

AGENDA

Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Meeting Monday, 3 February 2025

Date Monday, 3 February 2025

Time 1 pm

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

File Reference 1737639

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 3 February 2025, at 1 pm.

Orari-Temuka-Opihi-Pareora Water Zone Committee Members

Suzanne Eddington, John Henry, Glen Smith (Chairperson), Bailey Lissington, Chris Konings (Deputy Chairperson), Michelle Pye, Deon Swiggs, Phillipa Guerin and Sharyn Cain

Quorum – no less than 5 members

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

8 Reports

8.1 Zone Committee Action Plan Budget Funding Projects

Author: Dave Moore, Zone Facilitator

Authoriser:

Recommendation

That the Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora Water Zone Committee receives the Action Plan Funding.

Purpose of Report

- 1 To update the Zone Committee on progress with implementing their Action Plan Budget for FY2024/25.

Introduction

- 2 As part of their Long-Term Plan 2021-2031, Environment Canterbury established the Zone Committee Action Plan (ZCAP) Budget. The purpose of the budget is to allow Zone Committees to focus on implementing their Action Plan and leverage other funding opportunities to achieve the CWMS priorities. In November the Committee recommended all its \$50,000 (excl. GST) ZCAP funding for the 2024-25 financial year.

Status

- 3 At the time of writing this report four of the five recipients have funding agreements in place and three have invoiced Environment Canterbury. One recipient is currently updating their quotation and planting plan (as requested by the Zone Committee) before the funding agreement can be completed.

Applicant	Project name	Funding	Status
Craigmore Station	Craigmore Basins Planting	\$5,000	Completed funding agreement. Invoice received.
Kathryn Fortescue	Tengawai River Plantings	\$6,111	Completed funding agreement. Invoice received.
Normanby Lagoon	Native Planting	\$23,725	Awaiting new quotations for plants and planting plan.
Strathconan Stream Catchment Group	Strathconan Stream Restoration	\$10,164	Completed funding agreement. Invoice received.
Port Blakely Forestry NZ	Kakahu Robinson Wetland Restoration	\$5,000	Completed funding agreement. Purchase order issued.

Attachments

Nil

8.2 Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora Water Zone Committee Work Plan

Author: Dave Moore, Zone Facilitator

Authoriser:

Recommendation

That the Zone Committee receives the update and agrees work plan through to June 2025.

Purpose of Report

- 1 To update the Zone Committee on progress with CWMS Zone Committee Review and agree a work plan through to June 2025.

Background

CWMS Zone Committee Review

- 2 The Canterbury Mayoral Forum launched a review of Zone Committees in 2023 to consider how best to include local leadership in freshwater decision making.

Mayoral Forum Consideration

- 3 Following this review, a report was presented to the Canterbury Mayoral Forum on 29 November 2024.
- 4 After considering these findings, the Forum acknowledge the significant contribution Zone Committee members have made to freshwater outcomes throughout Canterbury, both as individuals, and collectively agreed that:
 - In principle, zone committees, as a consistent structure across Waitaha Canterbury, are in some places no longer the preferred option to support effective local freshwater leadership.
 - Further work is needed to refine what an improved model might look like, with another report planned to go to the Mayoral Forum in May 2025 seeking agreement to a proposed model.
 - In the first half of 2025, Environment Canterbury will lead this work with Councils and Papatipu Rūnanga, and to assist with how to transition from zone committee to any new model (see 'Next Steps' below).

Next Steps

- 5 In the interim period, through to June 2025 key areas where ongoing Zone Committee input will be valuable include:
 - Completing 2024/25 Action Plan budget allocations and oversight of funded projects (funding agreements are almost complete for 2024/25);
 - Supporting work to complete the 2025 CWMS Targets report; and
 - Assisting in identifying local priorities for new leadership groups to consider based on ZIPs and plans that have guided our efforts to date.

- 6 If there is other work or actions that committees would like to do, including interim changes, then we welcome hearing about these.

Scheduled Zone Committee meeting dates to June 2025

- 10 March
- 7 April
- 5 May
- 9 June

Attachments

Nil

8.3 Our Waitarakao Project Update

Author: Dave Moore, Zone Facilitator

Authoriser:

Recommendation

That the Orari Temuka Opihi Pareora Water Zone Committee receives the update.

Purpose of Report

- 1 To share with the Zone Committee the Our Waitarakao end of year round up.

Our Waitarakao end of year round up

With the end of year nearly upon us it's a great time to give an update on the year that's been for the Our Waitarakao project. Thanks to everyone who has been part of the Our Waitarakao journey so far – whether you've been following progress, actively involved or keen to get involved, it's been humbling to have such great community support for this project. It's clear to see we all have a shared vision for the Waitarakao Washdyke Lagoon Catchment – to improve the health of this special area for everyone to enjoy.

Waitarakao Washdyke Lagoon Catchment Strategy

Community feedback received over the past 18 months through drop-in events, community workshops and online survey responses, has informed the development of the draft Our Waitarakao strategy. We're in the final stage of approval, so will keep you updated once the strategy has been officially approved by all four partner agencies (Environment Canterbury, Timaru District Council, Department of Conservation and Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua).

Activities taking place in the catchment

Throughout the year there's been lot's happening, with actions already underway to improve the health of the catchment. There's been investigative work undertaken to look at ways to reduce sedimentation and improve water quality in the upper catchment. Fish survey's and eDNA samples have been conducted at sites across the catchment to help inform the health of the waterways and associated habitats, and there's been several restoration projects including efforts to improve habitat for a mudfish population and weed eradication to protect an area of native bush.

Pest trapping around Waitarakao Lagoon

A small group of fantastic volunteers continue to trap the Waitarakao Lagoon environment with over 200 mustelids, rats and hedgehogs caught and this work still going strong. Thanks for all your hard work!

School visits

It's been great to see a high level of interest from local primary and secondary schools with many visits to the rocky shore and lagoon area. Not only does this give students a fascinating

subject to learn about, it's a great way to raise awareness of this special area and educate students on the challenges it faces, along with what can be done to improve the catchment.

Any educators looking to visit the lagoon are welcome to get in touch with us to discuss any support we can provide.

Mountainview High School mufti day fundraiser

Support for the Our Waitarakao project throughout the South Canterbury community is far reaching, with Mountainview High School recently holding a school mufti day to raise money to go towards the project. This initiative was led by senior students at the school who identified Our Waitarakao as a great project to support.

The Our Waitarakao project team were thrilled to learn of this and were blown away by the generosity shown.

Spring clean beach clean up

In September a group of 25 volunteers and the Our Waitarakao project team gave the beach from Aorangi Road towards the lagoon a good spring clean.

Over a two-hour period 15 sacks of rubbish were collected, plus old tyres, gumboots and a range of other rubbish items. It was great to see so many tamariki getting involved in the beach clean-up!



Bassetts Road planting day

A collaborative planting day between the Our Waitarakao project and landowners in the upper catchment was held in early November. A group of 25 volunteers made up of community members, local landowners and the Our Waitarakao project team planted more than 900 natives on a 0.8ha site that was generously donated by landowners Grant and Jan Shaw.

This planting day, and future planting days are some of the steps we're taking to improve the health of the catchment, to achieve our vision "To improve the mauri of Waitarakao for everyone."

Plantings will help to

- improve biodiversity
- increase habitat area for native and desired flora and fauna
- improve water quality

Thanks to Ravensdown for contributing towards purchasing the plants and Point Lumber for donating the woodchip to go around the plants.

Now that the project is up and running, we are actively on the lookout for good sites to carry out planting restoration, pest or weed control work. If you have any areas you think could be suitable, or you are carrying out your own restoration work and could use some support, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us. Our Waitarakao is all about supporting each other to create positive outcomes for the catchment and we'll consider any relevant opportunity.



Our Waitarakao interactive map

We're in the process of developing an interactive map of the Waitarakao Washdyke Lagoon Catchment, displaying activities across the catchment that are planned, under way, or completed. It's a great way for the community to stay up-to-date on what's happening and will showcase opportunities to get involved. This will go live in autumn 2025, so stay tuned for progress.

What's in store for 2025

Next year is all about building momentum and increasing the number and frequency of good actions in the catchment. Things to look forward to include:

- Initiation of major investigation to plan for the ideal future for Waitarakao Lagoon
- Undertake more planting and weed control efforts alongside the community
- Explore on-the-ground work opportunities to reduce sedimentation of inland streams and improve water quality
- Expand predator pest trapping outward from the existing trapping area within the lagoon
- Further beach/rubbish clean ups

Continued community discussions and positive engagement.

That's a wrap for 2024

As we reflect on the past year, the Our Waitarakao project team have been amazed by the generosity and support shown by so many – from local landowners, community volunteers and groups, to the supportive business industry. Many people have gone above and beyond to support the project, so thank you to everyone who's been involved.

We look forward to working with you in 2025 on further initiatives to achieve positive outcomes for the Waitarakao Washdyke Lagoon Catchment.

Wishing you all a safe and happy festive season.

Ngā mihi

Our Waitarakao project team

Attachments

Nil

9 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

10 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

11 Closing Karakia