

# **AGENDA**

## **Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting Monday, 2 March 2020**

**Date** Monday, 2 March 2020

**Time** 1pm

**Location** Council Chamber, Council Building, King George  
Place, Timaru

**File Reference** 1322968

## **Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee**

**Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee will be held in the Council Chamber, Council Building, King George Place, Timaru, on Monday 2 March 2020, at 1pm.**

### **Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Members**

Clrs Hamish McFarlane (Chairperson), Phil Driver, Suzanne Eddington, John Henry, Lucy Millar, Anne Munro, Lan Pham, Luke Reihana, Glen Smith, Herstatt Ulrich, Mark Webb, Barbara Gilchrist and Tom O'Connor

Quorum – no less than 7 members

**Order Of Business**

<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Identification of Items of Urgent Business.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Declaration of Conflicts of Interest .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Chairperson's Report .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Confirmation of Minutes .....</b>	<b>6</b>
6.1	Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 2 December 2019 .....	6
<b>7</b>	<b>Reports .....</b>	<b>14</b>
7.1	Election of Officers .....	14
7.2	Catchment Group Update .....	17
7.3	Update From Regional Committee.....	20
7.4	Zone Facilitators Update .....	33
<b>8</b>	<b>Consideration of Urgent Business Items.....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Consideration of Minor Nature Matters.....</b>	<b>36</b>



- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business**
- 3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature**
- 4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**
- 5 Chairperson's Report**

## **6 Confirmation of Minutes**

### **6.1 Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 2 December 2019**

**Author:** Jo Doyle, Governance Advisor

#### **Recommendation**

That the Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 2 December 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 2 December 2019**

# **MINUTES**

## **Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting Monday, 2 December 2019**

**Minutes of Timaru District Council  
Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting  
Held in the Meeting Room 1, Council Building, King George Place, Timaru  
on Monday, 2 December 2019 at 1pm**

**Present:** Hamish McFarlane (Chairman), Phil Driver (until 2.10pm and from 3.05pm), Sue Eddington, Clr Elizabeth McKenzie, Lucy Millar, Clr Anne Munro (until 3.55pm), Clr Tom O'Connor, Clr Lan Pham, Glen Smith, Herstatt Ulrich (until 4pm) and Mark Webb

**In Attendance:** Zone Facilitator (Lyn Carmichael), Community Engagement Coordinator (Rhys Taylor), Fonterra Sustainability Advisor SC (Kirsty Simmonds), Zone Facilitator Lower Waitaki and Ashburton (Dave Moore), ECan Tangata Facilitator (Brad Waldon-Gibbons), Zone Delivery Lead (Brian Reeves), Department of Conservation representatives (John Benn and Brad Edwards), John de Witt (member of the public)

The meeting opened with a karakia from Clr Lan Pham

**1 Apologies**

**Committee Resolution 2019/12**

Moved: Herstatt Ulrich

Seconded: Suzanne Eddington

That the apologies from Clr Barb Gilchrist, Luke Reihana and John Henry be accepted.

**Carried**

**2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

**3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature**

There were no minor nature matters.

**4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

**5 Confirmation of Minutes**

**5.1 Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 2 September 2019**

**Matters Raised from Minutes**

**Clause 5 - Funding of catchment groups/conflict of interest**– the Facilitator advised that in regard to any potential conflict of interest with industry groups being involved with catchment groups – this is not an issue of concern as catchment groups are not decision making bodies.



In regard to the work programme, working with catchment groups will be a key piece of work for the Committee next year.

**Pizza evening** – neither Cllr Peter Scott nor Luke Reihana, who are helping with this project, were present at the meeting to provide an update on progress.

**Meeting of Water Zone Committee Chairpersons and Deputy Chairpersons** – Reference was made to the meeting of water zone chairpersons and deputy chairperson held on 29 November. Part of the discussion at the meeting was around whether zone committees are being responded to effectively. A strategy is being worked on to provide greater support for the committees through the chairpersons, as well as planning for more meetings of water zone chairpersons to provide support to each other and maintain interaction between the committees.

**Members interest register** – the Chairperson reminded the members of the need to submit their list of interests for the interests register (if they have not already done so) and advised new committee members of the need to fill out the register. A template is being developed to assist members to identify any actual or perceived conflicts.

**Clause 5.2 Collective leadership** – the Facilitator advised that in regard to clarification around transparency in working with CWMS partners, there is a proposal to have regular meetings between zone committee chairpersons and local authority representatives and staff. The Environment Canterbury strategy team has also recently approached local authorities to understand what action is already being undertaken in each zone, as much of the work towards meeting CWMS targets has already been started.

### **Regional Committee/Meeting of Zone Committee Chairpersons**

Discussion took place on the role of the Regional Committee and the Chairpersons and Deputy Chairpersons meetings and whether there is any cross over/duplication of purpose. The meeting was advised that there has only been one chairs meeting in recent times and it is not a formal group, more a support/sharing of ideas forum.

The Committee was reminded that the Regional Committee was formed when the CWMS was established, to oversee the regional wide targets. Phil Driver noted that the regional committee's purpose has since changed and the committee is currently evaluating its current purpose and structure.

As a follow on question, the purpose of the OTOP Committee in the meantime was raised. The Facilitator confirmed OTOP's focus continues to be delivering on targets and goals with local solutions.

### **Committee Resolution 2019/13**

Moved: Mark Webb

Seconded: Glen Smith

That the Minutes of the Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting held on 2 September 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

**Carried**

## **6 Chairman's Report**

The Chairman noted the recent Orari Gorge field trip and requested a thank you letter be sent to the Orari River Protection Society and also to Orari Gorge Station.

The draft OTOP Annual Report was tabled. This report, when finalised, will be presented to local authorities early in the new year.

## **7 Reports**

### **7.1 Community Forum**

Member of the public John de Witt referred to an ecological report prepared by ECan and NIWA regarding attributes in a catchment, and he is particularly interested in macro invertebrates on the Opuha River being very low. It is his view that there is insufficient monitoring being done, therefore there could be less data available for comparison purposes, especially in the future when the Opuha Dam applies for a renewal of its consent.

He believes macro invertebrates are a key performance indicator of the health of the river and there are problems below the weir, and not enough flushing flows.

A follow up question arose in regard to what monitoring there is on new and historic pesticides, not just in the local rivers but everywhere. The meeting was informed that pesticides are not as a rule, included in the monitoring regime but the ZIPA did seek more monitoring on emerging contaminants.

The suggestion was then made by Phil Driver that citizen monitoring could be implemented which would mean more data is collected. As long as a certain standard is met, citizen monitoring could be a valuable additional resource. There are portable lab sites and standard documentation, and training could be done in the field. Monitoring fits into the priority work streams and could be an important action space next year, however associated factors such as data management and costs need to be taken into account. It could possibly be built into the science monitoring programme in OTOP.

Comment was made that monitoring needs to be done in the right place, in order to help farmers manage their land better. It would be beneficial if farmers have a say in where monitoring should be done. The Facilitator advised that as Environment Canterbury water quality scientists are based in Timaru, such connections could be made.

It was noted that the appointment of a new cultural land management advisor who started today may also help.

Opuha Water Ltd (OWL) is doing monitoring and wanting to do more. It was suggested that ECan could talk to OWL 'on a friendly basis' to see if any collaborative arrangement could be worked out.

It was agreed to make following up with the science team an item for the priority work programme meeting in 2020.

Flows, including flushing flows, will be addressed through Plan Change 7 – the outcome will be reported to the committee after the hearings mid next year.

## **7.2 Welcome to new councillor representatives and farewell to previous councillor representatives**

The Chairman farewelled previous councillor representatives on the OTOP Committee – Clr Richard Lyon, Clr David Anderson and Clr Lan Pham. He thanked them for their input, hard graft and the time they gave to the Committee.

Clr Pham explained that she has been reallocated to the Banks Peninsula zone as there is a significant amount of activity and work to be undertaken in that zone. She will also be leading the biodiversity and biosecurity portfolio for ECan, and there will be a number of useful synergies between these activities.

The Chairman welcomed new councillors Elizabeth McKenzie from ECan, Tom O'Connor from Waimate District Council and Barb Gilchrist from Timaru District Council.

The Chairperson advised that there is no refreshment process required this year, for community members on the Committee.

## **7.3 Roundtable updates from Committee members**

Committee members had the opportunity to provide a brief verbal update on activities they had recently been involved in that may be of interest or would benefit the Committee.

Clr McKenzie reported on her attendance at the recent Waitaki River Rating Committee meeting. This led to discussion on river rating districts in general and their functions in such activities such as flood prevention, irrigation and weed control, noting there are different situations in different catchments.

A memo will be prepared for the OTOP Committee encompassing an update on river rating committees and their constraints and opportunities.

The meeting adjourned for a 10 minute refreshment break and resumed at 2.20pm.  
Phil Driver retired from the meeting.

## **7.4 Zone Delivery Work Programmes and Compliance Update**

Zone Delivery Lead Brian Reeves provided an update on the Zone Delivery work programmes and compliance from a regional perspective, including the Zone delivery approach to compliance monitoring and enforcement over the next 5 years.

The Chairman noted the importance of the zone delivery team in the work of the OTOP Zone Committee in the zone.

## **7.5 Presentations from Department of Conservation**

Department of Conservation representative John Benn presented a broad overview of DOC's role in the Canterbury Water Management Strategy. DOC is not a signed party to the CWMS but the department helped to develop the strategy, is a significant land owner in Canterbury, and DOC activities are affected by the CWMS.

DOC recognises the valuable opportunity that the CWMS provides to work together eg through opportunities like the Immediate Steps Programme. John Benn is available to assist with the

delivery of some of OTOP's outcomes and be a liaison person between DOC and the Zone Committee.

Phil Driver returned to the meeting at 3.05pm.

River Ranger Brad Edwards provided an overview of the Department's involvement in Rangitata River restoration, which involves developing a river plan, and includes a number of stakeholders. He explained the process DOC is planning to follow and the conservation priorities it will focus on. He noted that ECan's braided river plan, flood protection plan and river encroachment, has cross overs with DOC's plan.

An update could be available in approx. 6 months.

## **7.6 Update on Swimming Sites**

The Committee considered an update on Freshwater Suitability for Recreation. In regard to the Pareora River at the huts, Environment Canterbury staff are engaging with the community and it was requested by Phil Driver that the Pareora Catchment Group also be consulted and informed. The Facilitator will provide updates to the Committee if new information becomes available.

## **7.7 Zone Facilitator's Report**

The Facilitator presented her report, noting OTOP meeting dates for 2020, encouraging committee members to take part in the Bat Days on 6 and 13 December, the Treaty of Waitangi workshops and the visit to the Arowhenua Marae.

Clr Anne Munro retired from the meeting at 3.55pm.

It was noted that OTOP has not had a representative on the Waitarakao working group since John Talbot retired from the OTOP Committee. It was agreed that Mark Webb be the OTOP representative on the group.

In relation to interested party registers, the Facilitator will follow up to ensure the Orari River Protection Group is identified as an interested party for consents that are handled by Environment Canterbury and she will also contact Timaru District Council to see if it has an interested party register.

Herstall Ulrich retired from the meeting at 4pm.

The Facilitator noted the CWMS updated targets and goals through to 2040, which the Committee needs to look at early in 2020, in terms of the ZIPA and the Zone Committee's activities.

## **7.8 Other Business**

- Orari Gorge Field trip – to be discussed at the next workshop.
- A paper prepared by Phil Driver was tabled for the committee to read in preparation for discussion at a later date.
- The Community Engagement Coordinator advised that thought is being given to sparking catchment group activity for 2020, commencing in late January/February. He has compiled a list of potential activities and will encourage people to become involved in their local catchment group. Input from the OTOP Committee is welcome.

**7        Consideration of Urgent Business Items**

There were no urgent business items.

**8        Consideration of Minor Nature Matters**

There were no minor nature items.

**The Meeting closed at 4.11pm with a karakia.**

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**Chairperson**

## **7 Reports**

### **7.1 Election of Officers**

**Author:** Jo Doyle, Governance Advisor

**Authoriser:**

#### **Recommendation**

That the Committee elect the Chair, Deputy Chair and OTOP Zone representative on Regional Committee.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Report - Election of Officers - Lyn Carmichael 3/3/20** [!\[\]\(c33cb967c8fc4f5e27188a389b621c8e\_img.jpg\) !\[\]\(38e1383487ca0f0e9e2c9378b9dbcae7\_img.jpg\)](#)

**Action required**

Zone Committee members elect the following officers for 2020:

- Chair
- Deputy Chair
- OTOP Zone representative on Regional Committee.

**Appointment of officers**Role of Chair and Deputy Chair

Each year, the Committee is required to appoint the Chair and Deputy Chair from the membership by simple majority. There is no limit on how long a person can be in either of these positions.

A committee chair has a worthwhile yet demanding role. To be effective and make the maximum contribution to the CWMS within the zone, a chair needs a good understanding of the committee's role and responsibilities and should encourage members to participate fully in its work.

Key roles of the chair are outlined below:

- to provide leadership and to facilitate the work of the committee in pursuing its vision and strategic direction within the committee's terms of reference;
- to see that the committee's business is conducted in an orderly fashion and to ensure that members obtain a fair hearing;
- to ensure that the work of the committee is consistent with its agreed remit and terms of reference and that issues of interest to other committees or to the wider organisation are appropriately referred;
- to ensure the committee does not take decisions outside its authorised powers;
- to ensure recommendations made by the committee are clear and unambiguous, and that responsibility for taking forward action points is properly allocated;
- to consult with other committee members and provide advice and support;
- to ensure that decisions represent the collective views of the committee or (in exceptional circumstances when consensus cannot be reached) a majority view;
- to determine in consultation with the zone facilitator on the content of meeting agendas, the order in which items are taken and the amount of time to be devoted to each;
- to monitor the implementation of agreements and action points from previous meetings;

This role of deputy chair assists the chairperson and fills in if he or she is unavailable. It is essential that the chair and deputy chair have a good working relationship and understand their roles to ensure that duplication or confused direction does not occur.

Role of Regional Committee Representative

The committee also needs to appoint a member to the position of representative on the regional committee.

The Regional committee is a committee of Environment Canterbury. The purpose of the committee is to;

1. Monitor the progress of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy across the region; and
2. Provide advice to Environment Canterbury on regional issues.

The membership includes community, Rūnanga, Te Rūnanga o Ngai Tahu and council representatives. Each of the ten zone committees are also represented. The Canterbury District Health Board, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries have observer status. The Department of Conservation also attends.

The purpose for the zone committee representative is to represent their zone committee as a whole. The zone representative acts as a conduit of information into and out of the regional committee. They network with other members so good ideas in one zone can spread to another. They also provide input from a zone perspective on advice being crafted by the regional committee to ensure the advice is robust and will add value at a zone level.

Zone committee representatives also have a role to report back to their zone committee on the regional committee's discussions and to share information that comes to the regional committee that is relevant to the zone

***At the meeting the committee will elect members to these three positions.***



## 7.2 Catchment Group Update

**Author:** Jo Doyle, Governance Advisor

**Authoriser:**

### Recommendation

That the report from the Catchment Group be noted.

### Purpose of Report

- 1 To consider the attached update from Rhys Taylor.

### Attachments

1. Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee - Attachment to Report - Catchment Groups Update - Rhys Taylor 2/3/20 [!\[\]\(039cd6b2e7148ba5690aa619b922c426\_img.jpg\)](#) 

## Catchment Groups in OTOP Zone

The idea of sharing farm experience of good management practices and joining together to make more effective submissions on public policy has motivated interest in Catchment Groups for several years in South Canterbury. Up to eight groups were formed and active, geographically-based and largely informal (no written constitutions apart from Pareora Group) with voluntary facilitation provided by rural professionals who were initially recruited by Landcare Trust and Environment Canterbury <https://www.landcare.org.nz/completed-project-item/opihi-water-project>.

The Facilitators have been myself, plus Julia Crossman, Marty O'Connor, Nicki Pridham, Angela Darke and Jessica Holloever. They and their industry employers have been generous in volunteering time for so long.

The Catchment groups proved valuable to participants as:

- a) A social meeting point between farmers and others with an interest in each distinctive river catchment, such as irrigation companies, naturalists, fishers, beekeepers, walkers and rural professionals;
- b) A communication route between these 'communities of interest and place' and the Zone Committee plus staff of Environment Canterbury and the district councils, during the period of Zone Implementation Plan Addendum and the subsequent draft Plan Change 7 (now heading to Hearings stage);
- c) A learning opportunity from guest industry and occasional academic experts;
- d) A learning and discussion opportunity from farm visits

Some groups have reported that momentum has been difficult to sustain in the past six months, after the end of public engagement in development of the Zone Committee's ZIPA, information sessions on Land and Water Plan Change 5 and Plan Change 7 submissions process. There has also been a period of consultations for central government freshwater and biodiversity policy documents and RMA review, which have prompted industry meetings and lobbying activity.

A drop in catchment group activity may be only temporary, as agriculture industry bodies are now advocating (re)establishment of catchment groups, to be pro-active in helping farmers adapt to new challenges, such as:

- Better understanding 'regenerative agriculture', carbon sequestration, and soil conservation (learn from research, case studies)
- Helping to enhance visible environmental credentials in traceable production, that may have economic advantages in allowing premium pricing (responding to markets)
- Reducing N losses whilst maintaining productivity in crops and livestock (responding to increasing regulation)

- Protecting drinking water supplies (urban public awareness, esp. of N levels and pathogens)
- Protecting on-farm biodiversity and planting more trees for habitat/ shelter/ emergency stock fodder/ bee food etc.
- Catchment-wide or collaborative bids for government and industry funding.

Illustrations of this can be seen at Beef+Lamb website: <https://beeflambnz.com/catchment-groups/all-resources>

Dairy NZ website: <https://www.dairynz.co.nz/about-us/regional-projects/aparima-community-environment-project/> and <https://www.dairynz.co.nz/news/latest-news/collective-effort-gives-farmers-a-voice/>

Fonterra: <https://www.fonterra.com/nz/en/what-we-stand-for/environment/water/our-commitment-on-water/regional/Otago.html>

Synlait: <https://www.synlait.com/sustainability/#env>

Landcare Trust. <https://www.landcare.org.nz/current-project-item/supporting-farmer-driven-community-catchment-groups-in-southland>

Ravensdown. <https://www.ravensdown.co.nz/media/4622/ground-effect-8.pdf> (download pdf)

### **Next steps?**

On 1-2 April, a conference organised by Landcare Trust in Invercargill will reflect on catchment group experience in Southland and Otago.

This month I have contacted membership of Te Moana/Waihi and Te Ana Wai catchment groups (which ECan supports me in facilitating as a small part of contract work), asking if they wish to meet, what topics they would like to learn about and work on collectively. I shall invite fellow facilitators of the groups active in 2015-2019 to do similarly, if they still have the time available – or to indicate if they no longer have time to contribute facilitation.

I have added the Waihi & Te Moana Group to the Beef+Lamb web register of catchment groups at <https://beeflambnz.com/catchment-groups/groups-and-facilitators> and could add others, if the groups wish to be listed there.

**7.3 Update From Regional Committee****Author:** Jo Doyle, Governance Advisor**Authoriser:****Recommendation**

That the report from the Regional Committee be noted.

**Purpose of Report**

- 1 To consider the attached update from Lesley Woudberg White.

**Attachments**

1. Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee - Attachment to Report - Regional Committee Summary - 11 February 2020 - From Lesley Woudberg - 2/3/20 [!\[\]\(9bfa69b6b0f097b09744337d04f22d78\_img.jpg\)](#) 

## CWMS REGIONAL COMMITTEE

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Summary of Committee meeting 11 February 2020

**1. Conflict of Interest**

The committee began implementing the new process to manage conflict of interest. Committee members were asked to populate the Conflict of Interest Register that will now be in every agenda. They were then asked to declare any conflict associated with the agenda before them.

**2. Membership**

Membership of the Regional committee is currently going through a phase of change as new council and Rūnanga representatives join the committee, zone committees appoint their representatives and community members approach their refresh.

**3. 2019 Annual Report was adopted**

The 2019 Annual Report was adopted (attached). The Report will be presented to Environment Canterbury by the chair in the next couple of months

**4. Mayoral Forum and Central Government Update**

This update provided the committee with a good overview of the work underway with the Mayoral Forum to identify initiatives TAs have underway that contribute to the CWMS and central government's freshwater and biodiversity initiatives (paper attached).

**5. Priorities for 2020**

With the context of the Mayoral Forum and central government work underway the committee then turned their attention to priorities for 2020. They have identified a long list that they are yet to prioritise.

## 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

### CWMS Regional Water Committee

#### Comments from the Chair, Hugh Logan

The Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) Regional Committee has the job of integrating the region-wide water initiatives that collectively contribute to the goals of the CWMS. The work of the committee over the past year, and the advice and support it has provided to Environment Canterbury, are recorded in the sections that follow in this annual report.

The CWMS is the guiding framework for water management in Canterbury. It has been instrumental in placing Canterbury at the forefront of regional government in the way that freshwater water is managed. Given the multitude of interests, issues and demands that swirl around the use of freshwater, it is a challenge. Freshwater is the lifeblood of Canterbury, socially, culturally, economically and environmentally. The past decade has witnessed a generational change in how water is managed, with realization of its sensitivity to pollutants and changing climate, and the importance of healthy water and waterways.

Over the period since the inception of the CWMS ten years ago, much has been achieved – new plans and rules, local initiatives to enhance and protect waters and habitats, new infrastructure to reticulate water and new more demanding goals for the Strategy for the future. But looking after water is an ongoing job. There will be ongoing and new challenges, especially dealing with climate change, pressing forward in management of nitrogenous pollutants, changing land use

patterns, and in the short term responding to likely new national standards for water management. The CWMS is up to these challenges and so is the Regional Committee.

This past year has seen changes in the Committee membership, and there will be a further refresh of members in the coming year. As Chair, I would like to thank outgoing members Mayor Winton Dalley (an inaugural member to the Committee, who has retired as Mayor of Hurunui District), Councilor Nicole Reid, and Vicky Southworth. They have been great and valued contributors to our work.



Hugh Logan working on the CWMS 2025 and 2030 targets with Caroline Hart (Environment Canterbury) and Chris Allen (Federated Farmers and Ashburton zone committee member)

## Key Achievements 2019

### Evolution of the CWMS – Interim Targets 2025 and 2030

The CWMS is evolving as our understanding improves, our expectations of each other changes and new players become interested in improving the way freshwater is managed in Canterbury. When the Regional Committee reported on progress to deliver the CWMS in the 2017 Targets Report, the Committee recommended populating the Strategy with interim targets for 2025 and 2030. This recommendation was supported by the Mayoral Forum and Environment

Canterbury and resulted in the Regional Committee, with the help of many others developing new interim targets for 2025 and 2030. The Mayoral Forum approved the proposed interim targets in May 2020.

### Measuring Progress - Targets Report 2019

The CWMS establishes a “direction of travel” for freshwater management in Canterbury. Progress is measured against the targets every two years. The Committee oversaw the development of the 2019 Targets Report.

The 2019 Targets Report is the fourth targets report that has been published since 2010.

A key finding of the 2019 Targets Report, like the 2017 Report, is that significant effort is being made by a variety of agencies, groups and individuals throughout Canterbury. But we are yet to see these efforts translated into real and significant outcomes. We expected there to be a time lag as natural systems adjust and we expected that we would need to adapt and adjust our actions in response to improved understanding, monitoring information and technology – but it is frustrating.

We would like to acknowledge the effort that has been made, particularly in the rural sector with the introduction of Farm Environment Plans and the independent auditing system. We shouldn't underestimate the changes that are taking place in rural sectors to improve environmental performance. The path is clear - but there is still a long way to go.

In the next couple of years we expect to see an increase in the pace of change in other target areas as councils respond to government directions on freshwater, drinking water and biodiversity. Territorial

Authorities will also be required to improve the quality of their stormwater discharges to comply with new consents and the 2025 Kaitiakitanga targets will provide real focus for zone committees to deliver mahinga kai projects in their zone.



Members of the Regional Committee, Selwyn Waihora, Ashburton and Christchurch West Melton zone committees visited a dairy farm to undertake a mock FEP audit to better understand what is involved – May 2019

### Environmental Limits - Farm Environment Plans and Audits

A significant effort over the first ten years of the CWMS has been to put in place the *Land and Water Regional Plan* that sets environmental limits and a regulatory regime to govern the way water is managed in Canterbury. The Plan requires many farms to have a consent and a Farm Environment Plan (FEP) that are independently audited. There are now 1500 farms managed under irrigation scheme authorisations, and a further 1000 applications for consent have been received. The focus is now on ensuring FEP audits are undertaken and they get a passing audit grade.

The Regional Committee took the opportunity to visit a dairy farm north of the Rakaia to find out what FEPs and audits were all about and how they are beginning to change the way farms are being managed in Canterbury.



### **Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity - Regional Biodiversity**

Across the region, zone committees have allocated \$1million to approximately 80 Immediate Steps Biodiversity Projects. Projects funded include protecting old willows for endangered Long Tailed Bat colonies (OTOP), to building artificial islands that provide protection from predators for breeding braided rivers birds (HW) to fencing covenants (BP) and planting around spring heads (SW).

The Regional Committee oversees funding for three multi-year projects that focus on weed and predator control on braided rivers, fish barriers and weed control in the wetland margins of Te Waihora. The committee visited the “Weed Strike Force” at work on the edges of Te Waihora and heard how thinking differently has resulted in a significant increase in the area cleared of willows.



The Regional committee and Selwyn Waihora zone committee visited the Weed Strike Force on the edge of Te Waihora - November 2019. By thinking differently this DOC/ECan project has controlled weeds on 790ha for the same cost as it once did on 400ha

### **Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity - Fish Screens**

Improving the effectiveness of fish screens has continued to be a priority for the committee. It is fair to say that there are no “quick fixes”. There are now three projects underway – one on the behaviour of native fish species as they approach screens lead by NIWA, another on

effective designs for new screens lead by Irrigation New Zealand and the third on how to improve the performance and compliance of existing structures lead by Environment Canterbury.

Since 1967 there has been rules that require fish screens on water takes. There are thousands out there, but little has been done to determine how effective they are. It was disappointing to hear that of the 32 sites Environment Canterbury visited in 2019 none were compliant with NIWA guidelines.

Improving the performance of fish screens has the potential to make a big difference to Canterbury’s sport fishery and native fish species. We will continue to work with Environment Canterbury, irrigators, NIWA DOC and Fish and Game to improve existing screens, the design or new screens and our understanding of various fish species behaviour when they encounter a screen.

### **Recreation and Amenity**

The 2019 Target Report tells us progress is slow in this area. The Regional committee explored a theoretical approach to recreation and amenity with the help Lincoln University. This approach has proved to be of limited value for our work. The committee is now turning to the zones to look for practical projects that deliver recreation and amenity values as well as continuing to improve water quality and ensure the way water is allocated takes recreation and amenity values into account.





## Challenges/Opportunities 2020

- Support and inspire **collective action** to deliver the CWMS
- Focus on the **delivery of the 2025 targets**
- Continue to work with ECan to ensure **monitoring/reporting information** provides communities with the information they need
- Align and adapt to **Central Governments Freshwater Initiatives**
- Maintain momentum during a period of **change**
- Changes in **mega trends** such as changing weather and climate patterns, technology and economic, social and cultural drivers.

## The Regional Committee

The Regional committee is a committee of Environment Canterbury. The purpose of the committee is to;

1. Monitor the progress of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy across the region; and
2. Provide advice to Environment Canterbury on regional issues.

The membership includes community, Rūnanga, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and council representatives. Each of the ten zone committees are also represented.

The Canterbury District Health Board, Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Primary Industries have observer status. The Department of Conservation also attends.

## Committee Membership

As of 31 September 2020

### Ngāi Tahu Representatives

Rebecca Clements – TRONT  
Vacant – Rūnanga North Canterbury  
Vacant – Rūnanga Mid Canterbury  
Vacant – Rūnanga South Canterbury

### Council Representatives

Mayor Winton Dalley - North Canterbury DC  
Cr Nicole Reid – Mid Canterbury DC  
Cr Sara Templeton - Christchurch City Council  
Peter McIlraith – South Canterbury DC

### Environment Canterbury

Cr Peter Scott – ECan  
Cr Claire McKay - ECan

### Community Representatives

Hugh Canard  
Jane Demeter  
Ross Millichamp  
Vicky Southworth

### Zone Representatives

Cr Stuart Wilson – Ashburton  
Rima Herber – Banks Peninsula  
Les Wanhalla – Christchurch West Melton  
John Preece – Hurunui Waiau  
Ted Howard – Kaikōura  
Barney Hoskins – Lower Waitaki  
Phil Driver – OTOP

Benita Wakefield – Selwyn Waihora  
Vacant – Upper Waitaki

**Central Government**

Loretta Dobbs & Phil Kirk – MPI  
Nick Vincent – MFE  
John Benn – DOC  
Alistair Humphrey – CDHB

<b>Agenda Item No: 8</b>  <b>For Discussion/Deliberation</b>	<b>Subject Matter:</b>  Update on CWMS Fit for the Future project and key central government initiatives
<b>Report to:</b> Canterbury Water Management Strategy Regional Committee	<b>CWMS - Target/s Areas</b>  All
<b>Report by:</b>  Caroline Hart (Senior Strategy Manager)	<b>Date of Meeting:</b>  11 February 2020

## Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update the Regional Committee on progress towards implementation of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) Fit for the Future project. An overview of the suite of central government proposals that are relevant to the CWMS is also provided. This report does not require decision making from the Regional Committee but serves to provide context for discussion on the 2020 work programme.

## Recommendations

That the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Regional Committee **note** the contents of the report.

## Report

The report provides an update the Regional Committee on the following key initiatives:

- a) CWMS Fit for the Future Project implementation
- b) Action Plan for Healthy Waterways (Essential Freshwater discussion document)
- c) Review of Three Waters and the Water Services Regulator
- d) Resource Management System: A comprehensive review (Issues and Options paper)
- e) Resource Management Act Amendment
- f) New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy (discussion document)
- g) National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity (discussion document)

## CWMS Fit for Future implementation

1. In 2018 the Regional Committee were commissioned by the Canterbury Mayoral Forum to develop CWMS goals for 2025 and 2030, and to develop advice on how implementation of these goals would be achieved. After more than a year of consultation and analysis the Regional Committee recommendations were considered by the Mayoral Forum in May 2019. This advice included:
  - a) Goals for 2025 and 2030 for all ten target areas

- b) Identification of four strategic matters required for successful implementation of the CWMS (effective mechanisms for leadership and accountability; adequate resourcing and funding; regular monitoring, reporting and review of progress; and a broad base of understanding and support for the CWMS)
  - c) A draft regional work programme to implement the goals.
- 2. In May 2019 the Mayoral Forum approved the goals for 2025 and 2030 (see [link](#) for details) and agreed that Environment Canterbury work with territorial authorities, Ngāi Tahu, industry and community partners to develop a regional work programme, with an implementation plan and monitoring framework to deliver the goals, and report progress to the Mayoral Forum.
- 3. In order to develop the regional work programme, in July 2019 the Chief Executives Forum commissioned the Operations Forum to lead the next stage of this project. At its meeting on 16 September, the Operations Forum agreed to set up a Joint Working Group with representatives from each territorial authority and Environment Canterbury. The working group will provide advice and assist with the prioritisation of a work programme relevant to each council in line with their planning to develop the 2021-2031 long term plans.
- 4. The Joint Working Group is currently developing advice and a draft regional work programme will be considered at the upcoming Joint Working Group meeting on 17 February (draft 1). The Operations Forum will review advice on the draft work programme on 16 March (draft 2). Final adjustments will then be made to the draft regional work programme based on advice from the Operations Forum (draft 3).
- 5. Comprehensive advice on a recommended regional work programme for Territorial Authorities and Environment Canterbury to ensure delivery of the 2025 CWMS goals will be presented to the Chief Executives Forum on 4 May and Mayoral Forum on 22 May. Work programmes related to Ngāi Tahu and parties with an interest in CWMS implementation will be subsequently developed.

## Central Government Policy update

- 6. The **Action for Healthy Waterways** discussion document (part of the Essential Freshwater package) was released for consultation in September 2019. It set out proposals to stop further degradation and reverse past damage to New Zealand's freshwater resources. The freshwater management package focused on clarifying policy direction and setting new regulations under the Resource Management Act. Several advisory groups (Kahui Wai Māori, Freshwater Leaders, Science & Technical and Regional Councils) informed the proposals. The freshwater management package is heavily focused on clarifying policy direction and setting new regulations under the Resource Management Act.
- 7. The Action Plan for Healthy Waterway includes the following key proposals:
  - d) Discussion document on the national direction for our essential freshwater
  - e) National Policy Statement - Freshwater Management
  - f) National Environmental Standards

- g) Section 360 regulations on stock exclusion
8. A regional submission was made on the discussion document by the Mayoral Forum, and Environment Canterbury. Both submissions are attached for your reference. The Ministry for the Environment received around 17,500 submissions on the proposals. An Independent Advisory Panel chaired by retired Principal Environment Court Judge David Sheppard will be reviewing the submissions.
  9. Ministers are expected to make decisions on the final content of proposed new regulations in May 2020, with a view to having the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Water, National Environmental Standards, and stock exclusion regulations in force by mid-2020.
  10. The central government **review of Three Waters** is led by the Department of Internal Affairs with support from the Ministry of Health and Ministry for the Environment. Cabinet decisions on the regulatory framework for Three Waters were released on 1 August 2019. The new regulatory framework includes:
    - a) a new regulator that will have oversight and stewardship of the Three Waters system
    - b) new obligations on territorial authorities to ensure access to clean drinking water, and for all drinking water suppliers to register with the regulator
    - c) lifting performance of Three Waters assets.
  11. A standalone Crown entity to regulate drinking water in New Zealand was announced on 25 October 2019. The new independent regulator will be responsible for ensuring supplies of safe, clean drinking water for all New Zealand households and communities, and also provide central oversight and guidance of wastewater and stormwater regulatory functions.
  12. **Taumata Arowai – the Water Services Regulator Bill** was introduced to Parliament in December 2019. This new drinking water regulator will be an independent Crown entity dedicated to drinking water quality and safety and will provide central oversight and guidance for the sector's wastewater and stormwater regulatory functions. An Establishment Unit has been created within the Department of Internal Affairs, with support from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry for the Environment, to design and operationalise the new regulator.
  13. New National Environmental Standards for Sources of Human Drinking Water and Wastewater Discharges and Overflows to be released mid-2020.
  14. The Government is undertaking a comprehensive **review of the resource management system** with a focus on the RMA including:
    - New Zealand's physical characteristics and unique biodiversity
    - the Treaty and the relationship between iwi/Māori and the Crown
    - the significant ways we all value and connect with the environment.

15. The scope of the review includes looking at the RMA and how it interfaces with the:
  - Local Government Act 2002
  - Land Transport Management Act 2003
  - Climate Change Response Act, to be amended by the Zero Carbon Amendment Bill.
16. The Government's review of the resource management system is taking a first principles approach – it is focusing on the high-level purpose, scope and structure of the Resource Management system, and the tools and mechanisms available within it. The review is wide in scope and looking at everything from purpose and principles through to fees and charges. It also includes spatial planning to enable more strategic decisions about resources and infrastructure over longer timeframes.
17. An independent panel has been established to undertake this review and has been meeting weekly since September 2019. The panel is chaired by Hon Tony Randerson QC and it released a preliminary Issues and Options paper for feedback by 3 February 2020. See the Issues and Options paper here <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/rma/transforming-resource-management-system-opportunities-change-issues-and-options>
18. The panel will provide a report to the Minister for the Environment with its recommendations on reforming the RMA in mid-2020. This will include detailed policy proposals and indicative drafting of legalisation for key provisions. The Government plans to consult on the proposals once finalised.
19. The **Resource Management Amendment Bill** had its first reading on 26 September 2019. The Environment Select Committee heard submissions on the Resource Management Amendment Bill proposals late last year and is expected to report back to the House by late March 2020. The objectives of this Bill are to reduce complexity, increase certainty, restore public participation opportunities, and improve RMA processes. The Bill repeals a number of amendments made in 2017 through the Resource Legislation Amendment Bill. This Bill also supports the urgent need to improve freshwater management and outcomes in New Zealand with provisions for freshwater planning processes.
20. The **New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy** - On 5 August 2019 the Minister for Conservation released Te Koiora o Te Koiora: Our shared vision of living with nature, a discussion document on proposals for a biodiversity strategy for New Zealand. Submissions to the Department of Conservation on this discussion document were due by 22 September 2019. The Environment Canterbury submission is attached for your reference.
21. The proposed strategy will replace the existing national strategy, which expires in 2020. The purpose of the strategy is to provide national direction for New Zealand's biodiversity management system. The strategy has no legislative standing but will fulfil

New Zealand's international obligations under the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.

22. The discussion document sets out: a new vision to 2070; a set of values and principles to guide how we work to achieve this vision; eight long-term outcomes; a set of goals for 2025, 2030 and 2050 for measuring progress; five 'system shifts' to focus investment in the first five years of the strategy, along with proposed priority actions.
23. The Department of Conservation are currently considering submissions on the discussion document. The final New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy will be considered for release by Cabinet in mid-2020
24. The **National Policy Statement – Indigenous Biodiversity** was released in November 2019. Submissions must be received by 14 March 2020.





**7.4 Zone Facilitators Update****Author:** Jo Doyle, Governance Advisor**Authoriser:****Recommendation**

That the report from the Zone Facilitator be noted.

**Purpose of Report**

- 1 To consider the attached update from Lyn Carmichael.

**Attachments**

1. Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee - Attachment to Report - Facilitators Updates - Lyn Carmichael - 2/3/20  

**Action required:**

Note the updates on:

- OTOP ZC Annual Report
- Biosecurity Advisory Groups

**HWZC Annual Report**

The OTOP Zone Committee Annual Report has now been finalised. The report will be presented to the Timaru District Councillors at their council meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> April, and to the Environment Canterbury Councillors at their council meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> April and the Mackenzie District Councillors at their meeting on 23 June. A date has yet to be confirmed for Waimate District Council.

**Biosecurity Advisory Groups**

These groups have been established and have held their first meetings. There are four groups across the region:

- North Canterbury Biosecurity Group – Cr Grant Edge
- Christchurch Banks Peninsula Biosecurity Group – Cr Lan Pham
- Central Canterbury Biosecurity Group – Cr Ian Mackenzie
- South Canterbury Biosecurity Group – Cr Elizabeth McKenzie

<b>Northern Group</b>	<b>Central Group</b>	<b>Christchurch/Banks Peninsula</b>	<b>Southern Group</b>
1. Duncan Lundy	1. Helen Stewart	1. John Clemens	1. Gary Foster
2. Norm Kereikeepa	2. Roger Bray	2. Colin Meurk	2. John Talbot
3. Hamish Roxburgh	3. Andy Cox	3. Gabe Ross	3. Rob Young
4. Richard Reed	4. Barry Austin	4. Gina Waibl	4. Tom Lambie
5. Winton Dalley	5. Chas Todhunter	5. Pam Richardson	5. Gavin Loxton
6. Hamish Chamberlain	6. Fiona McDonald	6. Paul de Latour	6. John Abelen
7. Mark Giles	7. Hamish Gilpin	7. Philip Hulme	7. Richard Patterson

8. Ted Howard	8. Maree Goldring	8. Richard Ball	8. Angela Johnston
9. Hamish Galletly	9. Michael Salvesen	9. Karl Dean	9. Ines Stager
10. Lorna Sandeman	10. Nicky Snoyink	10. Sam Yeatman	10. Matt Simpson

The Councillors will act as Establishment Chair for the groups' first year.

The groups:

- meet approximately four times per year
- composed of ECan Councillors, TA Councillor (represent all within the group's area), Papatipu Rūnanga representative, and community members
- meetings are open for public to attend
- have no decision-making or recommending powers
- for info on the purpose of the groups and their Terms of Reference see here: [www.ecan.govt.nz/biosecuritychampions](http://www.ecan.govt.nz/biosecuritychampions)

- 8      Consideration of Urgent Business Items**
- 9      Consideration of Minor Nature Matters**