

## Lower Waitaki - South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee

### AGENDA

A **MEETING** of the LOWER WAITAKI - SOUTH COASTAL CANTERBURY  
ZONE COMMITTEE will be held as follows:

Date: Wednesday 15 March 2017

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: Waimate Events Centre, Paul Street, Waimate

#### Membership

Kate White (Chair)	Suzanne Eddington
Andrew Feierabend	Mark Giles (Deputy Chair)
Sandra Hampstead-Tipene	Andrew Hayes
Jeremy Holding	Mark Kingsbury
Miriam Morton	Bruce Murphy
Brent Packman	Elizabeth Rollinson
Ranui Ryan	Peter Scott

AGENDA 15 March 2017

2.00 pm – 3.30 pm

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Karakia and welcome	
1. Apologies	
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3. Permanent Items	
a) Matters Arising	
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c) Regional Committee Update (Sandra Hampstead-Tipene)	
d) Declarations of Interest	
e) Facilitator Update	
4. <b>Implementation Tracking and Overview</b>	
Report (Nic Newman)	8 - 11
5. <b>Plan Change 3: Communicating Key Messages</b>	
Report (Clare McDaniel)	12 - 13
6. <b>Consenting in the Zone</b>	
Verbal Update (Zella Smith)	
7. <b>Lead with Pride Programme</b>	
Presentation (Emma Brand, Synlait)	
8. <b>General Business</b>	

**Time Table**

2.00pm	Karakia and welcome
	Apologies, Minutes, Permanent Items
2.20pm	Implementation Tracking
2.30pm	Plan Change 3
2.50pm	Consenting in the Zone
3.10pm	Lead with Pride Programme
3.30pm	General Business
	Karakia and meeting close

**Lower Waitaki – South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee****Minutes of the Committee meeting held in the  
Waimate Events Centre, Paul Street, Waimate  
on Wednesday 15 February 2017, at 1.00pm**

<b>Present</b>	Kate White (Chair, Community rep), Suzanne Eddington (Waihao Runanga), Andrew Feierabend (Meridian Energy), Sandra Hampstead-Tipene (Arowhenua Runanga), Andrew Hayes (Community rep), Mark Kingsbury (Community rep), Cr Miriam Morton (Waimate District Council), Brent Packman (Community rep), Liz Rollinson (Community rep), Ranui Ryan (Moeraki Runanga) and Cr Peter Scott (Environment Canterbury Representative)
<b>Apologies</b>	Mark Giles (Deputy Chair, Community rep), Cr Jeremy Holding (Waitaki District Council representative), Bruce Murphy (Community rep)
<b>In Attendance</b>	Nic Newman (Zone Facilitator – ECan) Michael Hide (Zone Manager – Ecan) Barbara Nicholas (Zone Facilitator – Ecan) Elly Finnerty (Committee Secretary)

At the invitation of the Chair, Suzanne Eddington shared a Karakia

**1. Apologies**

RESOLVED  
LWSC17/01

M King/L Rollinson  
"That apologies for absence be received from Mark Giles, Jeremy Holding and Bruce Murphy."

CARRIED

**2. Confirmation of Minutes**

RESOLVED  
LWSC17/02

B Packman/A Hayes  
"That the minutes of the Committee meeting dated 14 December 2016, with amendment be confirmed."

CARRIED

**3. Permanent Items**

*Matters Arising from the Minutes:*  
Nil

*Correspondence*  
Nil

*Regional Committee Update*  
Barbara Nicholas from ECan, facilitator for the Regional Committee, gave the committee a brief update from the Regional Committee on 14 February. There are a number of new members following the elections. There have been five working groups formed.

*Declarations of Interest*  
Nil

*Facilitator Update*  
Nic Newman advised that Peter McIlraith is the representative on the Regional Committee for the three Southern Councils.

## 4. Zone Committee

### *Focus for 2017*

Nic Newman spoke to the paper circulated with the agenda for discussion and confirmation by the committee on the focus for the coming year. The committee confirmed the focus as presented, which includes:

- ZIP implementation is underway from a range of parties
- Decisions on Plan Change 5 are expected by mid-year
- Plan Change 3 (South Coastal Canterbury) implementation will begin (note appeal)
- Progress with the Wainono project, Hunter Downs Irrigation, and lagoon augmentation,
- Community led action in a number of catchments
- Science investigations are ongoing, and lessons from the integrated monitoring network pilot catchment will be forthcoming.

The Committee indicated that they would like visual reminders of the ten targets available at each meeting and to continually link the actions and progress made back to the targets.

The Committee agreed that they would like shorter meetings with regular field trips, including the following.

- Wainono Lagoon/Studholme
- Northern Streams/Otaio
- Upper Waihao/Waiho Forks
- Hakaramea Valley/Cattle Creek
- Braided River islands/Waitaki Bridge
- Hydro Electricity scheme (possibly with Regional Committee)

### *Tracking Zone Implementation Programme (ZIP) Implementation*

Nic spoke to this item and circulated a spreadsheet to the committee showing Key Workstreams, Outcomes, CWMS Targets and the current status. This information is very useful and Nic was requested to include a risk column, this update will be included each meeting to track progress.

## 5. Implementation

### *Update on the Zone Team*

Michael Hide gave a verbal update on what the Zone Team have been working on, this work includes:

- Farm audits in the Waihao catchment
- Completing Farm Environment Plans in the Hook Catchment
- Willow Control project
- A role in the South Canterbury Zone Team is currently being advertised, this will provide additional resources for the zone.

Michael noted that there is a region wide push to get consents in place, this will be implemented into our zone once the process on the appeal on PC3 is completed.

### *Wainono Monitoring Station*

Shirley Harward updated the committee on the Wainono Monitoring Station. The station will be installed in the next couple of weeks. ECan are working with Hunter Downs Irrigation on the monitoring of the Lagoon. Once the monitoring station has been up and running for a period of time to check the data and usability, ECan will look at getting a live feed to their website for all to see.

### *Mudfish Habitat Initiative*

Max Crowe, Waitaki District Council Biodiversity Officer spoke to the committee about the Mudfish habitat in the Waitaki. Max updated the committee on the mudfish habitat upstream from the SH1 bridge on the Waitaki River. He has been working with the Lower Waitaki River Management Society on enhancing the habitat and is putting in a walkway with the assistance of students from Waitaki Boys High School and ARA Institute. Max asked the committee if they knew of any other projects that the students could assist with.

## 6. Strategic

### *Investigation into nutrient pathways in ground water in Elephant Hill/Waihuna*

Marta Scott spoke to the report that had been circulated with the agenda updating the committee on the preliminary results of an investigation that responds to committee recommendations. The Committee had earlier recommended that "Environment Canterbury investigate the link between groundwater and surface water in the catchments, in particular the connections between Elephant Hill/Waihuna and Waikakahi Stream." Marta presented the preliminary findings on the sampling, further modelling work is to be completed on the flows and connectivity.

The findings will be discussed with the catchment group and the committee will receive an update following this meeting.

RESOLVED  
LWSC17/03

S Eddington/A Feierabend  
"That the information be received."

CARRIED

2.54pm the meeting adjourned/ 3.12pm the meeting reconvened

## 7. Zone Committee Elections

The committee are required annually to elect a Chair, Deputy Chair and a Regional Committee Representative.

Nic Newman called for Nominations for Chair

Nominated Kate White S Eddington/L Rollinson  
No further nominations received – Kate White declared Chair

The Chair called for Nominations for Deputy Chair

Nominated Mark Giles K White/A Hayes  
No further nominations received – Mark Giles declared Deputy Chair

The Chair called for Nominations for the Regional Committee Representative

Nominated Sandra Hampstead-Tipene P Scott/L Rollinson  
No further nominations received – Sandra Hampstead-Tipene declared Regional Committee Representative

CARRIED

## 8. General Business

### *Endorsement of QEII Covenant*

David Johnstone whose farm is situated on the margins of Wainono Lagoon has over recent years covenanted, though the QEII National Trust, significant wetland areas that protect some of the best remaining coastal wetlands in Canterbury.

In partnership with QEII trust David is now developing a covenant proposal to protect his remaining margins of the lagoon.

RESOLVED  
LWSC17/04

K White/L Rollinson  
"That the Zone Committee endorse this protection proposal by way of a letter of support."

CARRIED

*N Check: An alternative model to OVERSEER® for estimated nitrogen losses*  
The committee would like a briefing on N Check at their next meeting

*Whitebait Research*

John Benn from Department of Conservation gave the committee a brief update on current discussion at a national level on whitebait quota and research.

At the invitation of the Chair, Suzanne Eddington shared a Karakia

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 3.36.pm.



10 February 2017

Gary Kircher  
Mayor  
Waitaki District Council  
Private Bag 50058  
**OAMARU 9444**

Dear Mayor Kircher

**Lower Waitaki-South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee – Administration**

Mayor Craig Rowley has asked me to respond to your letter dated 5 December 2016 seeking Waimate District Council's agreement to provide administrative support to the Lower Waitaki-South Coastal Canterbury Zone Committee.

We very much appreciate that Waitaki District Council has undertaken this role for the past six years, and we would like to personally thank Elly Finnerty for her time and dedication during this period.

Waimate District Council confirms that it is pleased to take over the administrative function of the Committee and that this would commence on 1 April 2017. Karalyn Reid will attend the March meeting and sit alongside Elly. Any support available during the transition period would be greatly appreciated.

In the event that Karalyn is unable to attend a meeting could we request that a staff member from Waitaki District Council provide back-up, much as we have done in the past for Elly.

We will notify Environment Canterbury that Waimate District Council will be taking over this function.

Yours faithfully

Stuart Duncan  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

## CWMS and ZIP Implementation in Lower Waitaki South Coastal Canterbury

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### - Implementation tracking and overview -

#### *Context*

- I. The **role** of the Zone Committee is to develop actions and tactics, with its community to deliver on the CWMS in the zone, and to oversee the implementation of these actions and tactics.
- II. The LWSCC Zone committee has **produced** a Zone Implementation Programme and 3 addenda, which contain recommended actions and tactics.
- III. The **purpose** of this document is to **assist the zone committee** to oversee the delivery of key implementation work-streams across a number of agencies. Some of these workstreams may require committee leadership and problem solving.
- IV. The document can be **used** to assist with: maintaining an overview, the visibility of across agency actions, and the identification and filling of gaps. While the document is 'descriptive', it could be used to 'prescribe actions' where the ZC can source resource commitment.

**Key:** Lower Waitaki, South Coastal Canterbury, Hakataramea Valley, Zone Wide



Key Workstreams	Outcomes sought	CWMS targets / goals	Lead	Status/Comment	Date
Enhancement of braided river islands in the Waitaki River	Improved habitat for endangered braided river birds	Braided River Character <i>Increase in habitat area for braided river birds (2020)</i>	DOC (CRC)	Islands established/enhanced. Black-fronted terns, two black-billed gull colonies, and wrybill are nesting on the islands. Observations made of good numbers of pied stilts and banded dotterels.	Summer 2016/17
Waitaki River Biodiversity	Protection and enhancement of braided river wetlands and river mouth	Braided River Character <i>Protect the indigenous habitats in riparian wetlands, springs and the lagoons associated with braided rivers (2020)</i>	CRC (WDC)	Duntroon Wetland restoration work complete by local community with willow control, planting, boardwalks, and signage.  Actions for Waitaki mouth – not yet begun.	Summer 2016/17
Mudfish Habitat Initiative	Protection and enhancement of Canterbury Mudfish habitat	Ecosystem health and biodiversity <i>An upward trend in diversity and abundance of native fish populations (2020)</i>	LWRMS (DOC)	Habitat enhancement works are progressing well and new species of mudfish have been discovered. Construction of a walking access track is planned. Annual report due in March.	Summer 2016/17
Investigation into groundwater flows in Waihuna/Elephant Hill	We have increased catchment knowledge in priority areas  Improved understanding of groundwater and nutrient flows and the connection between Elephant Hill/Waihuna and the Waikakahi Stream	Environmental Limits <i>Review catchment load limits based on changing monitoring information</i>	CRC	Field work is now complete and preliminary results have been presented to the committee in February and to the catchment group in March.	Summer 2016/17
Northern Fan Spring-head protection and action	The spring sources of streams in the Northern Fan are protected	Ecosystem health and biodiversity <i>Examples of thriving spring-fed ecosystems in each zone (2040)</i>	CRC	Greater Waikakahi: one-on-one work with farmers in MGI to begin on FEP actions, catchment group re-invigorating with March meeting and land management work to focus on specific issues in wider catchment.	Summer 2016/17
Plan Change 2 and 3 to the Waitaki Allocation Plan	Protection of instream values in the Waitaki  Provision of certainty for pre-plan consents  Provision of water for the enhancement of Mahinga Kai  Security of supply for hydro-generation	Environmental Limits <i>Set environmental flows for rivers that are consistent with the principles of the CWMS (2015)</i>  Kaitiakitanga <i>Increased the abundance of, access to and use of mahinga kai (2020)</i>  Energy Security <i>Maintain Canterbury's contribution to NZ's energy security</i>	CRC (WIC/TRONT/ Meridian)	Hearings complete and decisions accepted.  PC2 implementation complete.  PC 3 implementation - discussion on how to implement the consent reviews necessary are ongoing.	Summer 2016/17
PC5	Protection of the high water quality in the Waitaki River	Environmental Limits <i>Set catchment load limits for nutrients for each water management zone (2015)</i>	CRC	Hearings completed in the period Oct-Dec 2016. Awaiting hearing commissioner's decision.	Summer 2016/17
Irrigation Integration Project  Water Stewardship Programme		Irrigated Land Area  Increase in reliability of supply/irrigated land area with demonstrated high standards of riparian, nutrient, and water use management (2040)	WIC	Water Stewardship programme. Phase one all but completed - scheme and catchment baseline data phase. Next phase is to develop an overarching Water Stewardship Strategy which sets high level goals and objectives, this will involve engagement. And finally, develop a Water Stewardship Plan, which is focussed on actions to achieve the goals and objectives.	Summer 2016/17



				South Bank Integrated Irrigation Project - some of this information has been used within the Water Stewardship Baseline Reports, and the actual irrigation system components of it are being progressed by the Kurow-Duntroon Irrigation Company through their proposed upgrade/expansion project.	
Wainono Project	Restoring the mauri of Wainono Lagoon	Ecosystem health and biodiversity <i>Examples of thriving coastal lagoon ecosystems in each zone (2040)</i>	Te Runanga O Waihao / CRC	Progressing with cropping property surveys in the Hook Drain and Waituna catchments  Continuing with riparian planting work  Completed reinforcing work on sediment structures in the Hook  Have started willow control on wetland areas around lagoon	Summer 2016/17
Stormwater and Wastewater Management	Urban Discharges operate at 'Good Management Practice'  Stormwater Management Plans effectively manage contaminants in the Wainono Catchment	Ecosystem health and biodiversity <i>Examples of thriving coastal lagoon ecosystems in each zone (2040)</i>	Waimate DC	Wastewater discharges capped by Plan Change 3. Current consent is consistent with Plan Change 3.  A Stormwater Management Plan is currently being drafted for consent application, including current and proposed industrial sites.	Summer 2016/17
Augmentation of Wainono Lagoon	Improved ecological health of the lagoon	Ecosystem health and biodiversity <i>Examples of thriving coastal lagoon ecosystems in each zone (2040)</i>	Augmentation Advisory Group  CRC	Augmentation locations currently being modelled to assess effectiveness  Continuous in-lake monitoring station being established.	Summer 2016/17
Hunter Downs Water	Increased irrigated land area and irrigation reliability  Improved economic development opportunities and community resilience	Irrigated Land Area <i>Increase in reliability of supply/irrigated land area with demonstrated high standards of riparian, nutrient, and water use management (2040)</i>	Hunter Downs Water	Preferred coastal alignment selected.  Pre-commissioning monitoring - planning underway.  Prospectus launch March for proposed winter 2017 construction to begin.	Summer 2016/17
South Canterbury Deep Groundwater Investigation	We have increased catchment knowledge in priority areas  Expanded knowledge of groundwater flowpaths from recharge to discharge zones in the Kowai Formation	Environmental Limits <i>Review catchment load limits based on changing monitoring information</i>	CRC	Field work complete and initial results/conclusions completed.  Groundwater ageing, via isotope analysis to be completed in late 2017.	Summer 2016/17
Waihao Land Management initiatives	Mitigation of sediment and phosphorus loss on the Waihao Downs  Good Management Practices are implemented in the Waihao Wainono catchment	Ecosystem Health / Water Use Efficiency	CRC / WDI  WWCCG / CRC	Farm survey work underway with WDI to identify farm specific management interventions through FEPs  Field days have so far focused on winter feed management and on pre-irrigation season checks. Next field focus is on sediment and phosphorus loss on May 4 <sup>th</sup> , concentrating on tillage & winter feed practices.	Summer 2016/17



Plan Change 3	Maintain good water quality in coastal streams and improve flows over time  We have widespread understanding of and compliance with plans	Environmental Limits  <i>Set environmental flows and catchment load limits for nutrients for each water management zone (2015)</i>	CRC	Hearing Commissioners' decision released and accepted in Q4 2016.  One appeal on the method for recalculating loads/caps when Overseer updates. Water quantity provisions are fully operative.  Communication of key messages to the community underway.	Summer 2016/17
Hakataramea Sustainability Group	Maintaining the Hakataramea braided river character, habitat, water quality and community values in the catchment	Natural Character of Braided Rivers	HSG	Local sustainability group established.	Summer 2016/17
Braided River Weed Control Programme	Protect braided river and wetland habitats and the species they support from invasion of weeds	Natural Character of Braided Rivers  <i>Protect significant habitat for a full range of indigenous braided river flora and fauna (2020)</i>	CRC	Funding ring-fenced for braided river weed control over 5 years.	Summer 2016/17
Plan Change 5	Maintain water quality and recreation opportunities associated with the Hakataramea River	Environmental Limits  <i>Set catchment load limits for nutrients for each water management zone (2015)</i>	CRC	Hearings completed in the period Oct-Dec 2016. Awaiting hearing commissioner's decision.	Summer 2016/17
Integrated Monitoring Framework pilot	To collate and share data collected by CRC and the community and track plan effectiveness  We understand the effectiveness of interventions	Environmental Limits  <i>Review catchment load limits based on changing monitoring information</i>	CRC (HSG)	Current monitoring sites created in the framework and gaps identified. Next steps is conversation with the community about gaps and other data they may collect.	Summer 2016/17
Immediate Steps Biodiversity	Protect and enhance indigenous biodiversity	Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity  <i>Protect all existing wetlands (2020)</i>  Natural Character and Ecological Health of Braided Rivers  <i>Protected significant habitat for a full range of indigenous braided river flora and fauna (2020)</i>	CRC	23 projects have been funded and 14 of these projects are now fully complete.  \$425,853 has been allocated out of the first \$500,000 five year budget.	Summer 2016/17
Good Management Practice	All land is managed at good management practice (GMP) and priority issues/areas are dealt with	Ecosystem Health / Water Use Efficiency	Industry/CRC	Focus is currently on priority catchments: Hook, Wainono, Waihao Downs and Greater Waikakahi	Summer 2016/17

Key: Lower Waitaki, South Coastal Canterbury, Hakataramea Valley, Zone Wide



<b>AGENDA ITEM NO:</b>	<b>SUBJECT MATTER:</b> Communicating Plan Change 3 South Coastal Canterbury
<b>REPORT BY:</b>  Julia Forsyth, Clare McDaniel, and Keitha Laming	
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b> Wednesday March 15th, 2017	

**Action required:** the committee note the key messages and provide feedback on the ways to ensure the key messages are communicated.

### **Background**

Plan Change 3 gives effect to recommendations the LWSCC Zone Committee made following a collaborative process held over 2013 and 2014. It manages the cumulative effects of land-use on water quality and complements other on-the-ground work in the catchment such as the Wainono Project and community-led land management initiatives. The independent hearing commissioner's decision on the Plan Change was publically notified in October 2016.

Community meetings were held in Waimate in late 2016 to explain the independent hearing commissioner's decision. Since this date one appeal has been received on the Plan Change decision. This appeal has not yet been resolved and therefore Environment Canterbury will now be communicating key messages with respect to the plan nutrient management concepts to the community, via a range of methods, feedback is sought on these.

### **Key Messages**

The South Coastal Canterbury Plan has been designed to address the water quality and quantity issues in the zone, building on the good work that the community has already started.

- The plan establishes three water management areas, each with differing requirements to address the specific issues in the area. The areas are Waihao-Wainono, Morvern – Sinclairs, and Northern Streams.
- The plan introduces new nutrient limits based on the concept of nitrogen caps. There are two types of nitrogen cap - "Flexibility Caps" and "Maximum Caps".
  - The flexibility cap allows farms with low nitrogen loss to increase up to the flexibility cap without a resource consent.
  - The maximum cap sets an upper limit for nitrogen losses. Farms that are over the maximum cap will need to get a resource consent and reduce their losses over time.

- If you are between the flexibility cap and the maximum cap you cannot increase your nitrogen losses without a resource consent.
- You need to know your nitrogen loss number to determine how the caps will affect your farm.
- The plan also expects all farmers to operate their farms at “Good Practice”. You’ll need to be able to record how you are doing this and be able to supply this information on request. A Farm Environment Plan (FEP) is a great way to achieve this, and a FEP will be required if you are applying for a resource consent.
- The plan has stricter water quantity controls; you will need to be able to demonstrate actual and reasonable water use at the time of consenting so water use efficiency will be increasingly important.

### ***Communicating Key Messages***

#### **General communications with respect to the SCC plan:**

The key messages will inform a communications strategy for the Zone that is under development and planned to be rolled out over the next 12 months. It is intended that this will be delivered through a number of channels as proposed below, we welcome any suggestions and feedback;

- Regular press releases/good news stories in targeted local publications
- Fact sheets (nutrient management, good farming practises, key issues in the zone i.e. winter grazing).
- Workshops to upskill local industry field advisor’s/consultants/managers on the requirements of the plan
- Working with existing groups i.e. Wainono project, and catchment groups to deliver fieldays on key topics
- Where possible hold farmer workshop’s in partnership with industry
- 1:1 messaging through on the ground staff

#### **Community Meetings this month:**

Hook Hall      Thursday March 16<sup>th</sup>  
9.30am-10.30am

Otaio Hall      Friday March 17<sup>th</sup>  
9.30am-10.30am

The purpose of these meetings is to communicate some key aspects of the proposed South Coastal Canterbury Streams Plan, recognising there is a need for farmers to have this information for their future decision making. The general concepts within the plan, the nutrient management rule framework and also the water availability will be discussed.

Staff members at these meeting will offer some scenarios to allow for a better understanding of how these rules may applied but will not be answering questions on an individual basis. One-on-one drop in meetings will be scheduled following this community meeting, and registrations will be taken on the day.