

# CHRISTCHURCH WEST MELTON WATER MANAGEMENT ZONE COMMITTEE

## AGENDA

THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2012

AT 6PM

LINWOOD SERVICE CENTRE  
180 SMITH STREET

**(Please use the entrance to the Boardroom off back car park)**

**Committee:** Commissioner Rex Williams, Environment Canterbury (Interim Chairperson)  
Councillor Sally Buck, Christchurch City Council  
Deidre Francis, Community Representative  
Ian Fox, Community Representative  
Jon Harding, Community Representative  
Councillor Debra Hasson, Selwyn District Council  
Craig Pauling, Taumutu Rūnanga  
Arapata Reuben, Tūāhuriri Rūnanga  
Herena Stone, Rāpaki Rūnanga  
Hugh Thorpe, Community Representative  
Robert Wynn-Williams, Community Representative  
Ann Winstanley, Community Representative

**Principal Adviser**  
Peter Kingsbury  
Tel: 027 599 4615  
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**Zone Facilitator**  
Matthew Ross  
Environment Canterbury

**Committee Adviser**  
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### INDEX

	PAGE NO
1. APOLOGIES	3
2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 24 NOVEMBER 2011	3
3. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT	3
4. IDENTIFICATION OF URGENT ITEMS	3
5. IDENTIFICATION OF GENERAL PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS	3
6. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON, DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON AND REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE	7

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7.	WHERE DOES THE ZONE COMMITTEE FIT IN? EXISTING STRATEGIES AND PLANS?	9
7.1	WATER SUPPLY	
7.2	SURFACE WATER STRATEGY	
7.3	CANTERBURY EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY AUTHORITY CERA AND CER ACT RECOVERY TOOLS	
8.	LOCAL RŪNANGA AND WATER MANAGEMENT	18
9.	BIODIVERSITY: DECIDING OUR 'IMMEDIATE STEPS' APPROACH	19
10.	COMMITTEE 2012 MEETING DATES	31

**1. APOLOGIES**

**2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 24 NOVEMBER 2011**

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 24 November 2011 are **attached**.

The Committee is asked to approve these minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

**3. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT**

Nil.

**4. IDENTIFICATION OF URGENT ITEMS**

**5. IDENTIFICATION OF ANY GENERAL PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS**

26. 1. 2012

- 4 -

ATTACHMENT TO CLAUSE 2

CHRISTCHURCH WEST MELTON WATER MANAGEMENT ZONE COMMITTEE  
24 November 2011

A meeting of the Christchurch West Melton Water Management Zone Committee was held in  
The Boardroom, Linwood Service Centre, 180 Smith Street  
on Thursday 24 November 2011 at 6pm

**PRESENT:** Ian Fox, Community Representative  
Jon Harding, Community Representative  
Councillor Debra Hasson, Selwyn District Council  
Craig Pauling, Taumutu Rūnanga  
Arapata Reuben, Tūāhuriri Rūnanga  
Hugh Thorpe, Community Representative  
Robert Wynn-Williams, Community Representative  
Commissioner Rex Williams, Environment Canterbury  
Ann Winstanley, Community Representative

**APOLOGIES:** An apology for absence was received and accepted from Councillor Sally Buck and Herena Stone.

An apology for lateness was received and accepted for Craig Pauling, who arrived at 4.47pm and was absent for clause 1-8.

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

It was **decided** that the minutes be approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting, subject to the following amendments:

Clause 7 (Working Together: Sharing Initial Ideas):

'The Committee identified 5 priority areas, (*not in priority order*):

- Economic growth / Recreational Use / Heath;
- Flooding (both urban and the Waimakariri River);
- Quality and quantity of drinking water;
- Surface water/ fresh water bio diversity;
- Water quantity, abstraction and land use. '

Clause 9 (Working Together: Meeting Logistics):

'The Committee **decided** to hold meetings at 6pm on the fourth Thursday of the Month, at Christchurch City Council Civic Offices on Hereford Street, with every fourth meeting being *held on a Wednesday and* offsite in an alternative venue.'

**2. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT**

Nil.

**3. IDENTIFICATION OF URGENT ITEMS**

Nil.

**ATTACHMENT TO CLAUSE 2**

**4. IDENTIFICATION OF ANY GENERAL PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS**

Nil.

**5. UPDATE ON WORK PROGRAMME**

Matthew Ross, Zone Facilitator, updated the Committee in its current work programme, and discussed the upcoming field trip.

Committee Members **requested** that a session from public health be included in the work programme for the new year.

**6. REGIONAL COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The Committee received an update on the recent work of the Regional Committee, including significant regional issues being considered such as salmon farming, biodiversity, tourism and collaborative approaches with Rūnanga.

**7. UPPER WAIMAKARIRI FIELD TRIP**

The Committee received a written update on the Selwyn Waihora Zone – Upper Waimakariri field trip, which was cancelled due to adverse weather conditions and replaced with presentations from Ngai Tahu, University of Canterbury Fish and Game Council, Environment Canterbury and Department of Conservation.

**8. LOCAL RŪNANGA AND WATER MANAGEMENT**

The Committee received presentations from the Rūnanga Representatives on the Committee on relevant cultural values and water management.

**9. STATE OF THE WATER RESOURCE – OVERVIEW CONTINUED**

The Committee received a presentation from Tim Davie from Environment Canterbury, regarding the state of the water resources.

Key points raised were:

- effect of the earthquake on the data
- sediments levels, contents and effects on the build up
- further information required on median levels, individual breakdown on the extremes
- biological / Biodiversity
- understanding the mix of land uses and the different impact of these on water quality – modern subdivision storm water retention verses discharge/industrial sites and farming.

**ATTACHMENT TO CLAUSE 2**

**10. WHERE DOES THE ZONE COMMITTEE FIT IN? EXISTING STRATEGIES AND PLANS**

The Committee received a presentation from Peter Constantine, Principal Planning Adviser – Water, on the relevant regional plans and strategies.

Key areas discussed were:

- statutory Planning Framework in relation to water
- future Water Planning Framework
- land and Water Regional Plan (LWRP) Structure
- catchment Plans
- the relationship between the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) and Resource Management Act (RMA) plans.

The Committee **requested** a presentation on the Coastal Plan in relation to the Canterbury Water Management Strategy and its implementation.

The meeting concluded at 9.03pm

**CONFIRMED THIS 26TH DAY OF JANUARY 2011**

**REX WILLIAMS  
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON**

**6. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON, DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON AND REGIONAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE**

1. The manner in which a Committee is to elect these positions is prescribed in clause 25 of Schedule 7 if Christchurch City Council Standing Orders. It provides that the Committee must determine by resolution that the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson be elected or appointed by using one of the following systems of voting:

*“System A—*

- (a) requires that a person is elected or appointed if he or she receives the votes of a majority of the members of the local authority or committee present and voting; and*
- (b) has the following characteristics:*
  - (i) there is a first round of voting for all candidates; and*
  - (ii) if no candidate is successful in that round there is a second round of voting from which the candidate with the fewest votes in the first round is excluded; and*
  - (iii) if no candidate is successful in the second round there is a third, and if necessary subsequent, round of voting from which, each time, the candidate with the fewest votes in the previous round is excluded; and*
  - (iv) in any round of voting, if 2 or more candidates tie for the lowest number of votes, the person excluded from the next round is resolved by lot.*

*System B—*

- (a) requires that a person is elected or appointed if he or she receives more votes than any other candidate; and*
- (b) has the following characteristics:*
  - (i) there is only 1 round of voting; and*
  - (ii) if 2 or more candidates tie for the most votes, the tie is resolved by lot.”*

2. In simpler terms, under System A, a candidate is successful if he or she receives the votes of the majority of the members of the Committee present and voting. If no candidate is successful in the first round there is a second round of voting from which the candidate with the fewest votes in the first round is excluded. If no candidate is successful in the second round there is a third and if necessary subsequent round of voting from which each time the candidate with the fewest number of votes in the previous round is excluded until a candidate is successful. In any round of voting if two or more candidates tie for the lowest number of votes the person to be excluded from the next round is resolved by lot.

3. System B is first past the post except that a tie for the most votes is resolved by lot.

**Practical application of clause 25**

- 4. Each Committee must first determine, by resolution, which system of voting it will use, that is, System A or System B.
- 5. Nominations for the position of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson are called for.
- 6. If there is only one candidate then the Committee may resolve that that person be elected.
- 7. If there is more than one candidate the Committee must then put the matter to a vote according to the system it has adopted. The Committee members are then asked to vote on each candidate.

8. The following examples may be useful to illustrate two of the systems:

**System A**

**Example 1**

Three nominations are received and upon the votes being counted the result is:  
A (4) B (2) C (1). In this case A is elected to the relevant position.

**Example 2**

Three nominations are received and upon the votes being counted the result is:  
A (3) B (3) C (1). In this case no candidate is successful so a second round of voting is held for candidates A and B. The lowest polling candidate, C, is excluded.

Upon the votes being counted in the second round the result is:  
A (4) B (3). In this case A is elected to the relevant position.

**System B**

**Example 1**

Three nominations are received and upon the votes being counted the result is:  
A (4) B (2) C (1). In this case A is elected to the relevant position.

**Example 2**

Three nominations are received and upon the votes being counted the result is:  
A (3) B (3). In this case a lot is held to determine who between A and B will be elected to the relevant position.

9. This process is also to be used for the election of representative on the Regional Committee.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee:

- a) receive this report
- b) adopt by resolution which system of voting it will use to elect a Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and Regional Committee Representative; that is, System A or System B
- c) proceed to elect a:
  - i) Chairperson
  - ii) Deputy Chairperson
  - iii) Regional Committee Representative.

**7. WHERE DOES THE ZONE COMMITTEE FIT IN? EXISTING STRATEGIES AND PLANS?**

**7.1 WATER SUPPLY**

The Committee will receive a presentation from Diane Shelander, Senior Policy Analyst/Environmental Scientist for Christchurch City Council, on the Water Supply Strategy (refer **Attachment 1**).

**7.2 SURFACE WATER STRATEGY**

The Committee will receive a presentation from Mel Renganathan, Policy Analyst for Christchurch City Council, on the Surface Water Strategy (refer **Attachment 1**).

**7.3 CANTERBURY EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY AUTHORITY (CERA) AND CER ACT RECOVERY TOOLS**

The Committee will receive a presentation from Viv Smith, Senior Advisor, Strategy, Planning and Policy, CERA, on CERA and CER Act Recovery Tools (refer **Attachment 2**).

## CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIES RELEVANT TO THE CANTERBURY WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: CHRISTCHURCH - WEST MELTON ZONE

### A. BACKGROUND COMMENT

Christchurch City Council (Council) strategies set out visions, goals, objectives and plans to achieve outcomes relating to specific issues; for example, transport, safety, social housing or water.

There are five Council strategies relevant to the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS). These are the Surface Water, Water Supply, Biodiversity, Climate Smart, and Public Open Space strategies. A brief summary of these strategies is given in Part B of this report. More detailed information on the Council's strategies is given in "*Christchurch City Council Healthy Environment Strategies and the Canterbury Water Management Strategy: Briefing notes for the Banks Peninsula and Christchurch - West Melton Zone Committees, November 2011*". The five strategies are available at:

<http://www.ccc.govt.nz/thecouncil/policiesreportsstrategies/strategies/healthyenvironmentstrategies/index.aspx>.

Water management matters identified by the Council as particularly important for recovery from the 2010/11 Canterbury earthquakes are summarised in Part C of this report.

### B. Strategy summaries

#### 1. Surface Water Strategy 2009 – 2039

The Surface Water Strategy (SWS) is the most relevant strategy for the CWMS and the development of zone committee implementation programmes.

Surface water includes all freshwater ecosystems above ground: stormwater, springs, rivers, streams, lakes, and associated wetlands. It includes natural, artificial, and ephemeral waterways, but although intricately connected, it excludes groundwater and the sea.

Christchurch has extensive surface water resources which include over 78km of rivers (the Avon/Otakaro, Heathcote/Opawaho, Styx/Puharakekenui, and parts of the Waimakariri and Halswell/Huritini). There are also many streams and tributaries, springs and significant wetlands.

The key goals of the SWS are:

- Improve the water quality of our surface water resources
- Reduce the adverse effects of flooding
- Improve the ecosystem health of surface water resources
- Protect and restore Ngai Tahu values associated with surface water resources
- Support a range of recreation activities on and around waterways
- Protect heritage values associated with surface water
- Support community involvement in surface water management
- Protect and enhance the landscape values of surface water
- Manage stormwater in an efficient manner that supports the other goals

## ATTACHMENT 1 TO CLAUSE 7.1 AND 7.2

### 2. Water Supply Strategy 2009 - 2039

The Water Supply Strategy (WSS) guides future asset management and planning processes for the public water supply. It provides the framework for sustainable management of the resource and to provide safe drinking water.

The key goals of the WSS are:

- water is safe to drink
- water sources are protected
- water supplies meet the public's reasonable needs
- water is used efficiently and sustainably.

Four key issues that the Council has identified as needing to be addressed to achieve the goals include:

- Availability - is the 'bucket' big enough to service needs now and in the future?
- Quality - how to protect what we have?
- Demand - how can we make our water resources last into the future?
- Service, costs and regulation - how do we provide a reasonable level of service, value water appropriately and respond to a dynamic regulatory environment?

A range of actions have been identified to achieve the goals of the WSS, including assessing alternatives such as rainwater harvesting, a strong education component focusing on valuing water, and providing incentives for efficient use, e.g. subsidies for water-efficient devices, grants for rainwater tanks, rebates for use below a base allocation

### 3. Biodiversity Strategy 2008 - 2035

Biodiversity is the variety of life ensuring the survival of people. It includes all species of plants and animals, including people, and the range of habitats which we depend on.

The Biodiversity Strategy (BS) sets out a vision of what could be achieved in Christchurch and on Banks Peninsula.

The BS goals and objectives most relevant to water management matters for Christchurch - West Melton include the conservation and restoration of indigenous biodiversity, the protection and restoration of ecosystems supporting biodiversity, and the protection and restoration of species and habitats important to Ngai Tahu.

### 4. Climate Smart Strategy 2012 - 2025

Being 'climate smart' means that Christchurch is reducing its greenhouse gas emissions and responding to the social, cultural, economic and environmental challenges and opportunities presented by climate change.

Within the next 100 years Christchurch needs to prepare for 50 - 80 centimetre rise in sea-level, a temperature increase of 2 degrees, and changes in rainfall and extreme weather events.

The Climate Smart Strategy (CSS) sets the direction for community and Council responses to the impacts and opportunities presented by climate change.

## ATTACHMENT 1 TO CLAUSE 7.1 AND 7.2

The Council has legal responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2002 to consider the well-being of current and future generations. It must also consider the impacts of climate change in its activities undertaken through the Resource Management Act 1991 and Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act 2002. The CSS is one way to help meet these legal obligations.

The three key goals of the CSS are applicable to water management in Christchurch. These, and the relevant supporting objectives are:

Understand the local impacts of climate change

- understand the social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts of climate change on Christchurch
- monitor and report changes and progress.

Provide leadership in addressing climate change

- grow Council capacity to respond to climate change
- grow community capacity and foster partnerships that respond to climate change.

Respond to the opportunities and challenges presented by climate change in ways that promote social, cultural, economic and environmental wellbeing

- encourage sustainable households and communities
- encourage green and healthy places and spaces
- enhance local productive landscapes and the resilience of habitats and ecosystems.

### 5. Public Open Space Strategy 2010 - 2040

Public open space is defined as any area that includes public parks and planted areas, waterways and streets that can be used for recreation or public health benefit, or to help protect the natural landscape. This can include green space (parks), blue space (waterways and coast), and grey space (streets, street malls or squares).

The Public Open Space Strategy (POSS) provides a framework to guide the provision and development of all public open space in Christchurch for the next 30 years.

Water and water bodies, and their use and management, are a very significant factor in open space planning and development. In addition to providing recreation, visual amenity, protection for biodiversity and cultural heritage, they also perform an important land drainage function.

The key water management related issues identified in the POSS for Christchurch include:

- Metropolitan Christchurch has very limited areas of native bush, wetlands and riparian margins that provide habitat for native fauna that would support accessible and healthy mahinga kai.
- Greater clarity is needed over the respective use of development contribution for stormwater mitigation purposes and parks.

Four public open space concept plans have been developed for the general Christchurch areas. These are the Christchurch District open space identity, Christchurch open space, Central City open space, and the Christchurch District Public Open Space Development Guide. Each of these plans contain detailed and specific information on the relevance and significance of water for the concept plan area. Access to water and water quality is identified in the plans as a key public open space value.

**ATTACHMENT 1 TO CLAUSE 7.1 AND 7.2**

**C. Council strategies and earthquake recovery**

Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) is preparing a 'Recovery Strategy' to provide general policy guidance to recovery planning and directions for Recovery Plans. Recovery work falls into five 'work-streams' - community well-being, culture and heritage, economy and business, built environment and natural environment.

The five strategies are relevant to the recovery process as they state the Council's long term goals for the use, management and where possible, enhancement of Christchurch's natural resources. The visions and principles of the five strategies are closely linked to the CERA Recovery Strategy Principle 'Continuity':

*"... drawing from established longer term strategic objectives as appropriate to inform recovery outcomes and interventions which will in turn guide future directions for Greater Christchurch."*

The key water management goals in the strategies relevant to recovery from the 2010/11 Canterbury earthquakes are:

Surface Water Strategy 2009 -2039

- improvement in the water quality of surface water
- reduction in the adverse effects of flooding
- improvement of ecosystem health of surface water
- protection and restoration of Ngāi Tahu values associated with surface water
- protection of heritage values associated with surface water
- protection and enhancement of the landscape values of surface water

Water Supply Strategy 2009 -2039

- protection of water sources

Biodiversity Strategy 2009 - 2035

- conservation and restoration of Christchurch's indigenous biodiversity.

Climate Smart Strategy 2012 - 2025

- understand the local impacts of climate change.

Public Open Space Strategy 2010 - 2040

- provide an accessible, and equitably distributed, multi-use open space network while protecting natural, cultural and heritage values.

In its work with CERA, the Council is emphasising the role of the five strategies. The strategy goals remain relevant in the recovery process, and provide the long-term perspective needed to achieve meaningful environmental outcomes.

**ATTACHMENT 1 TO CLAUSE 7.1 AND 7.2**

**D. Other key Council work programmes and documents**

In addition to the five strategies discussed in this report, there are various Council work programmes and documents that include significant water management matters and/or information. A brief explanation of the key programmes and documents is given in "*Christchurch City Council Healthy Environment Strategies and the Canterbury Water Management Strategy: Briefing notes for the Banks Peninsula and Christchurch - West Melton Zone Committees, November 2011*". The programmes and documents discussed in the briefing note include district plans, the Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy, stormwater management plans, and the Protocol for Surface Water Management.

memo



**To:** Christchurch West Melton Zone Committee  
**Cc:**  
**From:** Viv Smith, Senior Advisor, Strategy, Planning and Policy  
**Date:** 18 January 2012

### CERA and CER Act Recovery Tools

#### Purpose

To provide information to the Christchurch West Melton Zone Committee about the roles and responsibilities of the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority, recovery tools and powers under the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Act 2011 and how these recovery tools and powers relate to the work of the Zone Committee.

#### Background

The Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) was established in March 2011 to lead and coordinate the recovery from the Canterbury earthquakes. In April 2011 the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Act 2011 (CER Act) came into force, giving CERA the functions and powers to assist in the planning and coordination of the recovery and rebuilding of greater Christchurch. Greater Christchurch covers the areas of Christchurch City and Selwyn and Waimakariri District Councils and includes the coastal marine area adjacent to these districts.

#### CERA's roles and responsibilities

CERA's role is to exercise statutory powers provided under the CER Act in accordance with the purposes of the Act, as follows:

- ensure that councils and communities in greater Christchurch respond to and recover from the earthquake impacts
- enable community participation in planning the recovery of affected communities
- ensure that the recovery is focused, timely, and expedited, and based on sound information on affected land, structure, and infrastructure
- facilitate, co-ordinate, and direct the planning, rebuilding, and recovery of affected communities, including the repair and rebuilding of land, infrastructure, and property
- restore the social, economic, cultural, and environmental well-being of greater Christchurch communities.

CERA reports to the Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery, Hon Gerry Brownlee, (the Minister) who is responsible for coordinating the governments planning, spending, and actual rebuilding work needed for the recovery.

Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority, Private Bag 4999, Christchurch 8140

CERA's roles and responsibilities complement rather than replace those of the existing councils in greater Christchurch. What CERA can do is to provide for better co-ordination between local authorities and between local authorities and central government in relation to recovery from the earthquakes.

### **CER Act recovery tools and powers**

A range of new tools and special powers have been vested in the Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery and the Chief Executive of CERA in order to enable an effective, timely and co-ordinated rebuilding and recovery effort. In making decisions and exercising these powers, the Minister and CERA Chief Executive must do so in accordance with the purposes of the CER Act (see section 3 for the purposes of the CER Act).

#### **Recovery Strategy**

The Recovery Strategy is an overarching and long-term strategy for greater Christchurch and may address matters relating to reconstruction, rebuilding and recovery, including the areas where rebuilding, redevelopment and infrastructure may or may not occur and the sequencing of the repair and rebuilding.

CERA is ahead of schedule with the preparation of the Recovery Strategy. The Act says the draft strategy must be developed within nine months of the Act coming into force (by 19 January 2012) when in fact the draft strategy was developed and publicly notified within five months on 10 September 2010. 463 comments have been received on the draft Strategy and we are now working to respond to the comments and present a Strategy to the Minister for his consideration.

The Recovery Strategy has been developed in consultation with Christchurch City Council, Environment Canterbury, Selwyn District Council, Waimakariri District Council and Te Rūnunga o Ngāi Tahu.

The Recovery Strategy has effect until 19 April 2016, when CER Act expires and CERA ceases to exist. During that time:

- Resource Management Act (RMA) document, such as regional plans, or
- other instruments, such as Local Government Act annual plans and long-term plans and Conservation and Reserves Act management plans,

referred to in section 26(2) of the CER Act may not be interpreted or applied in a way that is inconsistent with the Recovery Strategy. The Act provides that the Recovery Strategy has effect through being read together with and forming part of the specified documents and instruments. The Recovery Strategy does not have any statutory jurisdiction beyond those documents or instruments listed.

#### **Recovery Plans**

Recovery Plans can deal with any social, economic, environmental, cultural and infrastructural matter or combination of matters on a site specific or wider geographical basis within greater Christchurch, but must be consistent with the Recovery Strategy.

The CBD Recovery Plan (known as the Central City Plan) is currently the only Recovery Plan being prepared. The preparation of other Recovery Plans must be agreed to by the Minister and can only be prepared by a range of organisations listed in the CER Act. Organisations that can prepare a Recovery Plan are; CERA, a council, a council organisation, a government department, an instrument of the Crown, a Crown entity, a requiring authority, or a network utility operator.

In directing the preparation of a Recovery Plan, the Minister may specify the processes for its development including requirements for consultation or public hearings. A Recovery Plan is approved by the Minister.

Recovery Plans can change or require changes to be made to statutory RMA planning documents such as the Regional Policy Statement, Regional Plans and District Plans. Decisions and recommendations made on resource consent applications, notices of requirement, the transfer, review or change to conditions of resource consent can not be inconsistent with a Recovery Plan. As with the Recovery Strategy, the instruments listed in section 26(2) of the CER Act can also not be inconsistent with an approved Recovery Plan.

#### Orders in Council

Section 71 of the CER Act allows for the making of Orders in Council, including to relax, suspend or extend provisions in current Acts and regulations that might be impacting on the recovery effort. Information about Orders made is available on the CERA website - <http://cera.govt.nz/legislation>

#### Ministerial and Chief Executive powers

The Minister and the Chief Executive of CERA have some unique powers under the CER Act which they are able to exercise to enable a focused, timely and expedited recovery. These include directing amendments, suspension or revocation of RMA documents, and other instruments listed in section 27, providing for temporary building, restricting access to buildings and places, demolition of buildings, compulsorily acquiring land and monitoring and reporting.

The CER Act also required the Minister to establish a community forum. The forum consists of representatives of greater Christchurch who have come from a wide variety of organisations which can provide the Minister and chief executive with information and advice which is to be had regard to.

#### Recovery and the Zone Committee

Alongside the existing council documents and instruments used to manage water resources, the CER Act provides some additional recovery focussed tools and powers. These tools and powers are exercised for the purposes of the CER Act and not for general management of natural resources.

In formulating recommendations and priorities for the Zone Implementation Programme, the Zone Committee could consider the recovery needs of the water resources of the zone.

When the Recovery Strategy has been approved by the Minister, we are happy to provide another briefing to the Committee about the approach and content of the Strategy.

Viv Smith  
Senior Advisor, Strategy, Planning and Policy  
Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority

**26. 1. 2012**

- 18 -

**8. LOCAL RŪNANGA AND WATER MANAGEMENT**

The Committee will receive a presentation from Committee Member Herena Stone representing Rāpaki Rūnanga.

9. BIODIVERSITY: DECIDING OUR 'IMMEDIATE STEPS' APPROACH

<b>AGENDA ITEM NO:</b> 9	<b>SUBJECT MATTER:</b> Biodiversity: Deciding our "Immediate Steps" Approach
<b>REPORT:</b> Christchurch West Melton Zone Committee	<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b> 26 January 2011
<b>REPORT BY:</b> Matthew Ross, Facilitator Environment Canterbury	

**PURPOSE**

1. The purpose of this agenda item is for the Zone Committee to:
  - i) Workshop and agree initial priority outcomes for biodiversity in the zone
  - ii) Discuss and agree the best approach to implementing "Immediate Steps" in the zone.

**BACKGROUND**

**PRIORITY OUTCOMES FOR BIODIVERSITY**

2. In the workshop the Committee will identify possible draft priority outcomes for biodiversity. These outcomes will be are high level things that we want to happen to implement the Canterbury Water Management Strategy's biodiversity targets in our Zone.
3. For example, if you think/feel that fish species X in river Y is important to people in the Zone, a priority outcome could be "more fish of species X in river Y." To help prompt discussion, one possible outcome could be: "Indigenous biodiversity hotspots that were impacted by earthquakes are restored."
4. In subsequent meetings we will consider "pathways" to deliver these outcomes, and which "tools" we recommend should be used/applied to make them happen.
5. We will seek feedback from the wider community on our draft biodiversity priority outcomes later in the year.
6. For more information, please see the following attachments:
  - Christchurch West Melton Biodiversity priorities and Immediate Steps update (refer **Attachment 1**)
  - Year 1 Christchurch-West Melton projects put forward (refer **Attachment 2**)
  - Regional examples: Immediate Steps Projects funded to date (Year 1) (refer **Attachment 3**).

**IMMEDIATE STEPS**

7. Having identified some priority outcomes, we will then consider how one specific tool should be used. This tool is the "Immediate Steps" funding. We need to make a decision on the approach for our Zone as the funding pot is already available and some applications have been received.

**9 Cont'd**

8. The Committee will need to decide:
  - i) How we want to align/target this funding to deliver our biodiversity priority outcomes, for example;
    - a) align funding to a different priority each year
    - b) align funding to a single or multiple priorities for the whole funding period
  - ii) How we want to deal with applications already received, for example;
    - a) support all projects received to date where they have merit
    - b) only support projects received to date that align with our priorities
    - c) start over and reopen submissions

## ATTACHMENT 1 TO CLAUSE 9

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Christchurch-West Melton biodiversity priorities and Immediate Steps update</b>
<b>Authors</b>	Emma Coleman Biodiversity Officer; Mary Beech, SW Quality Scientist – Aquatic Ecology; Michele Stevenson SW Quality Scientist II
<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of the tools available to the zone committee to address biodiversity</li> <li>• Look at a few approaches to prioritising biodiversity assets/values in this zone and a visit to 2 or 3 sites that illustrate these values</li> <li>• Present a list of some potential biodiversity priorities collaboratively developed by CCC, Selwyn DC and ECan</li> <li>• Update the zone committee on the progress of Immediate Steps to date</li> </ul>

### **Biodiversity Tools Available to the Zone Committee**

Biodiversity protection and restoration is most effectively addressed using a range of tools. Allocation of Immediate Steps funding is a short-term contribution to achieving priority biodiversity goals. Other sources of national, regional and local funding may also be available for restoration initiatives in this zone. Additional tools to maintain and restore biodiversity values in the region over the longer-term, include planning tools (existing rules in regional or district plans or the development of new recommendations through the ZIP) and advocacy.

Planning measures directly or indirectly impacting on biodiversity protection involve setting environmental flows, water quality standards, resource consent conditions (including mitigation requirements for new developments), managed live stock access and biosecurity works etc. Advocacy approaches may include supporting the formation of local or catchment level land and water care groups, encouraging industry to promote best practice, assisting projects/groups to obtain funding through multiple agencies and educating landowners on sustainable land management practices and the importance of local biodiversity.

### ***Immediate Steps Overview***

The Immediate Steps (IS) Programme was developed in response to public opinion on the declining state of our regions biodiversity resource, and the desire to achieve some immediate biodiversity gains prior to the implementation of new planning measures that will adequately address this decline. We are currently in the second year of IS. \$500 000 is to be allocated within this zone for 'on the ground' biodiversity protection and restoration projects over the next 5 years until 2015. This contribution will be matched by at least one-third funding from other project partners. Some examples of the wide variety of works funded by IS are outlined below. Innovative project ideas are welcome provided they contribute to strong biodiversity outcomes. The fund rolls over each year, which was the case for the complete annual allocation for 2010/11 in the Christchurch-West Melton zone. To maximise biodiversity gains achieved through the limited amount of funds available, prioritisation criteria can potentially provide a framework for IS project selection.

### **Possible Approaches for Biodiversity Prioritisation within the Zone**

To start you all thinking of how you might prioritise the biodiversity values in this zone, five themes are listed below with short examples/explanations (this is not a definitive list and all projects are still assessed on standard ecological and cultural criteria).

- Threatened or locally rare indigenous species  
*Examples could include; the bluegill bully which is naturally restricted in the zone to areas of turbulent flow, but also negatively impacted by increased sediment deposition on stream bed gravels, sensitive macroinvertebrate species such as those belonging to the Trichoptera family or rare plants like Olearia adenocarpa found in dryland habitat. This approach could potentially include sites that may not be viewed as biodiversity hotspots, but that provide important habitat for the select species.*



**Bluegill Bully - photograph by Angus McIntosh**

## ATTACHMENT 1 TO CLAUSE 9

- Threatened or locally rare ecosystems/habitats  
*Prioritising using this approach within this zone may include coastal or inland sand dunes, dryland vegetation remnants, wetland ecosystems or lowland streams not significantly impacted by sediment deposition.*
  - Community/Culturally Significant Sites  
*This approach considers a broader range of values when identifying priority sites. Example sites based on the State of the Takiwa report (2007) include the Wigram basin, Westmorland, freshwater springs at Jellie Park and Templetons Rd and the Ihutai estuary.*
  - Geographical Areas  
*This approach looks at specific sites or areas within a certain locality and may include specific catchments, suburbs or land map zones.*
- Water Resources (see table below)

<b>Ecosystems (Water Resources)</b>	<b>Relevant CWMS Targets and Goals from 2010</b>	<b>Relevant CWMS Targets and Goals by 2015</b>
<b>Wetlands</b>	Prevent further loss of area of naturally occurring wetlands.	Protected all and restored at least two significant wetlands in each zone.
<b>Braided rivers</b>	Implement actions to correct the decline in useable braided river bird habitat	Protected the indigenous habitats in riparian wetlands, springs and the lagoons associated with braided rivers.  Enhanced and protected breeding populations of indigenous braided river birds.
<b>Lowland Streams</b>	Identify and prioritise for protection lowland streams ecosystems in each zone.	Protect and enhance the ecological health of the best examples of lowland streams ecosystems in each zone.  Improved ecosystem condition in at least another 10% of lowland streams in each zone.
<b>Hapua, Lagoons, Estuaries</b>	Implement actions to prevent further loss of ecosystem health in river mouth and coastal lagoons.	

ATTACHMENT 1 TO CLAUSE 9

***Potential Biodiversity Priorities within the Christchurch-West Melton Zone (collaboratively proposed by ECan, Christchurch City Council and Selwyn DC)***

These priorities are some combined suggestions based on the distribution of ecological hotspots within the zone and consideration of how the Immediate Steps programme may potentially contribute to the protection and enhancement of indigenous biodiversity over the next four years.

***West Melton indigenous dryland remnants (Selwyn DC)***

***Dominated by mature kowhai with sparse shrubs, grasses and herbs including Coprosma spp. and the native broom. These areas are vital habitat for some rare plants including Olearia adenocarpa and Carmichaelia kirkii. Certain areas also provide important lizard habitat, as well as contribute to corridors of indigenous bird habitat, including nectar feeders such as bellbird***

Types of activities that could be supported by immediate steps funding:

Fencing, weed control, animal pest control, planting of indigenous dryland species

Other possible (non Immediate Steps) actions:

- Manage land use intensification in the lower Waimakariri catchment
- Catchment nutrient management plans
- Irrigation management to maintain dryland areas

***River sand dune habitat (Selwyn DC)***

***Unique landform, found alongside the Waimakariri River in areas where dunes haven't been flattened or excavated. Unlike coastal sand dunes, river sand dunes have no specialised sand binders and are often first colonised by silver tussock or herb species.***

Types of activities that could be supported by immediate steps funding:

Fencing, weed control, animal pest control, planting of indigenous dryland species

Other possible (non Immediate Steps) actions:

- Manage land use intensification in catchment, discourage development immediately adjacent to river margins
- Educate landowners on the importance and role of these habitats
- Irrigation management to maintain dryland areas

***Bluegill bully habitat sites; Avon and Heathcote (ECan, CCC)***

***Known sites include near Kilmore St and in the No. 11 drain in the Avon catchment and Colombo and Tennyson St populations in the Heathcote.***

***Also Koura and Kakahi (freshwater mussel) sites; Cashmere stream, Quaiffes Rd drain (ECan, CCC)***

**ATTACHMENT 1 TO CLAUSE 9**

Types of activities that could be supported by immediate steps funding:  
Instream habitat reconstruction, sediment removal, riparian planting

Other possible (non Immediate Steps) actions:

- Advocate best practice riparian management
- Educate landowners on the importance and role of these habitats
- Avoid structures that impede migratory fish passage
- Support planning and regulatory measures around storm water management
- Erosion management in the upper catchments of the Heathcote

***Whitebait spawning sites; lower Styx, Avon & Heathcote (ECan)  
Some degree of damage from the earthquakes, however certain populations have grown (unsure of why at this point and if related to earthquake).***

Types of activities that could be supported by immediate steps funding:  
Habitat reconstruction of sites damaged by the earthquake using straw bales and some replanting of instream cover.

***Spring head habitat; Cashmere, Styx & Otukaikino  
High indigenous macroinvertebrate values. Unique ecosystem that is sensitive to impacts from intensified land use (stock damage, nutrient enrichment).***

Types of activities that could be supported by immediate steps funding:  
Fencing off springs, planting.

***Spring-fed lowland streams  
Extensive network occurs throughout the city and is a major source of habitat for indigenous biodiversity.***

Types of activities that could be supported by immediate steps funding:  
Management of sediment inputs, particularly in upper catchments including fencing, riparian stabilisation planting, stock exclusion and sediment traps. Silt removal from earthquake affected streams, beginning in the upper catchments. Instream habitat enhancement.

Other possible (non Immediate Steps) actions:

- Setting environmental flows
- Avoid structures that impede migratory fish passage
- Catchment management including allocation limits for nutrient inputs
- Prevent further loss of associated riparian wetlands
- Avoid changes to hydrology

***Salt marsh habitat in Ihutai Estuary***

***Highly significant habitat for a large number of indigenous and migratory birds. Significant habitat for a number of indigenous fish species including many types of flatfish. Significant mahinga kai gathering site.***

***Significant wetlands and vegetation remnants along the riparian zone of the Waimakariri River (ECan)***

***Many of these areas occur within ECan regional park areas. Include the Kowhai Reserve, Te Rauakaaka Nature Reserve and the Sanctuary Wetland.***

Types of activities that could be supported by immediate steps funding:

Fencing, planting, weed control, animal pest control.

***Immediate Steps to date in the Christchurch-West Melton zone***

During the first year of the IS programme, an introductory scoping meeting was held in Christchurch on 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2010. Stakeholders from around the zone were invited to participate in a workshop brainstorming biodiversity priorities in the area. It was anticipated that the projects generated in this workshop would then be presented to the zone committee as it was formed to allocate funds to projects during the first year.

In this zone, post-earthquake damage to some of the proposed Year 1 project sites resulted in the withdrawal of a number of applications. The projects that remain are being ecologically assessed using standard ecological criteria, with reference to priorities for biodiversity protection specified in the CWMS, as well as other national, regional and local strategy documents and processes. In addition they are culturally assessed prior to presentation to the zone committee. Currently applicants who have put forward these applications are awaiting a response as to the zone committee's next steps.

The next step is to develop an overall strategic outline of the biodiversity priorities within the Christchurch-West Melton zone prior to the decision to fund any projects. There is also opportunity for the zone committee to assess Year 1 projects and potentially fund any that promise exceptionally high biodiversity gains early next year.

**Biodiversity: Deciding our “Immediate Steps” approach**

**Year 1 Christchurch-West Melton projects put forward**

- Otukaikino Stream (Shipleys Rd, Yaldhurst)  
*IS funding is sought for assistance with fencing off the wetland area (biodiversity strategy Action 1.1 priority site) adjacent to the stream, weed control and enhancement planting*
- Styx Esplanade Strip (just U/S of the Mill Reserve)  
*IS funding sought for assistance in completing the fencing along one side, weed control and enhancement planting of natives*
- Sanctuary Wetland (between the Waimakariri River and Coutts Island stopbank)  
*IS funding sought for assistance with fencing off the wetland, weed control (particularly grey willow), planting and repair of 4WD damage*
- Te Rauakaaka Nature Reserve (South bank Waimakariri River – Stewarts Gully to Brooklands lagoon)  
*IS funding sought for assistance with weed control (particularly grey willow and gorse), whitebait spawning surveys and production of a restoration management plan for the reserve*

Emma Coleman, Environment Canterbury  
19/01/12

## Regional examples: Immediate Steps Projects funded to date (Year 1)

Zone	Project Name	Funding	CWMS Water Resource	Activity Type	Funding Partner(s)	where 1/3rd contribution came from
Ashburton	Upper Rangitata Weed Control	\$20,000	Braided river	fencing	DoC	Cash & in-kind
Ashburton	Weed control in Rakaia River catchment & Bed above Little River	\$11,000	Braided river	weed control	Whitcombe Landcare group	In-kind
Ashburton	Vehicle Management in upper Rakaia	\$4,500	Braided river	other	DoC & Christchurch Combined 4WD Club	In-kind
Ashburton	Lake Heron Stock fence	\$14,000	High country lakes	fencing	Landowner & DOC	Cash & in-kind
Ashburton	Protective fencing Of Glenariffe Stream	\$20,000	Intermontane streams	fencing	North Canterbury Fish and Game, Rakaia Promotions + Landowners	Cash & in-kind
Ashburton	Pudding Hill – Kahikatea wetland	\$3,500	Wetlands	other	QEII/landowner	Cash
Banks Peninsula	Haylocks Stream	\$11,100	Banks Peninsula and Kaikoura streams	fencing	Landowner & Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust	cash and in-kind
Banks Peninsula	Te Wharau Stream	\$28,000	Banks Peninsula and Kaikoura streams	other	Landowner (Orton Bradley Trust)	In-kind
Banks Peninsula	Okana River (single landowner)	\$7,900	Lowland Streams	combined	Landowner & CCC	In-kind
Banks Peninsula	Okana River (multiple landowner)	\$20,300	Lowland Streams	combined	Landowner & CCC	Cash and in-kind
Hurunui-Waiiau	Little Lake Mason	\$25,000	High country lakes	Fencing to protect wetland margins	landowner and F&G	in-kind
Hurunui-Waiiau	QEII - Smothering Gully Creek/ Hamilton Glens	\$24,000	Wetlands	Fencing and wilding tree control	landowner and QEII	cash
Hurunui-Waiiau	QEII - Dawn Creek	\$15,000	Lowland stream	Fencing	landowner and QEII	cash
Hurunui-Waiiau	QEII - Greystone Wine - Limestone Ck		Lowland stream	Fencing, weed control	was as above	

## ATTACHMENT 3 TO CLAUSE 9

Hurunui-Waiiau	Davaar Wetland/ Moelean Swamp	\$5,000	Wetland, lowland stream (swamp)	Willow, gorse, broom control	landowner	loss of grazing
Hurunui-Waiiau	Conway river	\$12,000	Braided river	Fairway wattle spraying	river rating district river engineering section Ecan	cash
Lower Waitaki	Wainono Lagoon	\$29,000		combined	Multiple	
Lower Waitaki	Sth Waitaki Mudfish	\$4,000	Wetlands	combined	DoC	cash
Lower Waitaki	Dog Kennel Stream	\$10,000	<b>Lowland streams</b>	combined	DoC	cash
Lower Waitaki	Otiake Wetland	\$32,000	Wetlands	combined	DoC	Cash
Lower Waitaki	Pavletich Wetland	\$6,000	Wetland	combined	QEII and landowner	Cash-QEII and landowner
Lower Waitaki	Nessing Stream	\$13,333	Hill country catchments	other	DoC	Cash
OOPS	Deep Stream	\$20,000	Wetlands	combined	DOC, F & G, 2 private landowners	combined in-kind and cash
OOPS	Henriksens	\$11,000	Lowland Streams	fencing	private landowner, QEII	in-kind
OOPS	Horseshoe Lagoon	\$4,000	<b>Hapua, lagoons, estuaries,</b>	combined	DOC, private landowners	cash
OOPS	Peel Forest wetland	\$20,000	Wetlands	weed control	DOC, private landowners	cash
OOPS	Kakahu Bush	\$3,000	Wetlands	weed control	QEII, private landowner	in-kind
Selwyn Waihora	Lake Pearson Fencing	\$22,000	High country lakes	fencing	North Canterbury Fish and Game, DoC + Landowner	Cash & in-kind

## ATTACHMENT 3 TO CLAUSE 9

Selwyn Waihora	Winding Creek & Wetlands	\$33,000	Wetlands	fencing	F & G, SDC + Landowner	Cash
Selwyn Waihora	Haldon Pastures Mudfish Habitat Protection	\$25,000	Lowland Streams	fencing	DOC & landowner	in-kind
Selwyn Waihora	Mudfish Habitat Protection (Mitchells Rd)	\$6,000	Lowlands Streams	fencing	<b>Waihora Ellesmere Trust &amp; SDC</b>	Cash
Selwyn Waihora	Blacks Stream Mudfish Habitat Protection	\$6000		fencing	<b>QEII</b>	
Selwyn Waihora	Timberyard Point	\$3,000	Hapua, Lagoons and estuaries	fencing	Selwyn District Council & landowner	Cash
Selwyn Waihora	Ward Williams Reserve	\$5,000	Wetlands	fencing	DOC	in kind
Upper Waitaki	Benmore Stn Wetland	\$11,951	Wetland		Landowner	Cash
Upper Waitaki	Fraser Stream fencing	\$8,000	Intermontane streams	fencing	DoC	Cash
Waimakariri	Baynons Wetland restoration	\$11,500	Wetlands	combined	Property parks and forest section Ecan	cash and in-kind
Waimakariri	Poynters Wetlands Nature Reserve restoration	\$8,000	Braided River	combined	<b>Ecan</b>	ECAN parks and forest section, cash and inkind
Waimakariri	Miles Property. Canterbury mudfish habitat enhancement	\$12,334	Wetlands	fencing	<b>QEII and landowner</b>	landowner and QEII, cash
Waimakariri	Eyrewell S. R.	\$12,000	Plains dryland ecosystem	fencing	DoC	inkind
Waimakariri	Claxby Farm plains kanuka remnant	\$7,447	Dryland ecosystems on the plains	fencing	QEII and landowners	cash
Waimakariri	Dagnum dryland plains vegetation restoration	\$7,580	Dryland ecosystems on the plains	combined	Property parks and forest section Ecan	\$1000 budget and inkind
Waimakariri	Tutaepatu Lagoon restoration	\$40,000	Hapua, lagoons, estuaries, wetlands	combined	Te Kohaka o Tuhaitara Trust	cash + inkind

Emma Coleman, Environment Canterbury - 19/01/12

**10. COMMITTEE MEETINGS DATES 2012**

The Committees are asked to confirm the following meeting dates for 2012:

- Thursday 23 February, 6pm – 9pm at Linwood Service Centre
- Wednesday 28 March , 6pm – 9pm at a venue to be confirmed
- Thursday 26 April, 6pm – 9pm at Civic Offices, Hereford Street
- Thursday 24 May, 6pm – 9pm at Civic Offices, Hereford Street
- Thursday 28 June, 6pm – 9pm at Civic Offices, Hereford Street
- Wednesday 25 July, 6pm – 9pm at a venue to be confirmed
- Thursday 23 August, 6pm – 9pm at Civic Offices, Hereford Street
- Thursday 27 September, 6pm – 9pm at Civic Offices, Hereford Street
- Thursday 25 October, 6pm – 9pm at Civic Offices, Hereford Street
- Wednesday 28 November, 6pm – 9pm at a venue to be confirmed.