

# Selwyn Waihora Zone Committee

## Five year outcomes and milestones for land and water management



**“Working with the community to deliver their aspirations for freshwater”**

The five year outcomes show the Zone Committee’s priorities, set in April 2016, for improving water quality and ecosystems in the Selwyn Waihora Zone under the Canterbury Water Management Strategy. The milestones are set based on current work programmes, planning framework implementation and new projects to start over the next one to three years. Milestones will be reviewed on an annual basis and adjusted as necessary.

### OUT 1 COME

On-the-ground lake interventions relating to reconstructing wetlands, addressing legacy phosphorus and restoring macrophyte beds

#### MILESTONES

1. Work programme identified to progress lake interventions
2. Start a reconstructed wetland, funding dependent, by July 2017
3. Investigate impact of managed retreat of lake opening with sea level rise and identify priority sites for wetland construction and land retirement
4. Complete further investigations on options for addressing legacy phosphorus by June 2017
5. Complete pilot macrophyte trial near Timbervale Point by June 2018

### OUT 2 COME

Farming at Good Management Practice (GMP) or better, focusing on priority areas – Central Plains Water (CPW), Phosphorus Sediment Risk Area (PSRA), and Cultural Landscape Values Management Area (CLVMA), on all dairy farms, in the Kaituna and Silverstream catchments, and on farms in high country sensitive lake catchments

#### MILESTONES

1. Strategy to get all farmers operating at GMP or better endorsed by Zone Committee by 30 June 2016
2. Start two-year work plan to deliver strategy to get all farmers operating at GMP or better, with stakeholders by August 2016 and report six-monthly to Zone Committee on progress
3. Develop and agree how beyond GMP is to be implemented by October 2016
4. CPW Stage 1 farmers operating at GMP with 75% of Farm Environment Plan (FEP) audits achieving A or B grade by January 2018
5. All properties in PSRA/CLVMA have completed FEPs and lodged land use consent applications by June 2017 in accordance with set priorities
6. 100% of audited dairy farms have FEP audit grade of A or B by June 2018
7. All farmers within Sensitive Lake Zone achieve GMP by June 2017 as demonstrated by FEP audit
8. Sediment and erosion work programme for Kaituna catchment agreed by the community and started by July 2017 (subject to external funding)
9. Compliance strategy to support GMP uptake in the zone endorsed by the Zone Committee by August 2016
10. Reduce dairy effluent discharge significant non-compliance by September 2018 with a target of zero
11. Reduce water extraction significant non-compliance by September 2018 with a target of zero

### OUT 3 COME

Water from Rakaia River and Lake Coleridge is used for new irrigation, replacing groundwater takes and for augmenting lowland stream flows

#### MILESTONES

1. Stage 2 of CPW operating by September 2018, subject to development timeframes
2. Targeted Stream Augmentation investigates opportunities for improving flows in lowland streams. Findings reported regularly and recommendations made by January 2018
3. Integrated CPW and Environment Canterbury water quality and quantity monitoring programme in place by August 2016

### OUT 4 COME

The catchment is managed in a way that integrates Ngāi Tahu values across all outcomes and how these will be achieved

#### MILESTONES

1. Enhance mahinga kai
2. Cultural outcomes are understood
3. Support the regional biodiversity outcome of managing longfin eels/ tuna in a sustainable way
4. Implement a package of actions that builds capacity and quality actions to implement the CLVMA Plan provisions
5. Work with the farming sector to improve understanding of cultural values
6. Farmers understand their responsibilities regarding stock exclusion
7. Progresses discussions on the plan for the Selwyn Huts and Leeston wastewater emergency discharge
8. Integrated drain management programme developed and agreed by 30 June 2017
9. Identifying mahinga kai food gathering standard
10. Integrate Cultural, Opportunities Mapping and Responses (COMAR) and State of the Takiwā approach with Environment Canterbury’s water monitoring approach

### OUT 5 COME

Enhanced indigenous biodiversity and ecosystem health in priority areas or ecosystems - Hororata catchment, high country, wetlands, springheads, braided rivers and Te Waihora

#### MILESTONES

1. Prepare strategy and agree initial two-year work programme
2. Restoration plans for biodiversity corridors (Hororata and Waimakariri) confirmed by June 2016 and implement identified priority actions by December 2017
3. Deliver a minimum of two wetlands/ springhead projects per year
4. Collaborate with the Braided Rivers Regional Flagship on projects regarding the Upper Rakaia River that falls in the Selwyn Waihora Zone
5. Aligned work programme in place for agencies/groups working in the Te Waihora surroundings
6. Reduce the extent of spread of wilding trees in the upper Waimakariri catchment
7. Collaborate with CPW on biodiversity opportunities through development of shareholder FEPs and the Environmental Management Fund
8. Biodiversity protection and enhancement opportunities identified through the FEP process
9. Develop a large-scale and multi-year programme to support active management and enhancement of effective riparian margins by September 2017
10. Start work on improved management of riparian margins in priority streams, rivers and drains from October 2017

### OUT 6 COME

All community water supplies meet New Zealand Drinking Water Standards and provide sufficient water to meet community demand

#### MILESTONES

1. Bacterial and protozoal compliance is within the Selwyn District Council Long Term Plan community outcomes performance levels
2. Selwyn District Council drinking water demand management plan approved by Council in June 2016
3. Selwyn District Council progressively implements water demand management as outlined in the district plan
4. All on-demand community water supplies metered by June 2019

### OUT 7 COME

Enhance, where possible, contact recreation opportunities at key sites on the Selwyn River/Waikiriri and for sports fishing in the high country

#### MILESTONES

1. Suitability for contact recreation improves at Coes Ford by 2019
2. Persistence of toxic algae reduced at Whitecliffs Domain on Selwyn River by 2019
3. Support one salmon/trout spawning project per year in the high country

### OUT 8 COME

Raise community awareness of freshwater management goals and how these will be achieved

#### MILESTONES

1. Communications and awareness strategy developed by August 2016 and initial 18-month tactical plan agreed by September 2016
2. Current community awareness level measured by July 2016
3. Selwyn Waihora Zone Team continues to develop strong relationships with sector, industry and community groups – demonstrating an increase in connections by January 2017



# Selwyn Waihora Zone Committee

## Monitoring and compliance priorities to December 2018

Selwyn Waihora is one of the largest zones in the Canterbury region. Literally running from the mountains to the sea. It has over 5,500 consents, the majority of which are for wastewater discharge and groundwater abstraction.

Below are the priorities for compliance and monitoring. They will require a collaborative approach across both advocacy and compliance.

### Zone Priority Areas

- **High-risk consents** - Monitor all high-risk consents at least every six months
- **Non-compliance** - Consents with significant non-compliance become a priority for monitoring. A targeted monitoring action response and plan to be carried out by the Zone Team
- **The priority for monitoring of water abstraction consents** will be in this general order: no record of meter installed, no record of verification certificate, no data supplied, take while on restriction, take above authorised rate, take above annual volume. Priority for compliance monitoring, investigation of non-compliance and enforcement will be with the most significant non-compliance or effect first
- **Silverstream catchment** - Pilot the whole farm/site approach to monitoring for the Silverstream catchment and work with consent holders for 100% compliance
- **Cultural Landscape Values Management Area** - Take a whole farm/site approach to monitoring consents in the Cultural Landscape Values Management Area, with a priority on dairy effluent
- **Monitoring land development sites** is a priority, particularly in the Halswell and Lincoln areas. The Halswell catchment is under capacity pressure, so keeping sediment out from land development is important for preventing flooding and protecting water quality in streams and Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere. Land development around Lincoln contributes phosphorus-laden sediment to the LII and Te Waihora, so monitoring is high priority. Good land management practices will minimise dust discharges from development
- **Respond to Pollution Hotline** - All pollution events regarding discharge to water, including stock in waterways, are responded to as a priority and the appropriate action is taken in accordance with guidance and protocols. Pollution events with a pattern of dust or odour complaints are responded to with consideration of the likely adverse environmental impact and prioritised accordingly
- **Wastewater** - Monitor all community / territory authority wastewater treatment plants
- **Farming land use consents** - Contribute to the programme and ensure those who require land use consents are working towards them in a timely manner
- **Good Management Practice** - Support Good Management Practice advocacy work
- **Stock in waterways** - support the education and awareness programme
- **Relationship building** - Selwyn Waihora Zone Team members continue to build relationships with key stakeholders
- **Other monitoring** - Medium and low level risk rated consents are monitored on a 2 to 5 year rotation
- **Support other priorities and issues** that arise within the zone as directed by Environment Canterbury leadership or the Selwyn Waihora Zone Committee.

