and Lisa Anderson.

This report provides:

1. Information on the Lake Trophic Level Limit (TLI) result for 2019/20 and implications for consent holders.
2. An update on actions that occurred in 2019 and early 2020 and the on-going risks that remain about the TLI in the Ahuriri Arm of Lake Benmore being exceeded in future years.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee

1. Notes:

- a. The 2019/2020 Lake Benmore Ahuriri Arm TLI is 2.75.
- b. That a TLI at 2.75 or under does not trigger any additional actions on top of a farmer's usual consent requirements.
- c. The actions that occurred in 2019 and early 2020 in response to last year's TLI of 2.9.

2. Considers how it would like to address the on-going issues.

CONTEXT

Lake Benmore is highly valued by all. Environment Canterbury measures the lakes state using a Trophic Lake Index (TLI).

TLI is not used as an indicator of safety for swimming; Land and Water Aotearoa reports that the sites monitored in Lake Benmore are generally suitable for swimming, based on three years of summer-time monitoring.

The TLI, or the Trophic Level Index, is an index used across the country as a measure of the nutrient status of a particular lake. A higher TLI results from higher nutrient concentrations

and higher algal biomass (phytoplankton). Lakes with high TLIs generally have greener and more turbid (cloudy) water columns.

The low TLI limit of 2.9 for the Ahuriri Arm of Lake Benmore recognises the lakes good water quality.

The TLI limit for Ahuriri Arm of Lake Benmore was set to achieve the community outcomes agreed by the Upper Waitaki Water Zone Committee, which included maintaining its good water quality and providing for a diverse ecosystem of plant and animal life, recreational opportunities and customary use.

If the TLI limit is exceeded there is an increased risk that water clarity will deteriorate, lake colour will change from blue to green, and there will be algal blooms.

2019/2020 LAKE BENMORE AHURIRI ARM TLI

The TLI for Ahuriri Arm of Lake Benmore for the 2019/20 monitoring season is 2.75. This is below the catchment limit of 2.9.

Sampling was unable to be taken in April 2020, due to COVID-19 Alert levels. An extension to the timeframe for collecting the last sample was made by Environment Canterbury. The final sample was collected in May. The table below shows the TLI results from 5 samples taken from December to May.

	Chla -average	TN-average	TP-average	TLc	TLn	TLp	TLI	GRADE
2019/2020 season incl. May	2.480	92.600	7.200	3.222	2.309	2.721	2.751	OLIGO

BACKGROUND

In 2019, The Trophic Level Index (TLI) calculations for the Upper Waitaki Lakes had reached 2.9 which was the lakes TLI limit in the Land and Water Regional Plan (LWRP).

Although the lake limit was not exceeded, 1/3rd of the farms in the catchment with water permits (granted prior to the TLI 2.9 limit being included in the LWRP) with an early warning TLI trigger level of 2.75, were required to reduce their nutrient discharge allowances (NDA's) and operate within the new allowances.

A further 1/3rd of consent holders consent holders, with farming land use consents, had no actions required. If the TLI had however exceeded 2.9 they would have needed to prepare a remedial action plan.

The last 1/3rd of farms in the catchment, that are either dryland or with small areas of irrigation and winter grazing, were not required to carry out any actions linked to the lakes TLI.

This year's TLI at 2.75 does not trigger any additional actions on top of a farmer's usual consent requirements.

ACTIONS IN 2019 AND EARLY 2020

As a result of the TLI reaching 2.9 last year, the following actions occurred in response to the Zone Committee's recommendations:

- Environment Canterbury prepared the 'Cause Report' on behalf of consent holders. Consent holder were charged a small fee for the time preparing.
- Meetings were held with consent holders and their consultants with the 2.75 TLI trigger levels to clarify the reductions to the NDA's required and alternative pathway of demonstrating they were not contributing to the TLI.
- Consent holders with the 2.75 TLI trigger levels, all made the reductions to their NDA's and choose not to take an alternative pathway.
- A technical group of Environment Canterbury staff and consultants formed to further discuss options to address the inequity between consent holders and a discussion was then held with consent holders.
- All farms that required farming land use consents were followed up to ensure they applied for their farming land use consents.
- All farms with Environment Canterbury consents were visited to ensure they were operating in accordance with their consent conditions.
- All farms with irrigation were visited by an Environment Canterbury Land Management advisor to check their irrigation management.
- To support collective action, all farms in the catchment (and industry bodies) were invited in December to a catchment meeting. The meeting was independently facilitated and addressed what was influencing the TLI, including where nutrients were coming from, the importance of all farms operating at good management practice (gmp) and what gmp covered.

At the end of the catchment meeting there was good support for the formation of a catchment group.

A facilitator/coordinator was identified, and a committee was established to progress the Ahuriri Catchment Collective (ACC). The focus of the Collective is on education, upskilling and

relationship building. In February topic ideas were identified for the next six months. The first field event was held in March. This focused on irrigation management in conjunction with Environment Canterbury Land Management staff. Progress has been subsequently delayed due to COVID-19.

ON-GOING ISSUES

There are three key issues that Richard and Lisa will lead a discussion on, at the meeting, which are considered barriers to achieving the outcomes sought for Ahuriri Arm of lake Benmore in the Zone Committee's Zone Implementation Addendum (ZIPA).

1. Inequities across farms, including:
 - Inequities around TLI limits on consents and the actions required when limits are exceeded;
 - Inequities also exist as a result of consents not being lodged or lodged, but not granted.

2. Everyone operating at gmp or better to minimise the risk of the TLI limit being exceeded. Everyone operating at gmp was a key assumption to ensuring the TLI did not exceed 2.9.
 - Gmp implementation is checked for consented farms with Farm Environment Plan's (FEP's) that need to be Audited. However, 1/3rd of farms are also required to implement management plans, that are not monitored/audited.
 - Farms with the highest concentrations of nitrogen are not required to go beyond gmp.

3. The effectiveness of the planning regime.
 - Concern that the outcomes sought for the Lake (in the Committee's ZIPA) may not be achieved as the assumptions about what would be in place compared with the final planning regime, intensification occurring, and climate predications now differ.

5.1 MACKENZIE BASIN AGENCY ALIGNMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE

Author: Annabelle Dunn, Programme Manager

Authoriser:

- Attachments:**
1. **Geographical Scope of the Mackenzie Basin Agency Alignment Programme** [↓](#) 
 2. **Appendix 2: Summary of Progress Made** [↓](#) 

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is from Annabelle Dunn, Programme Manager – Mackenzie Basin Agency Alignment

The purpose of the report is to:

1. Follow up on the last update in August 2019 and provide the Zone Committee (Committee) with an update on the Mackenzie Basin Alignment Programme (Alignment Programme) and support discussion between the Alignment Programme Steering Committee and Committee members.
2. Seek Feedback from the Committee on the Alignment Programme's focus areas for 2020 and how the Committee would like to be engaged in these focus areas.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee notes:

- a. the background information about the Alignment Programme;
- b. the progress made through the Alignment Programme to date; and
- c. the six focus areas for 2020 and current activities.

That the Committee provides feedback on the focus areas for 2020 (to be discussed at the meeting).

BACKGROUND

1. During 2017, the five statutory agencies with environmental responsibilities in the Mackenzie Basin formed a leading-edge alliance, a first for New Zealand. The Alignment Programme acknowledges that the agencies have individual and collective responsibility to partner with mana whenua, work with farmers and communities to protect the iconic landscape, together with its water quality and biodiversity.
2. The group comprises the Mackenzie District Council, Waitaki District Council, Environment Canterbury, Land Information New Zealand, and the Department of Conservation. The five agencies' functions include management of land use, landscape, water quality and quantity, vegetation clearance, biosecurity and biodiversity. The agencies have different statutory responsibilities which at times overlap (see attachment 1 for the geographical scope of the Alignment Programme).

3. The Alignment Programme was established in early 2018. Its formation was one of the key recommendations of the *Mackenzie Basin – Opportunities for Agency Alignment* report (the report), prepared by Dr Hugh Logan and John Hutchings (26 January 2018). The purpose of the report was to investigate how higher levels of agency alignment could be achieved, applying best public sector practice to better realise the outcomes desired by the community.
4. The report suggested 25 recommendations, which the Mackenzie Basin Agency Steering Committee (MBASC) used to develop a work programme. The Alignment Programme has made significant progress to date, including establishment of management structures, delivery of several priority projects and implementation of supporting work (see appendix 2 for details).²
5. The Alignment Programme is unique in that it is the first time in New Zealand that a cross-agency programme of this scale has been undertaken that focuses on improving *how agencies work together* to achieve the outcomes desired by the community in one of New Zealand's most iconic landscapes.
6. The purpose of the Alignment Programme is to make a transformational shift in the way that agencies join together to undertake their statutory functions, leading to improved environmental and social outcomes through the delivery of core work. The goal of the Alignment Programme is to show that Mackenzie Basin agency alignment leads to better (1) environmental and community outcomes, (2) effective service delivery and (3) is seen as an exemplar of collaboration and partnership.
7. During your meeting on 16 August 2019, Karina Morrow (the Programme Manager at that time) provided an update on the Alignment Programme. Since you received this update, the focus has continued to be threefold:
 - I. establish better working relationships, understand the work each agency is doing, and keep each other informed of decisions;
 - II. deepen relationships and Treaty Partnership with Papatipu Rūnanga as mana whenua of the Waitaki; and
 - III. improve the Resource Management Act planning and consenting processes across the councils to be more joined-up.

EVOLVING THE PROGRAMME – FOCUS AREAS 2020

8. The MBASC has developed a forward view of the Alignment Programme, identifying the following six focus areas for 2020. These are outlined below along with an update on current activities.
 - I. **Grow agency collaboration** – This focus area is about increasing the value of collaboration between the agencies, Councils and iwi in delivering projects. Supporting activities will seek to evolve the Alignment Programme to ensure ownership at the governance level across all agencies and with the Treaty Partner (Minister for Conservation and Land Information New Zealand, District Council Mayors, Environment Canterbury Chair and the Chairs of Papatipu Rūnanga).

² Not all the recommendations made in the report have been implemented because they are no longer relevant (e.g. recommendations relating to land tenure review and Joint Management Agreements). Other recommendations have since been implemented by wider initiatives supported (but not directed by the Alignment Programme) including those relating to a predator-free and drylands areas.

- II. *Enhance and deliver Treaty Partnership*** – This focus area is about continuing to work with Papatipu Rūnanga to explore what Treaty Partnership means for the Alignment Programme. Supporting activities will seek to develop a relationship engagement framework consistent with the mana to mana principle (right resource/person at the right level). A principled agreement with a supporting work programme may also be developed.

A hui that was set to take place between Papatipu Rūnanga and the Minister for Conservation and Land Information New Zealand, the Environment Canterbury Chair and the Mayors of Mackenzie and Waitaki District Councils on 26 March did not occur due to Covid-19. The three Mackenzie Rūnanga have recently advised that they are keen to meet and are proposing August for this Minister/Governance/Rūnanga hui.

- III. *Support economic recovery from COVID-19 with nature based employment*** – This focus area is about leveraging the established, trusted partnership group that the Alignment Programme has built across agencies to support the Mackenzie Basin’s recovery from COVID-19. Supporting activities will seek to use the mana and expertise of the Alignment Programme to attract recovery funding by engaging with the Crown, the private sector and key stakeholders. The Alignment Programme understands the challenges faced by the region, provides a solid framework for co-ordinated deployment of resources in the Basin and is also well equipped to carry out or support critical programmes such as pest control.

Since the onset of COVID-19, the Alignment Programme has supported the Department of Conservation’s successful *Revitalising communities through nature-based employment* proposal. This has been funded \$200M from the Government’s COVID-19 Recovery Fund and will enable regional delivery of jobs. The five agencies have also welcomed the government’s announcement of a further \$2million funding for wilding pine control, both in the Basin and elsewhere in Canterbury. Three new projects have been announced, to tackle both the problem of wilding pines and employ about 50 people who have been hardest hit by the economic fallout of COVID-19.

- IV. *Align information, regulatory plans and approaches*** – This focus area is about developing consistent agency information and sharing in the development and implementation of agency policies (e.g. planning instruments, strategies, monitoring and compliance) to ensure the right outcomes are achieved. Supporting activities will seek to develop consistent technical information to support regulators and explore opportunities and new ways of working together.

Current activities include exploring a joined up approach to compliance and monitoring resourcing; continuing to bring all agency maps and data into one place and making it easily accessible to support agency work; investigating the feasibility of cross-warranted Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement officers; and reviewing the Waitaki and Mackenzie District Plans to address gaps and enable better protection of the region’s indigenous biodiversity and iconic landscape.

- V. *Support wider agency initiatives*** – This focus area is about providing a pathway for strategic conversations, cross-agency coordination and resolving issues that are common to these wider agency initiatives. There are several wider agency initiatives occurring in the Mackenzie Basin that have strong links between the outcomes they are seeking to

achieve and the goal of the Alignment Programme. These initiatives are managed separately and are accountable to individual agencies, but their success cannot be achieved in isolation (see appendix 2 for a list of these initiatives).

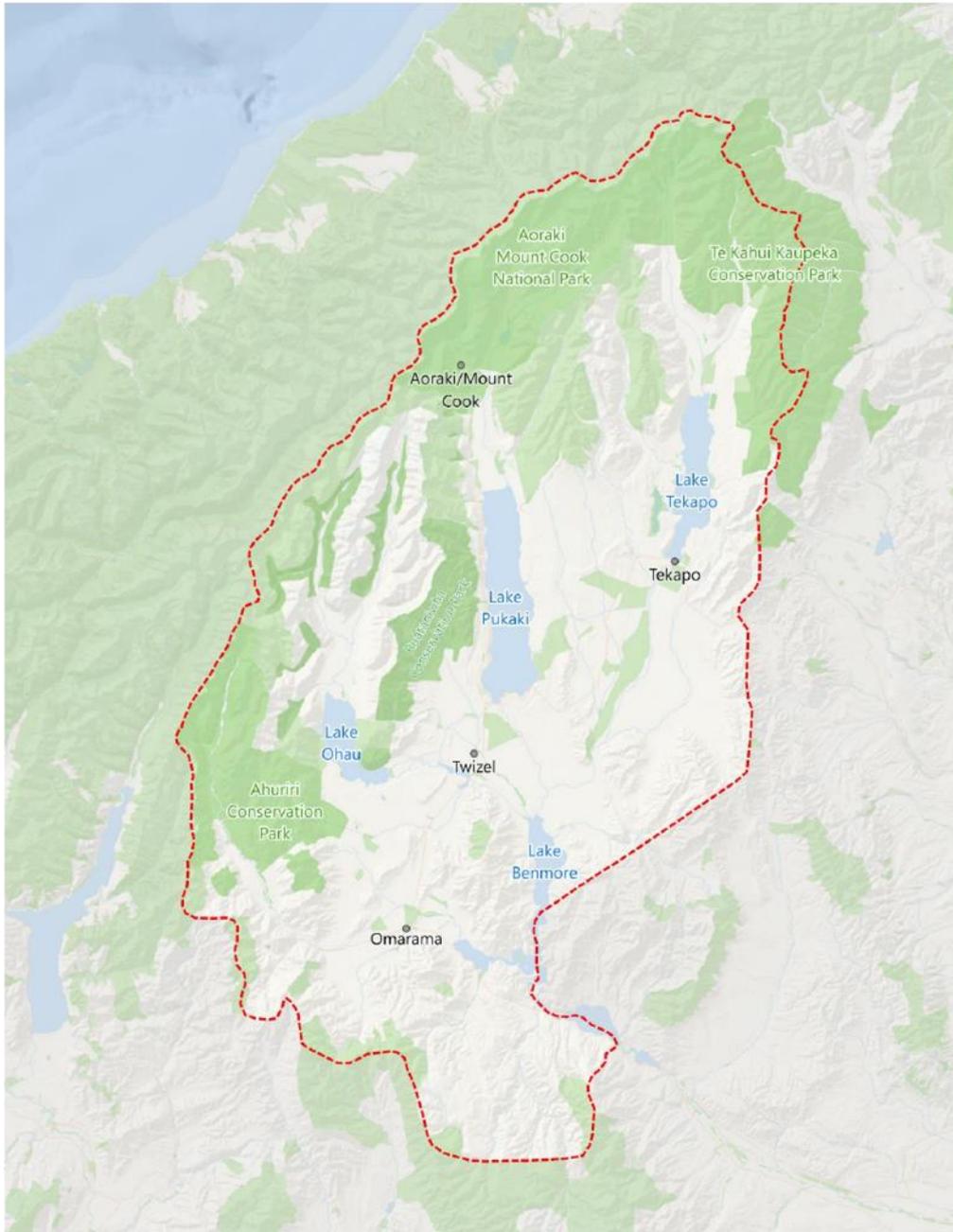
Activities this year will seek to continue to support agency projects and develop frameworks for project managers and key staff to connect within the Mackenzie Basin. Practical and tangible support that is making a real difference includes:

- Central Government support to Local Government in recognition of the critical role of District Plans – DOC and LINZ have provided a total of \$200,000 (\$100,000 to Mackenzie District Council and \$100,000 Waitaki District Council).
- Joined up communications across the five agencies – for example, ensuring communications and press releases are aligned and do not cut across other agencies' announcements.
- DOC and LINZ commissioned the Environmental Defence Society to report on new ways to protect New Zealand landscapes with the first case study on the Mackenzie Basin. The report was released this month, which showed strong community support for the Alignment Programme.
- Supporting Mackenzie District Council on Destination Mackenzie with in-kind work and agency support for Provincial Growth Funds awarded. Additional resource support and specialist expertise including planning, mapping and ecological advice is also being provided.
- Joined up efforts to control Wilding conifers in the Mackenzie Basin through the Mackenzie Wilding Conifers Group.
- Supporting Te Manahuna Aoraki – LINZ is assisting with a coordinated approach to biosecurity control (wilding conifers and rabbits), including data collection and presentation of pest control information. DOC is a major funding partner for the project and works closely with Te Manahuna Aoraki Limited (the company delivering the work), providing seconded staff members, support with governance and expert advice/guidance for the biodiversity and operational work on the ground.
- Working with farmers to support their work on reducing biosecurity threats and increasing our compliance and monitoring programmes so that we can take a joined up approach to inspecting properties. Working with farmers to support their efforts to reduce biosecurity threats and increase our own compliance monitoring programmes.

VI. *Align and improve agency engagement activities* – This focus area is about helping agencies demonstrate a consistent engagement approach with key stakeholders in the Mackenzie Basin. Supporting activities will seek to develop mutual commitments for collaboration, engagement and communication between the five agencies, Mackenzie community organisations and other government agencies.

The Alignment Programme is currently developing a cross-agency engagement package that will include a set of engagement principles for all agencies to use, as well as a suite of supporting tools. Planning for further engagement with farmers is underway including identifying practical projects that deliver benefits for farmers; aligning a team of agency staff in the Basin as key contacts for lessees; and investigating the potential for a 'trusted advisor' role. The Programme is also working to engage with community organisations and other government agencies to develop mutual commitments for collaboration, engagement and communication regarding Mackenzie matters.

APPENDIX 1 – GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE OF THE MACKENZIE BASIN AGENCY ALIGNMENT PROGRAMME



APPENDIX 2 – SUMMARY OF PROGRESS MADE

In summary, much higher levels of agency collaboration are now in place as a result of the following achievements over the past two years:

1. Effective management and additional resourcing

- Established management and oversight groups involving the five agencies, including the Chief Executive's Forum and the Mackenzie Basin Agency Steering Committee.
- Allocated key staff and additional resources to support delivery of the Alignment Programme.

2. Making information more accessible

- Developing a mapping platform (geospatial information system) that pulls together all available data layers from the five agencies, specific to the Mackenzie Basin. These maps illustrate the Mackenzie Basin's land types, uses, values and land use rules. For example, information on consents, land tenure and special landscape features can be found.
- The Mackenzie Basin Agency Alignment Programme website <http://www.mackenziebasin.govt.nz> was launched in March 2019 to provide a one-stop-shop for information and easy public access to agency initiatives and activities occurring in the Mackenzie Basin.

3. Agency communication and processes

- Established the Mackenzie Inter-Agency Officer's Forum, to operationally align relevant agency work through information sharing, increased transparency, and greater efficiencies within statutory frameworks. The function of the Forum is to provide a mechanism for the agencies to share information and expertise to assist with consenting, and other land management decisions in the Mackenzie Basin.
- Implemented joint hearing processes to streamline Council decision-making where appropriate. The first of these was successfully completed last year.
- Developed a set of easy-to-read user guides that explain legislative requirements and planning rules of each agency for both agency and public use.

4. Effective RMA Plans

- Sought to improve alignment between RMA plans, decision-making and other areas of agency work by completing a review of the planning frameworks relevant to the Mackenzie Basin, including the Mackenzie and Waitaki District Plan and Environment Canterbury's Regional Policy Statement. The purpose of this review

was to determine whether the existing rules are appropriate to protect the Basin's landscape, biodiversity and water quality. The Mackenzie Basin Gap Analysis Report was successfully completed and released in mid-July 2019. Since then the agencies have been working together to resolve the gaps identified.

5. Treaty Partnership

- Strengthened agency relationships and Treaty Partnerships with Papatipu Rūnanga through a series of hui with the three Rūnanga who have ties to the Mackenzie Basin (Arowhenua, Moeraki and Waihao) and agency officials. Discussions to date have sought to determine how the Rūnanga want to be involved in agency work occurring in the Mackenzie Basin.

6. Community and stakeholder engagement

- Communications planning was completed to support the Programme and ensure joint communications about Mackenzie matters across the five agencies.
- A public engagement event was held on 1 March 2019 in Twizel, the Chief Executives met the local community and stakeholders to provide an update on how the agencies are working together and what improvements have been made in terms of overall alignment. The update was received very positively by the community.
- Engagement with farmers and landholders/lessees continued with an informal event on 12 December 2019 in Twizel. The purpose of the engagement was to understand how the agencies can support farmers as stewards of the landscape and gather their feedback on how they wish to be engaged in the future.
- Other engagements have included presentations to various community groups, including the Upper Waitaki Zone Committee and the Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board. We have also presented at the Crown Property Forum and the Environmental Defence Society Conference.

7. Support of wider initiatives

- Supported wider initiatives that are occurring in the Mackenzie Basin. The Alignment Programme can be described as the 'glue' that connects these initiatives by providing advice, co-ordination and assistance when needed. This has provided significant impact in terms of advice, funding and resources which would not exist otherwise (see point 19 in the attached paper for more details).
- Some of the wider initiatives supported by the Alignment Programme include:

Name of initiative	Lead organisation/s
Destination Mackenzie	Mackenzie District Council

Name of initiative	Lead organisation/s
High Country Work Programme	Land Information New Zealand
Tu Te Rakiwhanoa Drylands	Department of Conservation
Te Manahuna Aoraki	A collaboration between philanthropic organisations, government, Ngāi Tahu and farmers
Waitaki Aspiring Whitestone Geopark	Waitaki District Council
Wilding Conifer Control Programme	Ministry for Primary Industries, Department of Conservation, Land Information New Zealand, Environment Canterbury, Mackenzie and Waitaki District Councils and others
Canterbury Water Management Strategy	Canterbury Mayoral Forum, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and organisations with interests in water
Braided Rivers Action Group	Environment Canterbury, territorial authorities, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, Department of Conservation, Land Information New Zealand, Forest & Bird, Fish & Game, Federated Farmers and various Zone Committees

5.1 ZONE FACILITATOR'S REPORT

Author: Tami Woods, Zone Facilitator

Authoriser:

- Attachments:**
1. **Zone Committee Survey Results - Summary** [↓](#) 
 2. **Freshwater Package Announcement 28 May 2020** [↓](#) 
 3. **Groundwater Quality QA** [↓](#) 
 4. **Mackenzie Basin Landscape Report Key Messages** [↓](#) 
 5. **New Aerial Photography of our Region** [↓](#) 
 6. **Environment Canterbury Consents in Process** [↓](#) 

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is from Tami Woods, Zone Facilitator, Environment Canterbury.

This report provides information that may be of interest to the Zone Committee that is not covered elsewhere in the agenda or where feedback is sought to inform the focus for the committee.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the report be received.

1. Committee Member Changes

Since last formal meeting of the Committee, Michael McMillian has joined the committee as the rūnanga representative replacement for Sandra Hampstead Tipene from Arrowhenua.

2. Zone Committee Review – Update

As part of the recent Fit for Future project (that added 2025 and 2030 targets to the CWMS), the Mayoral Forum have asked Environment Canterbury to lead some advice on how to help zone committees focus on implementation of the CWMS.

This advice:

- takes into account the ten years of evolution of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) and all the work by zone committees, now completed, to develop implementation programmes (ZIPs and ZIPAs) tailored to each unique zone and community
- sits alongside several other reviews of differing types in Hurunui Waiau, Selwyn Waihora and the development of the Regional Work Programme on behalf of the Mayoral Forum. The latter outlines what initiatives are recommended to deliver on the 2025 CWMS targets.

Where are things at:

Over the last few months, Environment Canterbury has been developing a series of suggestions for improvements and changes to the role and function of zone committees. These have been discussed with Environment Canterbury's Councillors, and are now ready for discussion and further work with Territorial Authorities, Rūnanga Reps, and Zone Committee representatives.

The draft advice was based on councillor advice, the reviews, in-person conversations with CWMS rūnanga reps and two zone committees, and the results of the on-line survey sent to all committee members in May. [Attachment 1](#) summarises the zone committee survey results.

In a nut-shell the draft advice includes:

- Some suggested changes to the Terms of Reference (including zone committee role) and selection process
- A Letter of Shared Priorities sent to the zone committee every 3 years by the Territorial Authority and Environment Canterbury. The Letter of Shared Priorities will outline the Regional and individual Territorial priorities for each Zone Committee
- A requirement for Zone Committees to develop their own three-yearly Action Plan that will be owned, monitored and reported on by the committee.

What's next

Regional and TA Councillors will work together with Rūnanga reps, ZC Chair/Deputy, Facilitators and senior staff from each Council to:

- Discuss, enhance and agree on the proposed changes including the TOR and proposed action plans and selection process changes
- establish priorities for the letter of Shared Priorities for individual zones

This work is anticipated to be advanced in July, with careful consideration of TA's and Zone Committees capacity to focus on this while also addressing the range of contingencies they are currently facing as a result of Covid-19 and/or the Government's Freshwater package.

Once confirmed, Environment Canterbury and TA Councils will formally endorse the revised TOR and confirm their Letters of Shared Priorities. The aim to have this in place by the end of July, subject to the Covid-19 contingencies Councils are facing.

A further update on how this review is progressing will be provided in July.

3. Regional Committee

The Regional Committee is not meeting in June. In July they will however have a workshop on the possible future Regional Committee functions, form and ways of working.

The date for the workshop has not been confirmed, but it would be good for there to be an Upper Waitaki Zone Committee presence at the workshop - so a volunteer to attend will be sought.

4. Love Our Lakes Update

Please refer to item 1 Encouraging responsible toilet use at Ruataniwha for future focus of 'Love our Lakes' for this summer.

Please also note that Winter posters for 'Love Our Lakes' have not been developed for this year due to COVID-19

5. Our Freshwater Report

The Ministry for the Environment and Stats NZ have released Our Freshwater 2020 in April.

<https://ecan.govt.nz/your-region/your-environment/water/canterburys-water/freshwater/>

The Report provides a national overview of the pressures on freshwater, and impacts from these, together with changes in state (and trends) through the lens of three themes and four environmental issues. The themes are water quality; water quantity and flows; freshwater ecosystems, habitats and species. The issues in the report are:

- Our native freshwater species and ecosystems are under threat
- Water is polluted in urban, farming, and forestry areas
- Changing water flows affect our freshwater
- Climate change is affecting freshwater in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The report provides a national picture of the pressures, states, and impacts on lakes, rivers, and groundwater. While recognising that significant regional variations exist, the report does not provide specific regional information or commentary on how freshwater is being managed – this is out of scope. The Secretary for the Environment and Government Statistician, in their introductory comments, state that changes in the state of our freshwater – both positive and negative – can take time. Some effects we are seeing today are legacies from our parents and grandparents. In some places we can expect to wait decades to see the results of our efforts to raise the health and mana of freshwater.

6. Freshwater Package Announcement 28 May 2020 – Action for Healthy Waterways

Attachment 2 provides an overview of the Freshwater Package Announcement.

Further information can be found at <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/action-for-healthy-waterways>

Environment Canterbury is waiting on the content of the National Policy Statement and National Environmental Standards however to fully understand the implications of the announcements.

7. Groundwater Quality Reports

Two ECan groundwater reports have been recently published and the new LAWA groundwater quality topic has been launched:

<https://www.lawa.org.nz/explore-data/groundwater-quality/>

A link to the LAWA topic and our reports have been published on these pages:

<https://ecan.govt.nz/your-region/your-environment/water/canterburys-water/>

<https://ecan.govt.nz/your-region/your-environment/water/canterburys-water/groundwater/>

Questions and Answers for you to refer to are included in Attachment 3.

Below are some key messages from each report from Environment Canterbury:

Groundwater survey

- Our annual survey reports data to 2019, so is a little ahead of LAWA
- The focus is on nitrate trends and results, which are particularly important to Cantabrians and all New Zealanders
- We welcome all research into the health impacts of nitrate in waterways
- This survey shows little change from earlier ones in line with our predictions (we expect little improvement for 15-20 years due to legacy effects, although our plans and on-the-ground action are having an impact)
- See <https://ecan.govt.nz/get-involved/news-and-events/2019/nitrate-in-waterways-whats-the-story/>

Nitrate risk maps

- For those with private wells drawing water from shallow aquifers
- Little change since 2017
- Used by Community and Public Health to ensure safe drinking water for private well owners - see <https://www.cph.co.nz/your-health/drinking-water/> for individual zone maps.

LAWA groundwater quality topic

- We welcome the launch of the topic – it's a valuable addition to the water / environmental information now available to the community that LAWA has been building for some time, with support from councils
- It brings ECan data (from last year) into a national framework
- We also welcome the *E.coli* trends data (something ECan collects but we've not been reporting).

8. Te Manahuna Mackenzie Basin and Landscape Protection Report

On 10 June the Environmental Defence Society (EDS) report released the 'Te Manahuna – Mackenzie Basin and Landscape Protection' Report.

The report covers the Historical context, pressure on the landscape, current management responses and further management responses, including:

- Filling gaps

- Strengthening the law, policy and planning framework;
- Integrated agency management; and
- Adopting a new approach

Attachment 4 includes the key messages from the report.

The full report is at <https://www.eds.org.nz/our-work/eds-landscape-project>

9. Potential opportunity of funding to support UW catchment or rural community groups

The Ministry for Primary Industries has an Extension Services Programme that has been set up to partner with farmers, regional stakeholders, industry groups and agricultural professionals to ensure services are relevant to the needs and priorities of local communities. Where possible this work is to build on existing capability and build more connected network of farmers, rural professionals, industry groups, and government.

In the new context of the Covid-19 pandemic central and local government are also considering COVID-19 recovery and gathering information about how best to partner with those on the ground to achieve the best outcomes. The Mackenzie Basin Agency Alignment Programme has been active in this space.

There is however also an opportunity for the zone committee to become central to any partnering with catchment and rural community groups to gather ideas that could be packaged together for funding where it relates to water management outcomes. Initial funding from the MPI Extension Services Programme could co-ordinate funds across South Canterbury, to support the establishment, build capacity within groups and deliver catchment and rural community group activities.

The key objectives for establishing a wider connected South Canterbury based approach (linking in with Lower Waitaki and OTOP Zones) could be to:

- Sell the idea of one central conduit in South Canterbury.
- Engage catchment groups in planning for their future and determining funds and activities that require support.
- Provide a framework to ensure efficient and focused delivery of support to where it can deliver most benefit.

The committee interest in having a role in progressing this further is sought.

10. Feedback on what worked or didn't work around ZC communication during COVID-19 Alert levels

Feedback is sought around what worked and didn't work during COVID-19 alert levels around Zone Committee work and communication and what you might like to keep moving forward. For example:

- Are e-mail updates more useful than items in the facilitators update or do you prefer them at the meetings?
- Do you want to do more video/remote meetings/workshops?
- Would you like to do more workshop type sessions on topics and make meetings more focused on formalising agreements? (as example Lake Ruataniwha comm's workshop, followed by paper in agenda).

11. Upper Waitaki Responsible Campaign Ambassadors

Unfortunately, the Upper Waitaki Camping Ambassadors were unable to attend the February Hangi of the Zone Committee to talk about their activities over summer due to cancellation of the event.

Advice of the Committee is sought as to whether you would still like to hear about the Ambassadors work from Waitaki District Council and Mackenzie District Council and if on-going funding for the roles is likely to continue or not.

12. Review of Aoraki/Mt Cook National Park Management Plan

On 29 May the Department of Conservation released information that DOC and Ngāi Tahu in consultation with the Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board have agreed to start a new review of the Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park Management Plan. Restarting the review means that the notified draft Plan will be withdrawn and a new draft Plan will be developed. At this stage, a timeline for completion is not clear given COVID-19.

13. New aerial photography of our region

New aerial photography of the Ashburton, Banks Peninsula, Mackenzie and Timaru districts has been captured by Canterbury local authorities and Environment Canterbury.

Attachment 5 includes the media release information about the new photography

14. Environment Canterbury Consents in Process

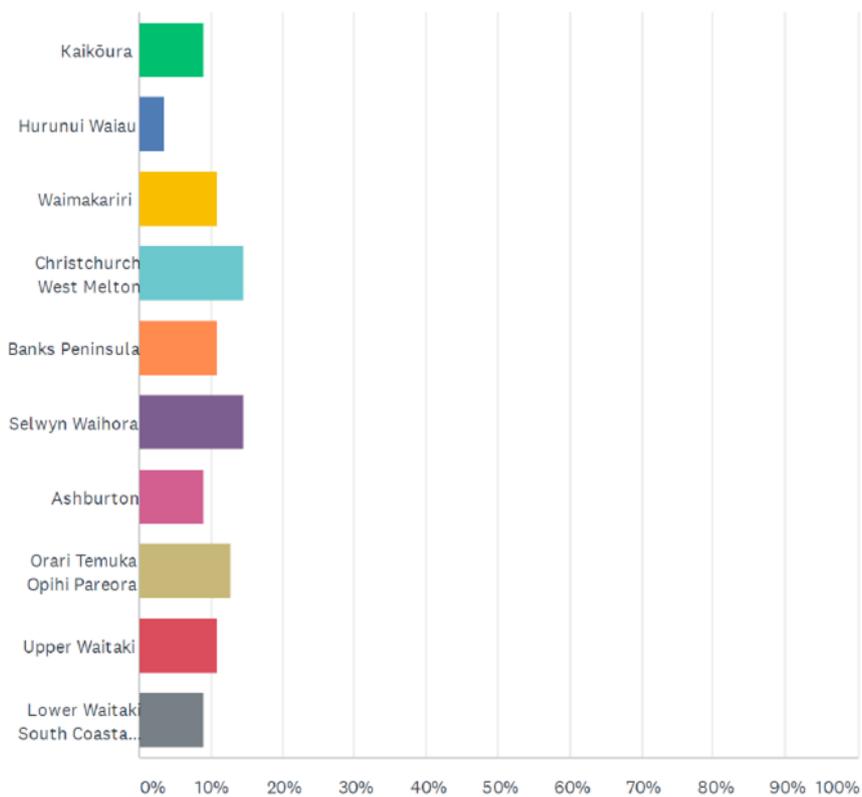
Attached (Attachment 6) to this paper is a list of resource consents in process with Environment Canterbury. This has been included for the Committee's and community reference only. This information is also publicly available on Environment Canterbury's website.

Attachment 1: Zone Committee Survey Analysis Report

Feedback from zone committees was sought through a web-based survey and responses have been summarised below. 55 zone committee members answered the on-line survey, 47% of those requested. Several committee members have articulated a desire for further input to the review process. Chairs/Deputy Chairs of zone committees are invited to discuss this feedback with their committees and to contribute to the zone level engagement to confirm the terms of reference and council priorities for zone committee focus.

Question 1 Please indicate the zone committee(s) you are currently on:

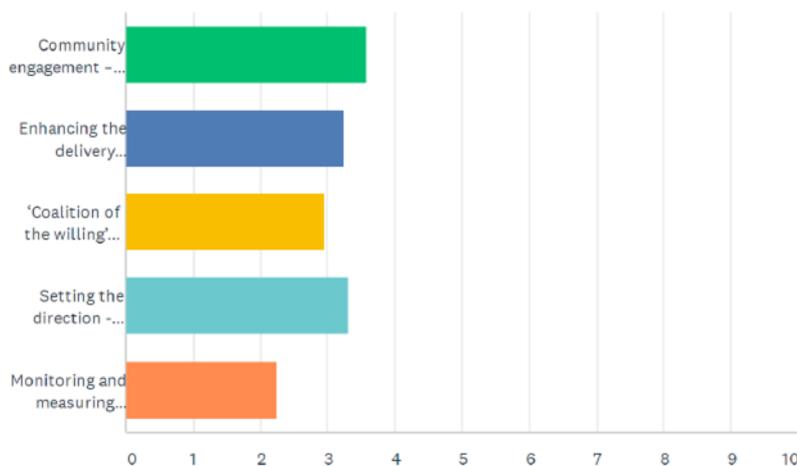
- 55 respondents (47%) of those requested from across all zones



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Kaikōura	9.09%	5
Hurunui Waiau	3.64%	2
Waimakariri	10.91%	6
Christchurch West Melton	14.55%	8
Banks Peninsula	10.91%	6
Selwyn Waihora	14.55%	8
Ashburton	9.09%	5
Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora	12.73%	7
Upper Waitaki	10.91%	6
Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury	9.09%	5
Total Respondents: 55		

Question 2 Please rank these from 1-5, with 1 being the role you think most important for zone committees in the future and 5 being the role you think least important.

- 55 responded and ranked possible future roles for zone committees. Results showed strong support for (from highest ranked to lowest) community engagement, enhancing the delivery approach, setting the direction, and coalition of the willing. Monitoring and measuring progress was ranked last overall.



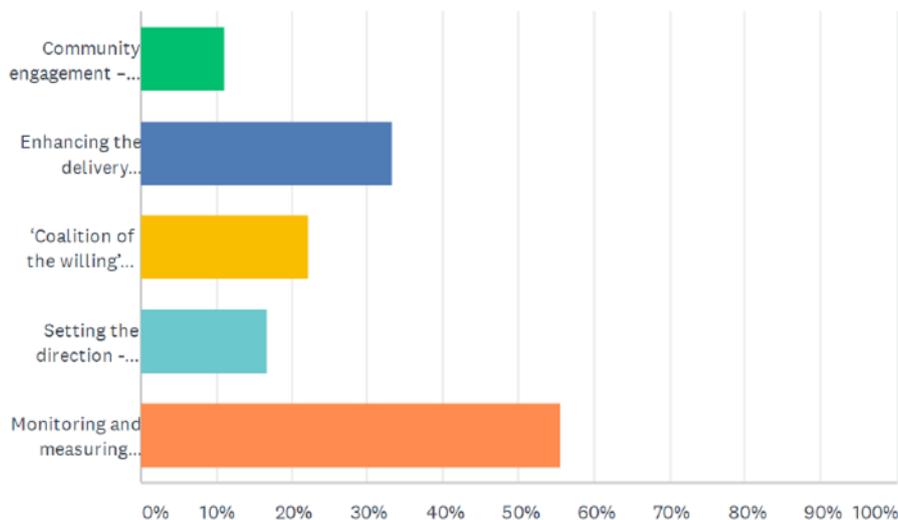
	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	SCORE
Community engagement – continuing an active programme of engaging with communities on freshwater management matters and facilitating the provision of advice through to and from councils and others engaged in freshwater management	30.77% 16	25.00% 13	23.08% 12	13.46% 7	7.69% 4	52	3.58
Enhancing the delivery approach - CWMS Implementation – making the boat go faster – the role of committees in working with stakeholders to extend the resources available, bring in other parties, leveraging and additional investment	26.92% 14	21.15% 11	19.23% 10	15.38% 8	17.31% 9	52	3.25
'Coalition of the willing' - the zone committee role in supporting and encouraging those who are doing good work, for example – bringing people together and making connections e.g. supporting catchment-based initiatives in the future	13.73% 7	27.45% 14	13.73% 7	29.41% 15	15.69% 8	51	2.94
Setting the direction - consideration of the zone committee role in priority setting at the zone level and associated zone committee role	30.77% 16	17.31% 9	23.08% 12	9.62% 5	19.23% 10	52	3.31
Monitoring and measuring progress monitoring and reporting annually on progress towards delivery of the zone-specific priorities and CWMS target areas identified in each zone	3.70% 2	14.81% 8	18.52% 10	27.78% 15	35.19% 19	54	2.24

Question 3 Please comment with any other function you feel should be included as a future role for zone committees and explain your reasoning.

- 32 of 55 responded. Other suggested roles for committees included engagement with and understanding of rūnanga perspectives and giving life to the treaty of Waitangi (5 respondents), education of the community and raising profile of issues, input into operational budget decision making, physical labour for projects, leadership development, spending Immediate Steps money and holding Environment Canterbury to account to enforce and police current consents/activities. Numerous respondents articulated why community and agency engagement and generating consensus is important.

Question 4 Please review the list of possible future aspects of zone committees role below again and select any you think should NOT be included as a zone committee function.

- Only 18 people indicated possible future roles for zone committees that should **not** be included. Monitoring and measuring progress got the most votes for a role that should not be for the committees (10 votes, with the most common reason being that this is a council function). Enhancing the delivery approach ranked second (6 votes). A small number voted for committees not having the role of coalition of the willing, community engagement and setting the direction.



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Community engagement – continuing an active programme of engaging with communities on freshwater management matters and facilitating the provision of advice through to and from councils and others engaged in freshwater management	11.11% 2
Enhancing the delivery approach - CWMS Implementation – making the boat go faster – the role of committees in working with stakeholders to extend the resources available, bring in other parties, leveraging and additional investment	33.33% 6
'Coalition of the willing' - the zone committee role in supporting and encouraging those who are doing good work, for example – bringing people together and making connections e.g. supporting catchment-based initiatives in the future	22.22% 4
Setting the direction - consideration of the zone committee role in priority setting at the zone level and associated zone committee role	16.67% 3
Monitoring and measuring progress monitoring and reporting annually on progress towards delivery of the zone-specific priorities and CWMS target areas identified in each zone	55.56% 10
Total Respondents: 18	

Question 5 For any of the roles selected as NOT a future zone committee function above, please explain your reasoning.

- 23 answered this question. There was tension between members looking for clear direction from councils within which to work – “without such direction ZCs are rudderless” to members seeing their role as facilitating and setting the direction within their zone. A general feeling was expressed that monitoring/reporting on progress is a joint council responsibility and Zone Committees can only be expected to monitor and report on what it has control over with Zone Committees not being responsible for all actions within the zone. There is a call for greater emphasis of mana whenua values and mahinga kai.

Question 6 Please comment on any aspects of your role as a zone committee member you find challenging or difficult to deliver.

- 46 responded with overall consensus that it is slow progress making things happen and difficult to see real outcomes, The complexity, ambiguity, uncertainty is challenging and there is a desire to know whether a difference is being made. Zone Committee dynamics and logistics also bring challenges specifically related to clarity of role, conflict of interest and the meeting purpose and structure. Additional aspects considered difficult include a lack of power to enact changes, social engagement, and focusing on implementation rather than “endlessly reprioritising”. There is some call for feedback to know that ECan has been listening.

Question 7 Please comment on any aspects of your role as a zone committee member you feel requires more support.

- 42 responded with a range of ideas from how to work better as a group such as role clarity, timely information and spreadsheets to see issues we’re dealing with across the year. Other suggestions included upskilling on how to influence others, more support for regular revisit of the CWMS purpose and focus, and staff support for monitoring. A need for more support with technical information and coming up to speed at the start was also expressed including understanding and actioning mana whenua values and mahinga kai.

Question 8 If your zone committee role was to change, please comment on how councils (both Environment Canterbury and District Councils) could best support committees to understand and fulfil their new role.

- 49 responded that clarity is needed on what changes and why with clear expectations and goals. A desire for more communication, for example WaterShed, training and induction would be useful with deeper grounding on Maori perspectives. A call for greater trust from councils was also made.

Question 9 In considering the current processes used for setting zone committee priorities please comment on aspects you wish to retain and why?

- 48 responded with views describing the real struggle and complexity of setting priorities within a committee of different interests to try and take into account communities views within a context of uncertain and/or complex science. The ZIPAs, ZIPs and CWMS targets are recognised as reference points but committee respondents are looking for “bigger strategic picture” to assess priorities against, and a reference to concentrate on achievable priorities and projects such as IMS. Some respondents suggested a continued focus on consensus and support for action plans.

Question 10 In considering the processes used for setting zone committee priorities please comment on any improvements that could be made, and how these improvements would better support committees in the implementation of the CWMS.

- 45 responded to the Zone committee prioritisation process and improvements to better support them for CWMS implementation. Overall there is strong support for Zone Committees setting clear and concise priorities. Suggested improvements include closing gaps in knowledge of CWMS and strategies to help with alignment and a call for more direction, education and context setting and improving processes for interaction with rūnanga members and training for committees in meeting procedures and effective chairing strategies.

Question 11 Zone Committee Action Plans have been suggested to provide for a detailed forward work programme to prioritise CWMS and zone-specific target areas for each zone. Please comment on the potential use of Zone Committee Action Plans to support committees in the setting and progressing of priorities.

- 47 responded to the Zone Committee Action Plans providing a forward work programme and their potential use to support committees in priority setting and progression. A very high proportion strongly support targeted SMART Zone Committee Action Plans to improve purpose and direction towards implementation. Some voiced caveats to ensure they are valid, well-managed and aligned to direction including ZIPAs and Environment Canterbury and Territorial Authority outcomes. A small percentage voiced concerns that time wouldn't be allowed to set Action Plans and they may be an unnecessary process particularly with ZIPAs in place.

Question 12 In considering support for zone committee rūnanga representatives please comment on any improvements that could be made and how these improvements would better support committees in the implementation of the CWMS.

- 44 responded with rūnanga representative related improvements. There was overall support of the value Zone committees gain from their insights and an overall desire for more involvement to increase Committees knowledge and consideration of cultural values. Several responses include a call for more youth involvement to bring the next generation through.

Question 13 In considering zone committee membership, recruitment, training and support, please comment on any improvements that could be made and how these improvements would better support.

- 48 respondents completed this section. Many responses sought support for new members to gain an understanding of the CWMS, the statutory framework for freshwater, the ZIP and ZIPAs, and the successes and focus of their particular committee. This was generally considered as important background for new members to become conversant with the work of the committees and therefore effective. Many responses also highlighted the need for members to understand what is expected of committees and their work from councils. Formal training and on-going capacity building were widely sought, especially in relation to governance

training and the Treaty and its relationship to Ngai Tahu iwi. In respect of recruitment of new members many respondents noted the importance of selecting people who had strong connections to the zone and who were able to work collaboratively and strategically. Some respondents also noted the importance of diversity in the committees and in selecting for differing strengths, backgrounds and relationships. Further comment was made on avoiding members with specific agendas and a call for committees to have specific budgets to administer, similar to Community Boards.

Question 14 In considering zone committee meetings and workshops, including aspects such as timing, frequency, duration, formality and attendance, please comment on any improvements that could be made and how these improvements would better support committees in the implementation of the CWMS.

- 49 respondents completed this section. Much of the feedback related to the importance of public involvement and of maintaining a frequency of meetings and therefore opportunities for this public involvement. Generally, there was little support for a reduction in the number of meetings from those held currently. While many expressed a preference for less formal meetings and more workshops (a format of workshop followed by meeting was preferred by many) there were also responses that sought more formality. A number of respondents stressed the importance of time keeping, manageable agendas and remaining focussed on a clearly articulated purpose. There were a number of responses that picked up on the developing opportunities for online meetings and sought a mixed format, with online discussions and meetings continuing to be enabled where appropriate.

Attachment 2: Freshwater Package Announcement 28 May 2020

The Government announced the Action for Healthy Waterways – Ngā mahi mō te whakaora wai – policy reform package on 28 May. The package consisted of a 10-page summary, links to decision documents and FAQs, and an information sheet with high-level overview of the requirements for regional councils.

Note: Final versions of the National Policy Statement (NPS-FM) and National Environmental Standards (NES) were not provided; they are still being worked on.

Key Points

- NPS-FM compliant plans must be notified by 2024.
 - This is an extension of 1 year from the original proposal.
- Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen (DIN) and Dissolved Reactive Phosphorus (DRP) have not been included as ecosystem health attributes in the NPS-FM.
 - Councils still need to maintain or improve DIN at current levels during this period.
 - Nitrate (the major part of DIN) toxicity national bottom line has been raised (i.e. moved from 6.8 mg/L to 2.4 mg/L).
- 3m setback distance for stock from rivers and streams (>1m wide).
 - The original proposal was for an average of 5m.
- New cap on synthetic fertiliser application for pastoral farms (190kg/ha/yr). Dairy farms required to report application rates annually. Application rates to be reviewed by 2023.
- Final versions of NPS-FM and NES are to be released later this year. Detailed guidance is being developed in consultation with regional council representatives and will be provided as the new regulations are gazetted, expected in mid-2020.

Background

- In 2019, central government released its 'Action for Healthy Waterways' discussion document which forms part of central government's broader 'Essential Freshwater' programme. The discussion document set out proposals to halt further degradation of New Zealand's freshwater resources and to restore them to a health state. It included:
 - proposed changes to the NPS-FM,
 - a new NES for fresh water, and
 - new stock exclusion Regulations.
- Environment Canterbury supported the intent in its submission on the proposals but identified key areas that would be challenging to implement and where further work

was requested including new attributes (DIN, DRP, turbidity), timeframes for planning, and clarification on FEP auditing.

- More than 17,500 submissions were received. In the light of COVID-19, the Government has made changes to what was proposed. Detailed guidance is being developed in consultation with regional council representatives and is expected in mid-2020.
- Also, due to COVID -19, Environment Canterbury, as part of the Mayoral Forum, sent a letter to Ministers Parker and O'Connor stressing that while some aspects of the proposals could be progressed relatively easily (NES, stock exclusion regulations), aspects of the proposed NPS-FM could hamper the ability for the agricultural sector to lead the regional and national economic recovery. It was requested that these aspects be reconsidered and/or delayed.

Summary of Announced Package

The following bullets are drawn from the summary document including the information provided for regional councils. Further analysis on the implications for Environment Canterbury's key functions will be provided to council at upcoming meetings. The key parts of the package are:

National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM)

- Te Mana o te Wai is maintained as a fundamental principle of the NPS-FM framework.
- NPS-FM plans are to be notified by 2024. This is an extension of 1 year from the original proposal. Councils must notify plans by 31 December 2024 and make final decisions within two years of notification.
- The nitrate toxicity attribute has been tightened from protection of 80% to 95% of species (2.4mg/L, was 6.8 mg/L).
 - This will require changes to some Canterbury plans
- Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen (DIN) – A 12-month delay in including DIN as an attribute to allow for further consideration of the national bottom line by the Science and Technical Advisory Group (STAG).
 - Councils still need to maintain or improve DIN at current levels during this period.
- As with DIN, there is no Dissolved Reactive Phosphorus (DRP) national bottom line but requirement to maintain at current levels while further work is undertaken.
- Freshwater hearing panels will be used to oversee freshwater plan development.

Stock Exclusion

- There is no need to move existing fences where they are already in place.

- 3m setback distance for stock from rivers and streams (>1m wide).
 - The original proposal was for an average of 5m.
- Some stock exclusion requirements are to be managed through farm plans rather than through the regulations.

National Environment Standard for Freshwater

- Interim intensification restrictions apply until 2024 or until councils have NPS-FM compliant plans.
 - Consents required for change to dairying, increase in irrigated area, change from forestry to pastoral farms
 - Unclear as to whether this would apply to Canterbury. Draft NES provided an exemption for councils with plans developed under current NPS-FM.
- New cap on synthetic fertiliser application for pastoral farms (190kg/ha/yr). Dairy farms required to report application rates annually. Application rates to be reviewed by 2023.
 - Councils are expected to set up systems to receive and monitor levels of synthetic nitrogen fertiliser use reported by dairy farms (by 2020/21), and assess consent applications for fertiliser use above a new cap of 190 kg N/ha/year.
 - Canterbury rules on Good Management Practice are that only enough fertiliser is used to meet plant growth needs. We have not analysed the new cap, but general feeling is that there would be very few pastoral farms applying more than 190 kg/N/ha/yr.

Farm Plans

- Changes to RMA will be introduced such that farm plans will be mandatory and enforceable (pastoral and arable farms >20ha, horticultural >5ha).
 - For Environment Canterbury, based on proposed thresholds, this will capture more farmers than under the LWRP as it is not dependent on irrigation and/or winter grazing but simply property size. This will have implications for compliance. We believe we are still well placed in this area.

Winter Grazing of forage crops

- From 1 May 2021, resource consents are required for intensive winter grazing that does not meet the permitted activity standards related to separation from rivers and contaminant losses.
 - Environment Canterbury currently uses winter grazing as trigger for Farming Land Use Consents. The above provisions would likely require a separate

consent however we may be able to link this requirement with the current audited FEP approach to management.

Water measurement and reporting

- All consent holders over 5L/s will be required to have digital flow meters and telemetry systems in place so that real time data on water abstraction are available to Council. These new requirements will be phased in over 6 years with abstractions over 20L/s first to meet the new requirements in 2022.
 - Majority of Canterbury water users already have this in place; new rule will make it easier to change “laggards”.

Attachment 3: Groundwater quality QA, April 2020**How many wells does Environment Canterbury monitor?**

- In 2019 we sampled 328 wells during the spring months of September to December.
- Of those, 125 were also sampled quarterly throughout the year, and those are the wells included in the new LAWA groundwater quality topic.
- The 125 wells that ECan samples quarterly are the shallower wells that are most vulnerable to contamination from the land surface, so their results are biased toward higher contaminant concentrations.
- We sample them quarterly because, being shallower, they are also the wells most likely to show seasonal changes in groundwater quality.

What type of wells are monitored?

- The wells are a mixture of private domestic wells, irrigation wells, community water supply wells, wells for industrial supply, and purpose-built monitoring wells owned by ECan.

How are the wells selected?

- The wells are selected based on their locations and depths. The aim is to provide a roughly representative sample of the wells used for water supply in Canterbury.

How many wells are used for private or community drinking-water supply?

- Annual survey: Of the 328 wells sampled, 155 are used for private domestic supply and 19 are community water supply wells.
- LAWA: Of the 125 wells included, 54 are used for private domestic supply and 4 are community water supply wells.

Did any private drinking-water supplies have nitrate or *E. coli* above the MAV?

- Annual survey:
 - *E. coli* was detected in 11 private domestic wells and no community water supply wells in the 2019 survey.
 - The nitrate nitrogen concentration exceeded the MAV in the samples from 11 private domestic wells and no community water supply wells in the 2019 survey.
- LAWA:
 - 38 private domestic wells and 2 community water supply wells had at least one *E. coli* detection in the period 2014-2018.
 - 54 private domestic wells and 4 community water supply wells had nitrate nitrogen concentration exceeding the MAV on at least one sample in the period 2014-2018.
- All well owners are notified of any results that exceed drinking water standards.

Does ECan monitor drinking water?

- No. We monitor raw groundwater before any filters or treatment.

Who is responsible for testing drinking water?

- Private well owners are responsible for testing their water and ensuring that it is safe to drink. Community water supplies are tested regularly by the supply owner (usually the local council).

Why are there differences in the results between LAWA and ECan's Annual Groundwater Quality Survey?

- The results are broadly similar, but there are some differences because our annual survey is conducted annually, whereas LAWA reports quarterly data.

Why are the nitrate risk maps only updated every two years?

- The maps represent the risk that nitrate concentrations in groundwater could exceed the drinking water standard. This risk changes very slowly, and a two-yearly review is frequent enough to detect any changes.

Why is there no data for Banks Peninsula?

- Groundwater use on Banks Peninsula is very limited, so ECan does not monitor groundwater quality there.

Are the results what we expected?

- Yes, the results are in line with previous surveys and reports. Groundwater quality changes slowly, and we don't expect to see clear improvements for another 15 to 20 years.

How many wells had *E. coli* detections?

- Annual groundwater quality survey: *E. coli* was detected in the samples from 20 out of 328 wells sampled in the spring of 2019.
- LAWA: *E. coli* has been detected in at least one sample over the past five years in 86 out of 125 wells. Note that the 125 wells that we sample quarterly are the shallower wells that are most vulnerable to contamination from the land surface, so their results are biased toward higher contaminant concentrations.

How many wells had nitrate nitrogen concentrations above the MAV (11.3 mg/L)?

- Annual groundwater quality survey: Nitrate-nitrogen exceeded the MAV in the samples from 30 out of 328 wells sampled in the spring of 2019.
- LAWA: Nitrate nitrogen has exceeded the MAV in at least one sample over the past five years in 45 out of 125 wells. Note that the 125 wells that we sample quarterly are the shallower wells that are most vulnerable to contamination from the land surface, so their results are biased toward higher contaminant concentrations.

Why do shallower wells show higher contaminant concentrations?

- In general, at any given location, the highest contaminant concentrations are found in the shallowest wells, near the water table.
- This is the first point where contaminants from the ground surface reach the aquifer, and concentrations have not been diluted by mixing with deeper groundwater.

- Concentration is not solely related to depth. Groundwater source and flow paths are also important, as are proximity to contaminant sources.
- In some locations, we see quite low concentrations at shallow depths, close to the water table, while at other locations, we see high concentrations persisting to considerable depths.

Attachment 4: Key Messages from the Te Manahuna Mackenzie Basin and Landscape Protection Report

KEY MESSAGES

- There is much that can be achieved by better deploying the tools which are currently available to protect the Mackenzie Basin landscapes and biodiversity.
- A joint-agency compliance, monitoring and enforcement unit should be established in Twizel to strengthen compliance effort in the Basin.
- The evident gaps in the Waitaki District Plan should be addressed as soon as possible.
- Operational policy should be developed to clarify the application of conflicting purposes in discretionary consenting under the Crown Pastoral Land Act.
- Weaknesses in the Crown Pastoral Land Act should be addressed through legislative reform.
- A sub-chapter for the Mackenzie Basin should be developed for the Canterbury RPS.
- A new integrated Land and Water Plan should be developed to address landscape, biodiversity and water in an integrated manner, or alternatively a new chapter of the plan should be developed for the Mackenzie Basin.
- A more focused concessions policy should be developed that actively supports landscape protection in the Mackenzie Basin.
- Better use should be made of other tools including conservation covenants.
- A Mackenzie Basin Agency Team should be established in Twizel to undertake delegated tasks from the five agencies in an integrated manner.
- A Mackenzie Drylands Protected Area should be established in the Basin, comprising largely publicly-owned land, to provide a core of highly protected land within the broader landscape. A co-governance management entity could be established to manage this area.
- A Mackenzie Basin Heritage Landscape could be created through new provisions for Heritage Landscape Orders inserted into the RMA or Conservation Act. This would create a long-term protective layer over all the Basin's landscapes including private and pastoral lease land.
- A Heritage Landscape Trust could coordinate and support activities in the Mackenzie Basin Heritage Landscape, regularly convene a Heritage Landscape Forum and seek funding from government sources (where priority should be given to designated Heritage Landscapes).
- An oversight body, such as the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, could ensure that management of the Mackenzie Basin Heritage Landscape by councils under the RMA complies with the requirements in the Heritage Landscape Order.

Attachment 5: New aerial photography of our region – Media Release

Date: 05 Jun 2020

CATEGORY: [NEWS](#) | [Land Use](#)

New aerial photography of the Ashburton, Banks Peninsula, Mackenzie and Timaru districts has been captured by Canterbury local authorities and Environment Canterbury, as part of a collection that dates back 100 years.

Each summer the 11 Canterbury councils, together with a public-private partnership, capture a different area of the region, over what is now a decade-long programme. Thousands of individual photographs are then combined to provide a continuous surface all across Canterbury.



The digital photographs are captured using a specialist high powered camera on board an aircraft flying at an altitude of 1400m, during optimum weather conditions to minimise shadowing. Images are then processed to ensure correct geographic location and overlapping, and then terrain is flattened in a procedure called 'orthorectification'.

The imagery is hosted on the [Canterbury Maps website](#), and the collection also contains historical digitally-converted film photographs dating back to the 1920s.

How to view the new photography

You can view the aerial photographs in 2D and 3D in [Canterbury Maps property search](#), or 2D with other spatial information in [Canterbury Maps viewer](#) - best experienced via a tablet or desktop computer. Use the search bar on these sites to type in the address or location of interest.

You can also use our swipe tool to see before and after photography. Here's a short video on [using the swipe tool](#), and you can see this in action in the dropdown below.

New areas captured

- **Ashburton District:** Ashburton, Chertsey, Hakatere, Hinds, Lake Clearwater, Lauriston, Mayfield, Methven, Mt Somers, Rakaia, Rangitata Huts.
- **Banks Peninsula:** Okains Bay, Little Akaloa, Little River, Cooptown, Le Bons Bay, Koukourarata Marae, Birdlings Flat, Pidgeon Bay, Kukupa, Barrys Bay, Duvauchelle, Robinsons Bay, French Farm, Tikao Bay, Takamatua Bay, Akaroa, Wainui and Anchorage Bay.
- **Mackenzie:** Tekapo, Albury, Burkes Pass, Fairlie, Kimbell, Twizel, Manuka Terrace, Cemeteries.
- **Timaru District:** Timaru (shown above), Pareora, Peel forest, Pleasant Point, Temuka, Geraldine.

Attachment 4: Environment Canterbury Consents in Process

Record No	Holder Name	Record Status	Type	Description
CRC121813	Douglas Robert McIntyre	Application on Hold	Water Permit (s14) - New Consent	to take up to 45,990 cubic metres of groundwater per year
CRC173260	Mr D R McIntyre & Waitaki Trustees (Golden Acres) Limited	Application on Hold	Land Use Consent (s9) - New Consent	to use land for a farming activity
CRC176018	Mr D R McIntyre & Waitaki Trustees (Golden Acres) Limited	Application on Hold	Land Use Consent (s9) - New Consent	to use land for a farming activity
CRC194054	Glenrock Station Limited	Application in Process	Water Permit (s14) - New Consent	to take and use up 24,555 cubic metres of water per week at a maximum rate of 140 litres per second and from Swadon Stream for the irrigation of 70 hectares of pasture for sheep and beef and associated crops
CRC204282	Verity Farms NZ	Application on Hold	Land Use Consent (s9) - New Consent	to use the land for farming
CRC194819	Mt Cook Station Limited	Application in Process	Land Use Consent (s13) - New Consent	to disturb the bed of the Tasman River
CRC194820	Mt Cook Station Limited	Application in Process	Discharge Permit (s15) - New Consent	to discharge sediment associated with works in the bed of the Tasman River
CRC203027	Mr R W A & Mrs J E Gloag	Application on Hold	Water Permit (s14) - New Consent	to use water taken from BIC (CRC182591) for the irrigation of up to 125 hectares - Resubmission of CRC202384
CRC204244	Mackenzie District Council	Application Waiting s88	Land Use Consent (s13) - New Consent	land use applications for works in or within 7.5 metres of the beds of lakes and rivers
CRC201471	Waitaki District Council	Application in Process	Discharge Permit (s15) - Change in Conditions	to change conditions of CRC951983 - to discharge contaminants to land

CRC204533	Anthony Gordon Honeybone	Application on Hold	Discharge Permit (s15) - Change in Conditions	resubmission of CRC203706 - to change conditions of CRC182635 - to discharge stormwater into surface water
CRC204534	Anthony Gordon Honeybone	Application on Hold	Discharge Permit (s15) - Change in Conditions	resubmission of CRC203707 - to change conditions of CRC183193 - to discharge construction phase stormwater into surface water
CRC203478	Malcolm Denyer Wright	Application in Process	Discharge Permit (s15) - New Consent	Discharge of contaminants into land from an onsite wastewater system
CRC202136	Chain Hills Limited	Application Waiting s88	Land Use Consent (s9) - New Consent	to use land for a farming activity
CRC203761	W H & A J Sutherland	Application in Process	Land Use Consent (s9) - New Consent	To use land for farming activity
CRC020364.1	Messrs W H & A J Sutherland	Application in Process	Water Permit (s14) - Notice of Review	To review CRC020364 - to take and use water -
CRC061155	Five Rivers Limited	Application on Hold	Water Permit (s14) - New Consent	To take and use groundwater at a combined maximum rate not exceeding 950 litres per second with a combined annual volume not exceeding 9,000,000 cubic metres, from proposed bores H38/0187, H39/0069, H39/0071, H39/0072 and H39/0073, all 300 millimetres diameter and 100 metres deep, at or about map references NZMS 260 H38:6812-5008, H39:6740-4986, H39:6677-4949, H39:6597-4909, H39:6650-4870 and H39:6303-4845, for spray irrigation of 1,500 hectares of crops and pasture for stock excluding dairy cows, adjoining Lake Ohau Road at Ohau Downs Station between Lake Ohau and the Twizel Omarama Road. The maximum rate and annual volume of water proposed to be taken under this application will be a combined volume taken under CRC061154 and CRC061155. A duration until 2025 is sought.
CRC100235	Gavin Dennis William Loxton	Application in Process	Water Permit (s14) - New Consent	to take water from Edwards Stream at a rate not exceeding 194 litres per second and from Sawdons Stream or Deadmans Creek at a rate not exceeding 110 litres per second for the irrigation of 470 hectares of crops and pasture at or about map reference NZMS 260 I38:1443-8553
CRC168976	Tussock Dairy Grazing Limited	Application on Hold	Water Permit (s14) - New Consent	to use surface water for irrigation, stock drinking water, dairy shed use, and domestic purposes with a maximum annual volume not exceeding 4, 394, 320 cubic metres
CRC170897	The Cairn Station Limited	Application in Process	Land Use Consent (s9) - New Consent	to use land for a farming activity within the sensitive Lake Nutrient Allocation Zone

CRC170898	The Cairn Station Limited	Application in Process	Water Permit (s14) - Change in Conditions	to change conditions of CRC921927A; to take water from the Ohau-Benmore Canal, above Ohau 'B' Power Station via the Tomahawk Lagoon, at or about map reference H38:795-524, for borderdyke irrigation of up to 476 hectares
CRC170899	The Cairn Station Limited	Application in Process	Water Permit (s14) - Change in Conditions	to change conditions of CRC921927B; to take water from the Ohau-Benmore Canal, between Ohau "B" and "C" Power Stations, at or about map reference H38:832-501, for borderdyke irrigation of up to 476 hectares
CRC172835	Kidd Partnership	Application in Process	Land Use Consent (s9) - New Consent	land use consent to farm
CRC176019	Mr D R McIntyre & Waitaki Trustees (Golden Acres) Limited	Application on Hold	Water Permit (s14) - New Consent	to take water from the Pukaki Canal
CRC181776	Douglas Robert McIntyre	Application in Process	Land Use Consent (s13) - New Consent	to work in or on the beds of Lakes & rivers
CRC186077	Bendrose Farm 2014 Limited	Application in Process	Water Permit (s14) - Change in Conditions	to change conditions of CRC155442 - to take and use surface water
CRC195068	Killermont Station 2012 Limited	Application on Hold	Water Permit (s14) - New Consent	to take, dam & store water for irrigation purposes
CRC195069	Killermont Station 2012 Limited	Application on Hold	Land Use Consent (s9) - New Consent	to use land for excavation
CRC201705	Blue Lake Investment (NZ) Limited	Application on Hold	Water Permit (s14) - New Consent	to renew CRC169798 - to take surface water from Boltons Gully and an unnamed tributary, between map references NZMS 260 H37:897-860 to NZMS 260 H37:894-846 and NZMS 260 H37:870-848 to NZMS 260 H37:867-837, for spray irrigation of up to 25 hectares.
CRC203749	Blue Lake Investment (NZ) Limited	Application Waiting s88	Land Use Consent (s9) - New Consent	to use land for a farming activity
CRC171946	The Ohau Company Trust	Application in Process	Land Use Consent (s9) - New Consent	to use land for a farming activity within the sensitive Lake Nutrient Allocation Zone

CRC203538	Bellfield Land Company Limited	Application in Process	Water Permit (s14) - Full Transfer Site2Site	to fully transfer site to site CRC071649 - to divert, take and use of water for irrigation of crops and pasture
CRC203539	Bellfield Land Company Limited	Application in Process	Land Use Consent (s9) - New Consent	to use land for excavation over a semi confined aquifer