

Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) Introduction, Overview and Progress

**Presentation to New Zealand Association of Resource Management
Commodore Airport Hotel
21 September 2010**



CWMS Introduction and Overview

- 6 plus years work spearheaded by Canterbury Mayoral Forum.
- Early phases were known as the Canterbury Strategic Water Study (CSWS) and focussed on large scale storage potential. Seven storage sites/schemes were identified (“desk top” level) including Coleridge and Lees Valley.
- CSWS was broadened in early 2008 to encompass a wide range of environmental and social values.
- Extensive consultation, public meetings, workshops and submission steps mid 2008 through May 2009. (Name changed to CWMS).
- Draft CWMS “Strategic framework” launched end August 2009. “Final” version published November.
- All councils have endorsed the CWMS Strategic Framework



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Introduction and Overview (Cont)

- Overseen by CWMS Steering Group with members from wide range of stakeholder interests and the Mayoral forum, including Ngai Tahu, Water Rights Trust, Irrigation NZ, Fish and Game, CDHB, Chamber of Commerce, Forest and Bird, Local Government.
- A number of work streams continue including legislative and statutory considerations to support full implementation and funding and finance to support infrastructure options.
- Strong Central Government support and “pressure” especially since 2009.
- Following review of Regional Council
 - Appointment of commissioners from 1 May 2010
 - Legislation requires: “ECan must have particular regard to the vision and principles of the CWMS...”

See www.canterburywater.org.nz



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CWMS Vision and Fundamental principles

Vision *To enable present and future generations to gain the greatest social, economic, recreational and cultural benefits from our water resources, within an environmentally sustainable framework.*

First order priorities – environment, customary use, community supplies and stock water

Second order priorities – irrigation, renewable electricity generation, recreation and amenity.

Primary principles – sustainable management, regional approach and tangata whenua

Supporting principles – natural character, indigenous biodiversity, access, quality drinking water, recreational opportunities, and community and commercial use.

CWMS Fundamental Principles are part of the Environment Canterbury (Temporary Commissioners and Improved Water Management) Act 2010.

CWMS – a new paradigm

- A shift to a philosophy of integrated water management to achieve the multiple objectives of the range of stakeholders with interests in water within Zones (collaboration in action).
- Management of cumulative effects of water abstraction and land-use intensification.
- Water allocation decisions that address sustainable environmental limits.
- Actions to protect and restore freshwater biodiversity, amenity values and natural character.
- “Local” people planning locally – Zone and Regional Committees conduit for community discussion and development of solutions.
- Solutions deliver environmental, economic, cultural and social outcomes together (“parallel development”).



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Parallel development

The Strategy relies on parallel development of environment, water efficiency savings and infrastructure development:

- Committed **targets** in all four areas – Environmental, Cultural, Social, Economic:
 1. Ecosystem health and biodiversity
 2. Natural character, processes and ecological health of braided rivers
 3. Kaitiakitanga
 4. Drinking water
 5. Recreational and amenity opportunities
 6. Water-use efficiency
 7. Irrigated land area
 8. Energy security and efficiency
 9. Indicators of regional and national economies
 10. Environmental limits



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Immediate Steps Biodiversity Project

- Stakeholder and public consultation on CWMS identified declining health of aquatic ecosystems as a significant and immediate concern
- CWMS implementation includes Immediate Steps Biodiversity Project with \$1.4 million funding per year to be supported by local contributions of a further 33% making an annual fund of \$2.0 million.
- Funding divided equally between ten Zone and Regional Committees
- Action-based activity that regional and zone committees can address in short-term



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Governance & Implementation



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Water Management Committees

10 Zone Committees and
1 Regional Committee

Zone Committees:

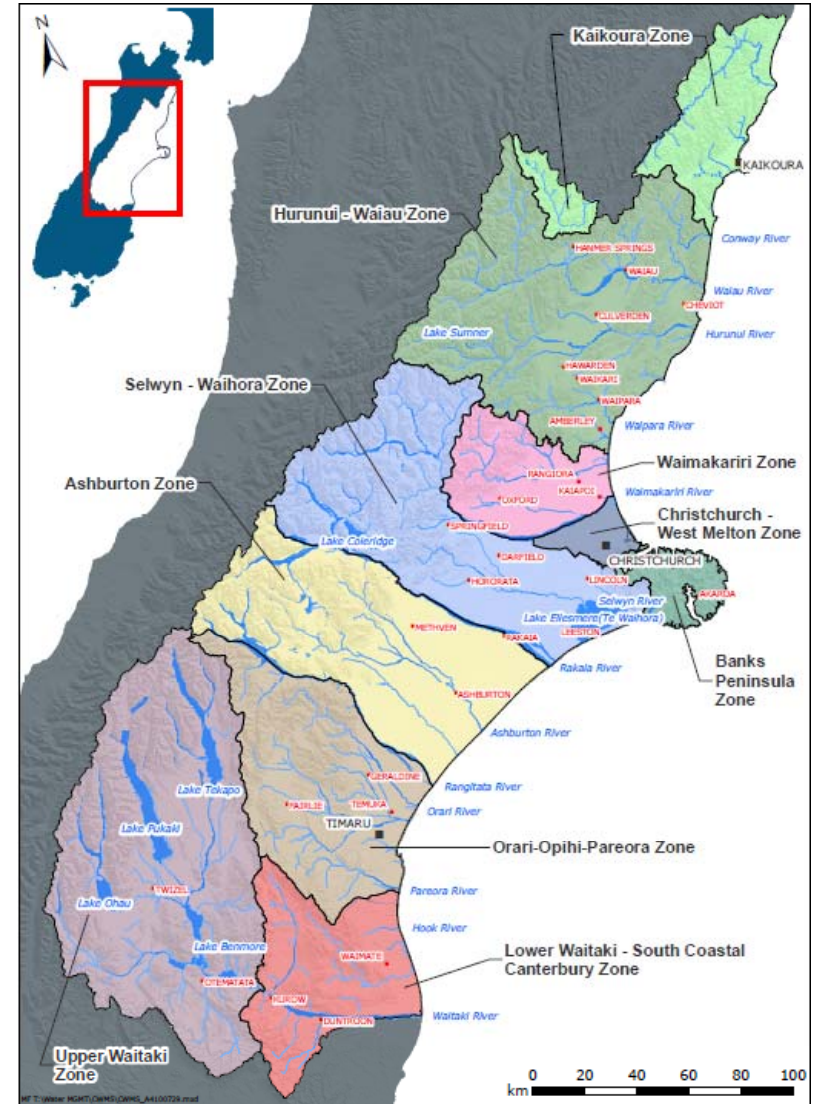
Develop strategies, tactics and activities (Zone Implementation Programme) to give effect to the CWMS fundamental principles and targets for the Zone.

Joint Committees of TA(s) and Regional Council

Regional Committee:

Focus on infrastructure associated with managing large scale storage and transfer of water across Canterbury, and with related issues such as energy generation and region-level biodiversity issues.

Committee of Regional Council



Zone Committees

Key Points:

- Joint Committees of District/City Councils and Regional Council
- Each Committee seeks to develop solutions its own zone
- Facilitate community involvement & debate
- Keep relevant Councils (local and regional) and other Committees informed during process – iterative process
- Councils have to approve Zone Implementation Programmes
- Serviced by CWMS Water Executive with support from local councils and ECan
- Must work collaboratively with neighbouring Zone Committees and the Regional Committee
- 3 year appointments



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Terms of Reference for Zones

Membership

- 1 Environment Canterbury Commissioner
- 1 elected member from the District/City Councils with part or all of their district within the zone
- 1 member from each runanga with interests in the zone
- 4-6 members from the community, who bring a range of skills, experience, local knowledge across the key interest in water management in the zone

- Appointees must either live in the Zone or be able to demonstrate a special relationship with the Zone.

- Information for Applicants for each zone as they are established are provided via the website www.canterburywater.org.nz



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Terms of Reference (Cont)

Selection Process

- Expressions of interest filed
- Review by selection working group (District/City/ECan/CWMS/runanga)
- Short list. Assessment Workshop
- Recommendation to the two/three Councils
- Joint committee appointment/approval by each Council.

Zone Committee Operating Philosophy

- Give effect to principles, priorities, targets, goals of CWMS
- Be culturally sensitive to Maori values and interests
- Give consideration to and balance interests of all water stakeholders in debate and decision making
- Work collaboratively and co-operatively – pursue relentlessly the “win/win” solutions
- Members are appointed for their individual skills and wisdom, not to provide the view of any particular sector or interest



Terms of Reference (Cont)

- Provide the paradigm shift – “new water in new ways”
- Seek consensus decision making at all times
- Draw on robust, investigative data and science as required, via the resources of the Water Executive (and ECan and District/City Councils).

Operating Format

- Meeting frequency – generally once per month plus field visits
- Members elect their own chairperson and deputy
- Remuneration for non elected members:

Appointed members	-	\$2,000 per annum
Deputy Chair	-	\$3,000 per annum
Chair	-	\$5,000 per annum
- Travel expenses will be reimbursed.
- Meetings operate in accordance with LGOIMA (Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act)
- Committee can co-opt as required.

Regional Committee

Key Points:

- Not superior or senior to zone committees
- Deals with issues requiring regional approach, e.g.
 - Infrastructure requirements/solution
 - Regional biodiversity
 - Issues requiring regional consistency



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Regional Committee Membership

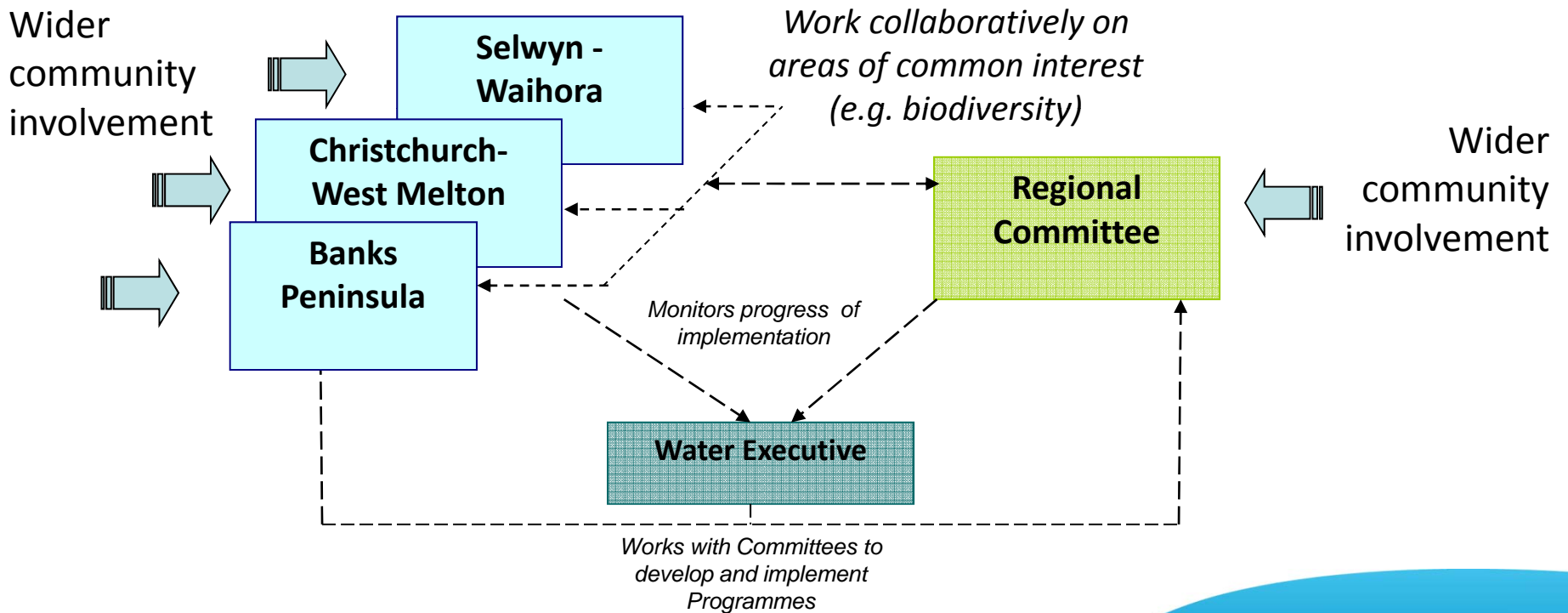
- 2 representatives appointed by the Regional Council
- 1 member appointed by Christchurch City
- 3 nominated representatives appointed by the combined Territorial Authorities (one from each sub region – North, Mid south Canterbury)
- 1 representative appointed by Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu
- 3 representatives appointed by Nga Runanga (South, Mid and North Canterbury)
- 1 from each zone committee
- 6 members who collectively bring experience and expertise in the following sectors: Fisheries; Energy/Electricity; Indigenous biodiversity; Primary production/agriculture; Recreation; Regional development including Tourism
- An independent chairperson (appointed by the Dame Margaret Bazley in consultation with the Mayors of the region and the Kaiwhakahaere of Ngai Tahu)

Total of approximately 26 members

Regional Committee Focus

- The Regional Implementation Programme will address issues requiring a regional approach and that cannot be effectively addressed at the Zone level, including:
 - Any cross zone boundary issues including water demand, storage and distribution options, biodiversity issues, land use practices
 - Protection of landscapes, natural features and areas of conservation value of regional significance
 - Tools to improve the allocation, efficiency and management of water resource at a regional level
 - Infrastructure development requiring significant investment and/or involving wider regional stakeholders involvement.
- Not superior or senior to zone committees.

All Committees report to respective Territorial Authority and the Regional Council



Progress

Zone committees established or being established

- Hurunui-Waiiau (Launched 16 July)
- Waimakariri (Launch on 24 September)
- Selwyn-Waihora (Launch 5 October)
- Ashburton (Launched 10 September)
- Lower Waitaki (Launch in late October)

Regional Committee

Appointments complete and will now launch on 15 October

Infrastructure Option Assessments

The seven options that were identified in the earlier stage of the CWMS and that are identified in the Strategic Framework November 2009 are under a process of preliminary assessment against the targets.

Those options are:

1. Integrated storage options for Hurunui-Waiau
2. Lees Valley
3. Coleridge
4. Water from Lake Tekapo
5. Hunter Downs Extension
6. Manage Aquifer Recharge
7. Mid-Central Canterbury Efficiency Improvements and potential for redistribution of allocations

Infrastructure Option Assessments (cont)

Milestone	Activity	Due Date
1	Review 1 (Confirm project details and methodology)	15 Sept 2010
2	Review 2 (report outline)	8 Oct 2010
3	Draft 1	29 Oct 2010
4	Final 'Preliminary Strategic Assessment' Report	26 Nov 2010
5	Kaitiakitanga Project Only – Draft Synthesis Report	17 December 2010
6	Kaitiakitanga Project Only – Final Synthesis Report	11 February 2011



Summary of Progress

- 4 zone committees either launched or to be launched shortly
- Regional Committee to commence in mid October
- Infrastructure Options under assessment against CWMS targets for Regional Committee by late 2010/early 2011
- Balance of zone committees to be established between November 2010 and May 2011

