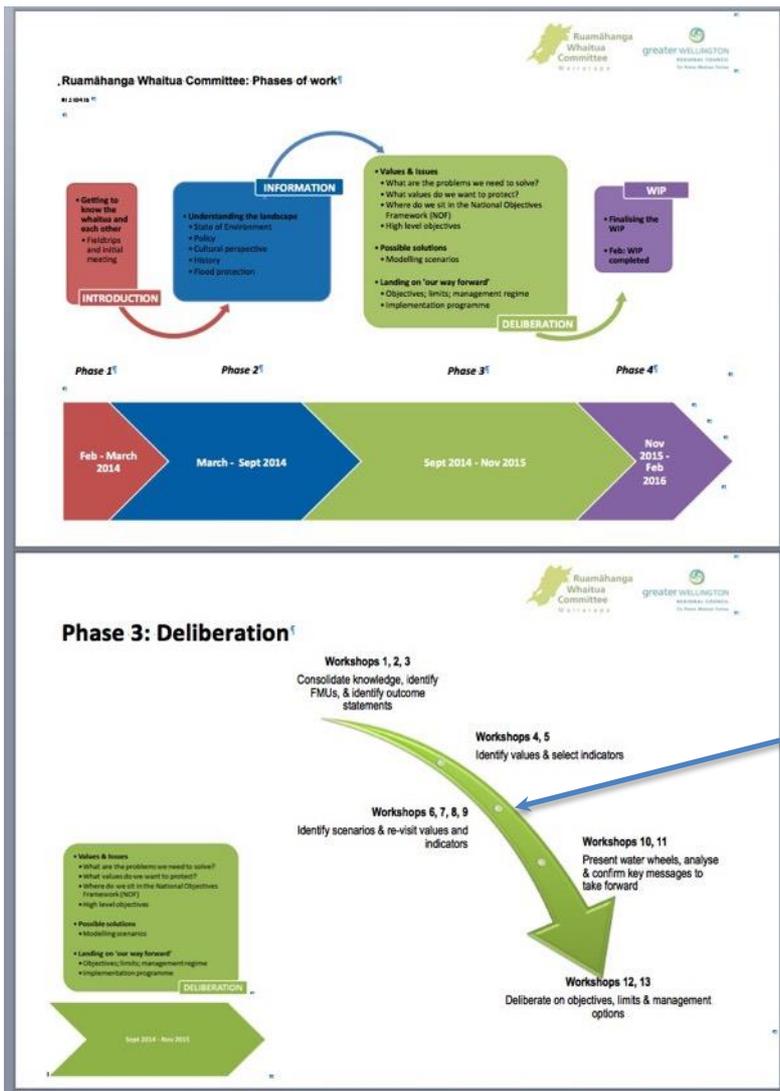


# Meeting Notes: Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee

## Deliberations Phase 3 - Workshop 22

May 23 2016 4:00 – 8:00pm

Masterton Club, 98 Chapel Street, Masterton



Workshop 22

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**Summary** This report summarises notes from a workshop of the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee held 23 May 2016 at the Masterton Club, 98 Chapel Street.

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**Contents** These notes contain the following:

- A Workshop Attendees
  - B Workshop Purpose and Agenda
  - C Follow Up Actions to Previous Meetings
  - D Social Science Modelling Proposals
  - E Community Engagement Plan
  - F Issues Paper
  - G Water Allocation
  - H Any other business
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## A Workshop Attendees

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**Workshop Attendees** Aidan Bichan, Mike Birch, Peter Gawith, David Holmes, Mike Ashby, Russell Kawana, Ra Smith, Philip Palmer, Andy Duncan, Colin Olds, Esther Dijkstra, Chris Laidlaw, Vanessa Tipoki

Alastair Smaill, Kat Banyard, Michelle Rush, Natasha Tomic, Hayley Vujcich, Mike Grace, Murray McLea, Mike Thompson, Jon Gabites

John Bright, Jim Sinner, Jackie Dingfelder

**Apologies:** Rebecca Fox, Horipo Rimene, Brigitte De Barletta

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## B Workshop Purpose

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- Workshop Purpose** The workshop purposes were:
- Hear a report back, and provide comment on a proposal for four projects to support the social impact modeling to be undertaken as part of the social science modeling.
  - To review and complete further community engagement planning.
  - To confirm the wording of the issues summary.
  - Build greater understanding of water allocation, the allocation system and how it works, and as part of this:
    - Begin building an understanding of some water allocation approaches; and
    - Confirm the questions about water allocation we want to put to the community

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**Workshop  
Agenda**

The agenda is below.

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4:00	<b>Welcome, Introductions, Karakia</b>	Peter, Ra
4:05	Outline of purpose and confirm proposed agenda	Michelle
4:15	Social Science Modelling Proposals	Jim Sinner
5:00	Community Engagement Plan	Jon Gabites
5:45	Dinner	
6:15	Issues Paper	Alastair
6:45	Water Allocation	Murray, Mike, Alastair
8:00	Karakia and Close	Ra

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## **C Follow Up Actions to Previous Meetings**

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**Follow Up  
Actions**

None.

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## **D Social Science Modeling**

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**Social Science  
Modelling – four  
proposals**

Jim Sinner gave a talk on four project proposals to be undertaken to support the social impact assessment modelling component of the Collaborative Modelling Project.

Following his presentation, RWC members workshopped each of the proposals, considering the following questions:

1. Which aspects of this project would be most helpful in choosing between policy alternatives/solutions packages?
  2. How could this project be improved?
- 

**Project 1:  
Baseline  
Information**

The key points raised during the workshop discussion (run using a ‘bus stop’ method whereby people circulated, and considered each proposal in turn) were:

**for Social  
Impact  
Modelling -  
Key points from  
the discussion**

**Project 1: Baseline Information for Social Impact Modelling**

- Baseline project is useful. Need to determine which parameters are most important.
- Important because if we are to measure change we need to know where to start.
- What component of ‘population change’ etc. (No. 1) are economics? Is there an overlap with what is done under the economic modelling?
- What about the flow on of economic benefits – e.g. Caroline Saunders work. Acknowledgement that economics stuff is hard to split.
- Focus on the ones most likely to change.
- No. 2. Look at this: it is vital.
- Link between visitors (relating to coastal water – why visitors would go to Wairarapa Moana? About awareness. No awareness of Lake Wairarapa.). Visitors not interested per se, but more related to water / other recreation. Visitors: we may want them to come and enjoy a good swim. We may want rich individuals – what visitors are there now? What do we want to attract people to? How much money is put into different things? Is it beautiful grown natural grapes? This may not be the most important baseline for water.
- Most important – water quality for people – quality of life concept. Also quantity – good all year around. Our quality of life may be baseline, being able to swim, gathering fish; do people want to go swimming, is this going to change?
- Value around water. What is it to tourism?
- All parameters related to visitors, recreation, tourists etc. are linked to water, thus water quality = good quality of life. Gauge on what we are offering and how far we may go.
- We are all visitors in relation to water and wellbeing of river – need to measure – regenerative quality of water. Need to add Mauri – makes people happy – furthers the wellbeing goal. Alternative cross-reference measure of health of a water society.
- Need to have a strong economy to facilitate change.
- Equity – access to use water costing social inequity, a number of people are unable to access water.
- Getting a baseline – what is here now – good.
- Rural/urban connection – very important. Total amount in the catchment to be quality.

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**Project 2  
Understanding  
the Process of  
Change - Key  
points from  
discussion**

**Project 2: Understanding the Process of Change**

Things to change:

- Ensure there is a focus on urban too
- Knowing about equity across a community
- Regulatory and on-regulatory and meeting the national standards
- Understand how water user groups schemes have gone

- Understand how ‘friends’ or ‘community river’ etc. groups have fared, e.g. guardian’s groups
- Interested in implications of innovative practice – not just common approaches
- How can you enable change from a community level?
- How can you make space for social entrepreneurs?
- Would high trust models incentivise change?
- Building a story about how we’re going to change for different parts of the community.
- What’s useful?
  - Knowing the size of change and consequently timeframes to change. **(two ticks)**
  - Urban infrastructure – replacement
  - Understanding to water use and availability including attitude towards costs of change.
  - What is different in attitudes across ages?
  - How useful is this at the scenario testing stage of the process or is it more useful in writing up the WIP?
  - Knowing about attitudes to compulsory change versus incentivised or supported changes.

**Project 3 –  
Rubrics to form  
measurable  
social attributes  
– Key points  
from discussion**

**Project 3: Rubrics to form measurable social attributes.**

Rubrics are required for:

- Measuring equitable access to water
- How does water define us in Wairarapa?
  - A) What is the economic value of water to the people of Wairarapa?
  - B) What is the social value of water to the people of the Wairarapa?
  - C) What is the environmental value of water to the people of the Wairarapa?
  - D) What is the cultural value of water to the people of the Wairarapa?
- Water value added with respect to quality of life rubric?
  - A) \$ measure
  - B) Recreation measure and connection
  - C1) Water quantity for environment e.g. wetlands
  - C2) Water quality for environment (other than economic land use); biodiversity which includes kahikatea
  - D) Cultural health measure.

**Project 4 –  
Assessing  
change in**

**Project 4: Assessing change in people’s ‘connection to water’  
(metric indicator)**

**people's  
'connection to  
water' – Kay  
points from  
discussion.**

- Growing anxiety about availability, both in rural and urban communities.
- Is it common sense as to what enhances 'connection to water?' e.g. quality, flow, aesthetics?
- Different kinds of connections, e.g. farming livelihoods, recreation, mahinga kai, each will be assessed by its own attributes.
- Equity of access to water / water use
- Knowing the names of rivers
- Helpful to understand how to get people more engaged with water – this a long term aspiration
- What is the 'size' of peoples' connection to water? How important is it to people?
- Different by age group and other demographics – need to understand this to target policy.
- 'Quality of life' as part of 'connection to water'
- Talk to more people about their connections.
- If we had positive messages about water, would we have better connections to water? Maybe we wouldn't need so much regulation?
- Why don't people use waterways? Is GW information stopping people from swimming?

**Social impact  
assessment  
proposals in  
priority order**

After a report back from each group, in which each fed back whether the project was a) needed; and b) required any changes or additions, the committee as a whole discussed which needed to be the priorities. The results of this are set out in the table below.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Needed?</b>	<b>Changes / additions</b>	<b>Priority</b>
Baseline	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarify overlap between economic parameters</li> <li>• How important are visitors/ recreation? – Differing opinions on importance.</li> <li>• Who are the visitors now?</li> <li>• Add Mauri of the river as a measure.</li> <li>• Also need to include how to measure/assess equity of access in a water use sense.</li> </ul>	1
Vision for RWC	Yes, in respect of the task of refining the social/ cultural attributes, and also constructing scenarios and detailing how to get there.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vision could be enlarged by adding to attributes, e.g. equity of access and how does water define us in Wairarapa. Water 'value-add' with respect to quality of life.</li> </ul>	2

Assessing change in connection to water	Yes?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How different groups connect to water (to inform thinking of how RWC might target its policies). Including equity component / quality of life component. Messaging: is information stopping people from using waterways? Do we need a change in focus on the topic, e.g. understand demographics of connection to water.</li> </ul>	3
Understanding process of change	Yes. But at scenario stage, or at WIP design stage?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attitudes, e.g. compulsory vs non-compulsory <u>change</u>. Needs to include implications of innovative practice and developing agile planning frameworks</li> </ul>	4

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## E Community Engagement Plan

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### Discussion of Community Engagement Plan

**The following additions were suggested to the draft Community Engagement Plan:**

**Add ‘including rules’ into policy options**

**Drivers for the community to engage on this – items to add**

- Maori have an inherent connection to water
- Fear of change
- Fear of economic loss
- Concern about allocation/availability of allocation and the total water resource, concern that there is less water than there used to be
- Innovation – to be involved in seeing if there is a better way of doing it.
- To have a say, “A better way to participate”

**What does success look like? Desired outcomes – items to add**

- Community participation/interaction is increased in respect of identified and targeted sections of the community among those who haven’t engaged to date, e.g. urban Masterton.
- Mana whenua are engaged and influencing decisions

**What specifically will we do to engage? – items to add**

- Work with leaders in urban communities e.g. community boards. Working with leaders is not the best way to engage rural communities as everyone will want to be involved.
- Grass roots ‘on the street’ contacts
- Target newspaper and radio as well.
- Increase media presence
- Iwi authorities should be added to the list, Kaitiaki are

separate.

- Committee members to ‘buddy up’
- Create resources which aid committee confidence and community understanding
- Develop a comprehensive list of urban community groups to connect with
- Talk to value leaders
- Go through a number of rural groups as well e.g. farmer reference group, farm discussion groups, agriculture newsletters.

**Table: Items to add to ‘2 – Targeting Leaders’ box**

The pre-engagement is designed to raise awareness within the community not get answers to questions, just debate the big picture.

**Planning for Pre-Engagement**

The committee agreed to the idea of identifying four key issues, ‘one per week’ for the pre-engagement phase (getting people ready and equipped with sufficient information / understanding to engage).

‘x’ our vision and desired outcomes, ‘y’ the situation now.. how do we get there? And then in relation to this ‘big question’ ... The following four topics were identified:

- Water allocation – we’re fully allocated. Climate Change means there will be even less available... how do we share it? How many summers can we have like this one? ‘8% soil moisture... the same as a bag of flour!’
- Should every river and stream be swimmable?
- Is continuing to put sewage in rivers acceptable? How much would you be prepared to pay to improve water quality?
- Let’s Bring Back the Bling – reaching our potential together on water...

**Notes:** Use plain English for all of this, e.g. don’t call it ‘water allocation’...

Use media – both advertorial, editorial, and also social media outlets.

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## F Issues Paper

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**Issues Paper**

**Issues Paper**

RWC discussed the draft issues paper, and sought that some further detail on lakes be included, e.g. what was meant by eutrophic and super-eutrophic; is it the case that flood and river management has

contributed to this; which lakes are seriously degraded?

Action: Alastair Smaill to revise issues paper and return to the committee.

### **Vision and Outcomes**

As part of this discussion, it was also agreed that it would be useful to develop a narrative to place around the RWC vision and outcomes. RWC wanted to develop more about their aspirations, rather than such a focus on issues.

Action: Kat/Michelle to add a discussion on the vision and outcomes to the upcoming workshop agenda on 7 June 2016.

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## **G Water Allocation**

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### **Water Allocation**

Murray McLea, Mike Thompson and Alastair Smaill gave a presentation on the water allocation system, and the relationship between minimum flow, mean annual low flow and reliability of supply.



Allocation concepts presentation - to RWI

Below is a summary of some of the questions asked by the committee.

Q: How is climate change included in the water allocation discussion?

A: John Bright and Alastair Smaill are meeting tomorrow to discuss the data needs around climate change for the modelling project. Once this is agreed it can be provided to the committee.

Q: When looking at the minimum flow graph should the blue line be called 'natural flow'? It's still affected by human activities.

A: Perhaps it should be 'observed flow'.

Q: What would happen to the hydrograph as a result of flood management work?

A: We don't have data to show the effects of flood management at this scale. The modelling project will help fill this gap.

Q: Is Waihenga Bridge the lowest monitoring point and why?

A: The advantage of this monitoring site is that it integrates everything coming down the catchment. However it means teasing out the effects of certain things can be very hard because it integrates everything e.g. considering the effects of land use change.

Q: Why are minimum flows only calculated on the rivers in the West

of the catchment?

A: These are the areas of highest stress. In the East default limits are applied. Is this ok or should there be site specific minimum flows? – Question for the whaitua.

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## **H Any other business**

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**Any other  
business**

Peter – Beef and Lamb field day on Wednesday 25 May 2016. If anyone would like to attend let Peter know.

ENDS