

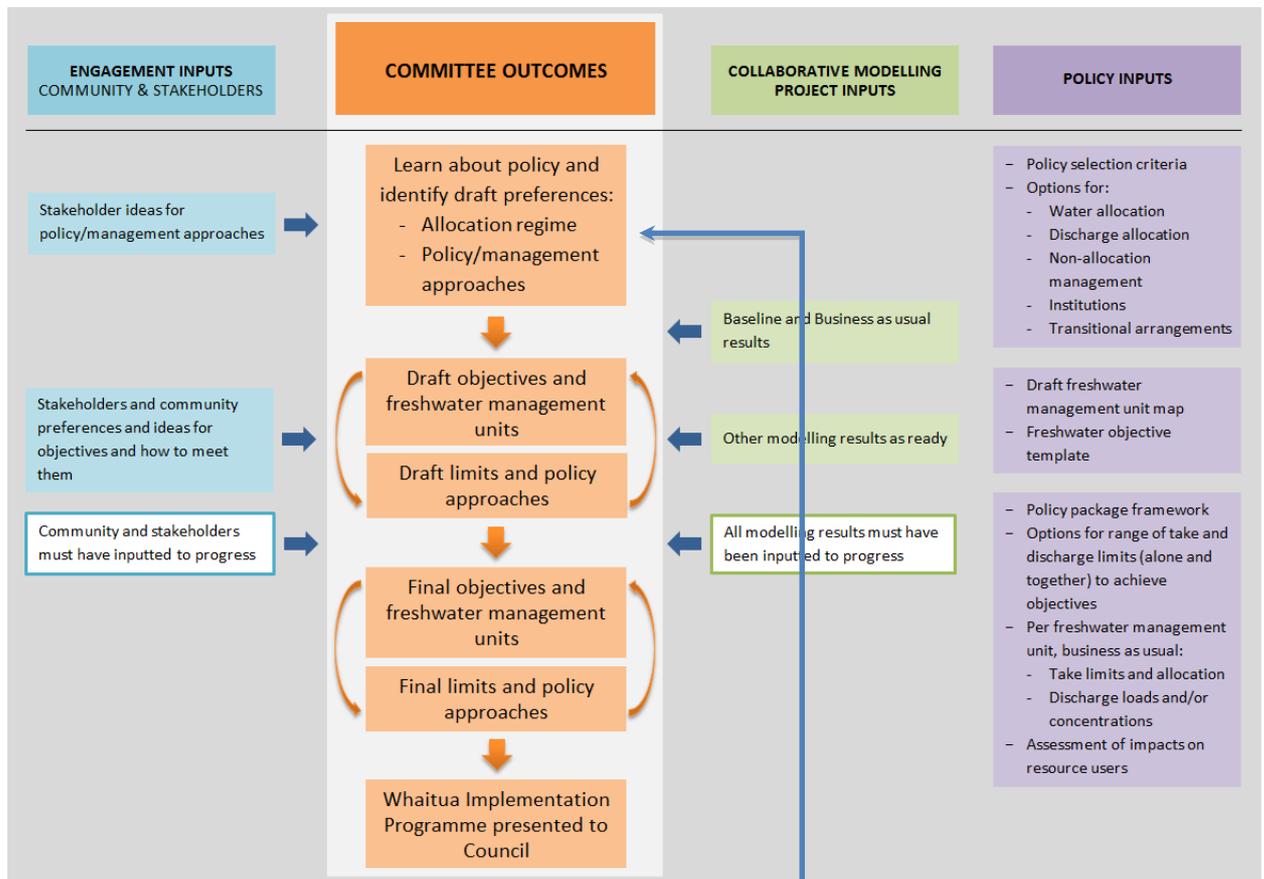
Meeting Notes: Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee

Deliberations Phase 3 – Workshop 38

Monday 13 March 2017

12:00PM –6:00PM

Featherston Community Centre



Workshop
38

Summary This report summarises notes from a workshop of the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee held 13 March 2017 at the Featherston Community Centre.

Contents These notes contain the following:

- A** Workshop Attendees
- B** Workshop Purpose and Agenda
- C** Workshop Decisions
- D** Workshop Actions
- E** Workshop Notes – Planning and Community Engagement Plan
- F** Workshop Notes – RWC Decision Making Process
- G** Workshop Notes – Allocating Nitrogen

Appendix 1: Photos of Flipcharts

A Workshop Attendees

Workshop Attendees

RW Committee: Peter Gawith, Vanessa Tipoki, Mike Ashby, Chris Laidlaw, David Holmes, Mike Birch, Colin Olds, Esther Dijkstra, Aidan Bichan, Ra Smith.

Greater Wellington & Project Team: Alastair Smaill, Kat Banyard, Murray McLea, Horipo Rimene, Natasha Tomic, Brigitte de Barletta.

Modellers: John Bright.

Independent Facilitator: Michelle Rush.

Apologies: Russell Kawana, Phillip Palmer, Rebecca Fox, Andy Duncan

B Workshop Purpose and Agenda

Purpose

1. Confirm understanding of the policy framework RWC needs to work within when developing the WIP.
2. Review, discuss and confirm the revised RWC policy selection criteria / decision making process document.

3. Confirm RWC decisions as to what will be allocated / not allocated in regards the management of discharges from both point source and diffuse sources for the four major contaminants (N, P, pathogens and sediment).
 - Discuss the pros and cons of allocating Nitrogen in the future and identify and understand their implications; and
 - Determine whether or not to recommend that Nitrogen be allocated in the future.

4. Review the revised community engagement plan and
 - Confirm its purposes, outcomes and topic areas
 - Confirm the engagement approach (methods) for these topic areas for the next burst of community engagement and understand what will be required of RWC members.

The purposes were achieved.

Agenda

The agenda is detailed in the table below.

TIME	TASK	WHO
12:00	RWC Only Meeting	
1:00	Lunch	
1:30	Welcome, Purpose and Agenda	Peter, Ra, Michelle
1:40	Community Engagement Plan Review and Confirmation	Kat, Jon
2:20	Revised RWC policy selection criteria / decision making process	Kat
3:20	Afternoon Tea	
3:45	RW Policy Framework	Al
4:00	Discharges Workshop 1 – Confirm RWC decisions re allocating / not allocating contaminants for both diffuse and point sources (Plenary)	Al
4:15	Discharges Workshop 2 – Identify and discuss pros and cons of allocating nitrogen in the future (Break out groups)	All
4:45	Discharges Workshop 3 – Identify and discuss the implications of the pros and cons (Plenary)	All
5:00	Understanding the Options if RWC chooses to allocate Nitrogen	Al
5:10	Discharges Workshop 4 – Reaching a decision whether or not to allocate N in the future (Break out groups)	All
5:30	Discharges – Report back and decision making discussion (Plenary)	All
6:00	Karakia and Close	Ra

C Workshop Decisions

Decision making document

Adopt the draft decision making document once inclusions on procedures if a committee member is away are added.

Community engagement

Adopt the community engagement plan with discussion information added.

Allocating nitrogen

Should we recommend that nitrogen be allocated in the future?

No, but...

Signal a date at which progress can be measured and if there is evidence that an FMU is in trouble (in other words, an environmental trigger) AND

We have the technology to monitor compliance at the user level, then...

Adopt a nitrogen allocation regime.

D Workshop Actions

Actions

At the next workshop revisit whether or not a recommendation around managing diffuse nitrogen should include a specific nitrogen allocation option at the next workshop.

E Workshop Notes – Planning and Community Engagement Plan

Overview

Kat Banyard gave a brief overview of the planning for the next several months including topics for each committee workshop. The links between the committee work and the upcoming engagement were highlighted.

[Planning diagram - March-May 2017](#)

Kat Banyard gave a brief overview of the Community Engagement Plan for the next burst of engagement that had been circulated to RWC members before the workshop.



Engagement
planning for the Ruar

Members discussed and confirmed the purposes, approach and methods, and identified a series of upcoming events at which they would be able to engage with stakeholders or the community on one or more of the specific areas RWC wished to explore in this round of community engagement, namely:

- Water allocation
- Contaminants – including sediment and nitrogen allocation
- Three waters

The table below sets out the opportunities identified, who was involved, and what the support needs were.

Preparing to Engage

- Be prepared if we are asked to justify the scenarios we are modelling.
- Be able to explain how we will use the modelled scenarios to inform our decisions.
- Have a ‘single song sheet’.
- Link the ‘single song sheet’ that we will all use when presenting, talking etc. to the communications plan and media outlets and opportunities.

Community Engagement Opportunities

The following opportunities were identified in accordance with point 4.1.1.3 out of the proposed Community Engagement Plan – having a presence at existing events.

Date	Event	Who Attending	Support Needs
11 April 6:00pm	Ballance Farm Environment Awards	Pete, Mike, David, Chris (Can buy tickets)	(Chris – speaking opportunity)
4 April	Farming for the Future, Carterton Events Centre	Mike, Mike, Esther, David, Peter, Vanessa, Ra	Displays, hand-outs, informal opportunity, RWC nametags? RWC announcement about being present?
29 th March	Business Farming Awards	Peter, Mike A	Field trip – Discussion Kat to put out Rural Drop, Displays? Mention we are there, Discussion
20 th April	Wairarapa – Moana Field Day - Effluent	Aidan, Esther, Peter, Vanessa	Opportunity to present/display?

Date	Event	Who Attending	Support Needs
Usually 10am-1.30pm	Management focus at Finlayson's		
19 th April 11am	Water Users Field Trip	David, Mike B, Mike A, Peter	David organising - an opportunity!
8 th April - October	Kahungunu Treaty Claim Exhibition, Ara Toi, Masterton		Display? Surveys? Informal speaking – Wesley Wing – possible formal lecture.... Kat to talk to Ra
	TeamAg meeting – details to be sent around.		

Actions

All RWC: If new opportunities present, please send around all the committee and CC Kat.

Kat Banyard: Type up table of events and send around Committee.

Mike Birch: Mike to send link to Facebook group to RWC members again. Some interesting conversations occurring.

Project Team:

Prepare a single 'songsheet' – that captures:

- where RWC are at
- what RWC are considering and
- keep this updated as we go along and
- link this 'song sheet' to the communications plan and media outlets.

Colin: Continue to engage with the SW Maori Standing Committee.

TA Engagement Strategy

The need for a specific strategy for engaging with TA's was discussed, as per point 4.1.2 of the Community Engagement Plan.

Key points from the general discussion were:

The context for engaging

- Some TA staff that should be, are not engaged with the Whaitua process.
- Some degree of anxiety among Mayors – potential impacts on ratepayers of what the Whaitua process might recommend.

- GWRC has met with the CEO and Mayor of CDC on their request.
- The Council representatives on the Committee are updating their respective Councils regularly.

Approach to developing the CE strategy for TA's

- Need to use opportunities when they come up. Use combined council meetings.
- Use council liaison people on the committee – Dave, Colin, Mike – and hear feedback from them.
- Officers/Councillors – technical level meetings.
- Bring together collaborative modelling technical discussions with overall whitua process discussions at an officer level.
- Aim to now have some scene-setting before modelling results come out e.g. when explain methodology to TA staff.

Co-Learning Approach

The co-learning approach, as per point 4.2 of the Community Engagement Plan was also discussed.

RWC members discussed the intent of the Co-Learning method for community engagement. It was explained that this was an opportunity for RWC/Community to learn together about things relevant to RWC work.

The topics identified, and agreed to for this purpose by RWC members were:

- How water that is allocated is used by farmers and whether it is efficient/what are the opportunities for more efficiency? Hear from other farmers such as Karen Williams.
- Good Management Practices, e.g. Melissa Robson, Ken Taylor.
- Three Water Seminars for Town People e.g. Wellington Water.
- Integrated Catchment Management Options that address water storage, e.g. the fact that the vast majority of water is lost to sea.

CE Process with Kaitiaki

The Engagement Strategy for Kaitaki is still being developed.

One possibility was to involve Gail Tipa and make this open to the public.

Vanessa – wishes to be involved in discussions with kaitiaki.

F Workshop Notes – RWC Decision Making Process

Overview

Kat Banyard gave an overview of the proposed RWC Decision Making Process, explaining that it had been developed from the Committee's discussions at their previous workshop on 13 February 2017 and their overall process. The document is split into three sections – the principles by which decisions will be made, the process by which decisions will be made, and criteria organised by the five guiding principles, by which decisions will be made. The document was looked over and approved page by page by RWC members.



Draft RWC decision making process -13.0

The matter outstanding, for which an in depth discussion was held, was what to do if a Committee member was absent for a workshop when a key decision was made. Key points are set out below.

Suggestions for Document

Process when a committee member is not present when a decision proposal is made [Note: "Present" can mean not physically there, but available through Skype or audio].

The items to be included in this section of the document were:

1. Chair and/or facilitator – or those members agreed to by the committee talk to the Member who was absent, and – seek to confirm whether or not the Member:
 - a) agrees
 - b) can live with
 - c) doesn't agree.

In the case of 'doesn't agree,' there is further discussion and if there is no further resolution, then the decision comes back to the full Committee.

If the person knows ahead – they can provide comments beforehand on proposals pre-circulated.

2. Give my proxy to another committee member
3. Delay/reconfirm decision at the next meeting (with people who were absent)

Two additional things were noted:

- Decisions need to be clearly written with rationale also written.
- There needs to be flexibility to highlight/shift times for crucial decision-making workshops.

G Workshop Notes – Allocating Nitrogen

Introduction Al Smaill talked the Committee through the policy framework diagram and where allocation of contaminants fits in the diagram.

[Policy framework presentation - 13.03.2017](#)

Overview RWC members and project team discussed the pros and cons of allocating diffuse sources of nitrogen in small groups. The question discussed was:

What are the pros and cons of using an allocation mechanism as a way of managing nitrogen to limits in the future?

The notes below set out the key points raised.

Pro's of allocating nitrogen

The pros of allocating nitrogen that people identified were:

- Protects interests of the individual landowner – provides certainty for them and environmental NGOs. Certainty for land user/businesses – budget – plan – timing. Enables management to a limit. Certainty to resources users.
 - Economic benefit. It recognises a price on water.
 - Incentivises innovative behaviour e.g. mitigation, remediation.
 - Leads to more efficient/optimum land use/more likely to be understood by the public
-

Cons of Allocating Nitrogen

The cons of allocating nitrogen were identified as:

- Can result in large changes in capital value of farms.
- Difficult to monitor compliance and cost compliance. Hard to accurately monitor.
- Costly and complicated to administer.
- Using under-allocated amount badly.
- Difficult on a property basis – overseer. Difficult to come up with a fair way of allocating to each property.
- Could encourage inefficient use.
- Controversial politically hard to sell. Difficult to establish allocation regime.

- Users locked in. Limiting future opportunity. Locked in land use thus inability to change no flexibility for farming practice.
 - Economic cost to land users.
 - Gaming the system – pre system loading. Gaming the system from grandparenting.
 - Hard to claw back.
-

Implications of the Pros and Cons

The groups then broke out again and discussed the implications of the pros and cons. The key points were:

Resource users

- Resource Users – Pros
 - certainty for business
 - long term planning
 - bankability
- Resource Users – Cons
 - perceptions of inequity
 - perceptions of bureaucracy
 - stifle innovation

Environment

- Environmental - Pros
 - improved
 - future pathway
- Environmental - Cons
 - locked in
 - inertia
 - stifles innovation

Wider Community

- Community - Pros
 - clarity
 - confidence
 - accountability and transparency
- Community - Cons
 - cost
 - hard to change allocation if something is not right

In summary:

There is a cost to users particularly in short/medium term.
 Uncertainty around how to best make system works.
 Disadvantages the average farmer.

Fine in theory – but not able to achieve yet in practice.

Should we allocate Nitrogen in the future?

Participants discussed the question, *Should we allocate Nitrogen in the future?* In three groups. The following are the results of this discussion:

GROUP	DECISION	NOTES
Group 1	“No but...” – use as ‘future stick’	Would monitor impact of all other methods. If it doesn’t have effect then look at allocation regime.
Group 2	Yes – allocate in the future	Yes - signal a date at which you would measure. This provides certainty. Gamers go away if the time is right No specific regime – but signal options. This would provide certainty as to types of regime that might be included.
Group 3	Yes – providing two criteria are met.	The criteria are: FMU is in trouble – there is an environmental trigger – leaves less room to game. The technology exists to be able to monitor compliance.

After the report back, a plenary discussion was held to see where the consensus lay. The following was where the group got to:

Consensus Decision: Should we recommend that nitrogen be allocated in the future?

The following consensus was reached:

No, but...

Signal a date at which progress can be measured and if there is evidence that an FMU is in trouble (in other words, an environmental trigger) AND

We have the technology to monitor compliance at the user level, then...

Adopt a nitrogen allocation regime.

It was agreed to revisit whether or not the recommendation should include a specific nitrogen allocation option at the next workshop.

Appendix 1: Photos of flip charts

C.E. Plan Discussion

CE 1

- * Be prepared if we are asked to justify the scenarios we have modelled
- * Be able to explain how we will use the modelled scenarios to inform our decision

can buy tickets
Peter
Mike
David
Chris - speaking off.

Balance F.C.A 6pm ^{Ami} ~~Michael~~ RWC
FFF ^{Mike, Mike & Steve, David, Peter, Vanessa} ~~Centre~~ E.C. 4th April ^{handouts 4-8} - informal ^{the city} ^{app.}

Business Farming Award 29th Mar ^{more tog.} ^{arrangement}
Peter Mike A. - field trip - Kat to put out ^{Prud}
- discussion - Drop agenda. Display?? ^{mention we are} ^{that}

Waikaranga-Moana Field Day 20th April - opp to present/
Finlayson ^{virtually 10-1:30} effluent management ^{Aidan, Peter, Vanessa} display.

Water Users Field Trip 19th April David Mike B/A
Peter

^{Yes on off - David offering} Brancepeth Station 11:00 am.

Kahungunu Treaty Claim exhibition 8 April - Oct
Ara Toi Display? Surveys?
Informal speaking - Wesley King
- pass formal lecture. Kat to talk to R

Team Ag

Action → new opps please send around ctce and
cc. Kat

~~Balance from field~~ Mike to send link to website
to ctce

Action - need a single 'songsheet' - where next at what we're
considering... update it

link to course plan and native outlets

TA Engagement

CE
2

- some staff not engaged
- ° of anxiety among Mayor
 - impacts on ratepayers

Has been aware mtg with C.E.O / Mayor CDC where CDC asked.

Need to use opps when they come up.

Use combined council meetings

Use liaison people on the committee

- Dave, Colin, Mike - feedback

offices / Councillors - technical level meetings

[CMP is doing that at staff level -
bring together CMP / RWC technical discussions]

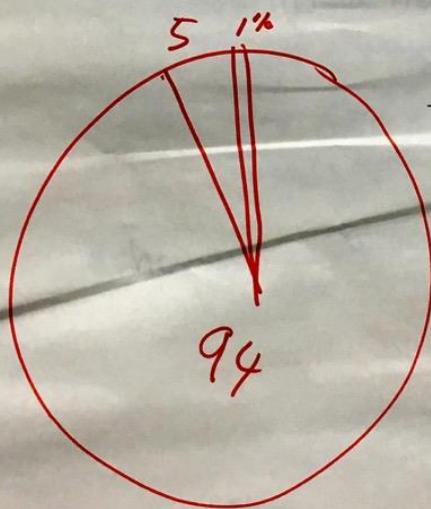
~ aim to now have some scene-setting
before modelling results come out, e.g. when
explain methodology.

* Make Colin - feedback into Mayor
St Ctee

* Co-learning ~ opp for RWC / Community
 CE3 to learn together about things relevant
 to RWC work.

* How water that is allocated is used
 by farmer and whether it's efficient / opps for ↑ efficiency

- GMP Melissa Robson Ken Taylor
- Three Water Seminar for Town People
 ~e.g. Wellington Water.



- Accessing the 94/
 the 1% into
 Integrated
 watershed
 management

4:4 - Kaitaki - Gail Tipa - also public...
 - Vanessa - involve in Kaitaki CE Strategy discussion

Decision Making

Process when a Ctee member is not present when a decision on a proposal is made [Present can hear shape / audio] or is agreed by Ctee.

Options: ① Chair / ^{and/or Facilitator} talks to Member - seeks

- a) agree
- b) live with
- c) don't agree

— another talk

back to Ctee

If person knows ahead - provide comments beforehand on proposals pre-circulated.

② Give my proxy to another Ctee member

Decision needs to be clearly written with rationale also written

①.1 Facilitator takes role of contracting member

③ Delay / ^{reaction} decision / ^{at} to the next meeting (with people who were absent)

④ Need to highlight / ^{shift times for} crucial decision making workshops.

Cons

Can result in large changes in capital value of farms.

Difficult to monitor compliance + cost compliance.

Can it be monitored
~~hard~~ hard to accurately monitor.

Costly and complicated to administer.

difficult on a property basis
-overseer

Difficult to come up with a fair way of allocating to each property.

Could encourage inefficient use.

Using under-allocated amount badly.

controversial politically hard to sell

Difficult to establish allocation regime.

Users locked in

limiting future opportunity

locked in land use
∴ inability to change
no flexibility for farming practice

economic cost to land-users

Gaming the system
Pre system loading
Gaming the system from grandparenting

Hard to claw back.

Pro's

Certainty to
resources uses

enables management
to a limit

certainty for
land use (business)
- budget
- plan
- timing

Protects interests of
individual landowner -
provides certainty +
environmental N.O.D.s.

- economic
benefit
- recognises price
on water

Incentive innovative
behaviour eg. mitigation,
remediation

Leads to more
efficient land use
Optimum

more likely to
~~understood~~
be ~~acceptable~~ by
by the public

Implications of
Pros & Cons for...

Resource Uses

- Users (resource) - pros
- certainty for business
 - long term planning
 - bankability

- Users (resource) - cons
- perception of inequity
 - perception of business strategy
 - stifles innovation

Environment

- Environment pros
- improved
 - future pathway

- Environment - cons
- locked in
 - inertia
 - stifles innovation

Wider Community

- Community (pros)
- clarity
 - confidence
 - accountability & transparency

- Community - (cons)
- cost
 - hard to change the allocation if something is not right

Five in theory.

Not able to achieve
yet
in practise

Cost to users probably
in distributed form

Uncertainty would lead
to best practice system
works

Disadvantages to
average business

GMP - work with
nutrients & collectives
(Miscanthus grass -
sterile)

Animal husbandry ^{welfare}
• proof of GMP
• regulation for
luggards.

Group AI

"No but..."

- use of 'future stick'
- would monitor impact of all other methods...
- if doesn't have effect then look at allocation regime.

Group Murray

Yes allocate in the future.

Yes signal a date - at which can market.

No specific regime - but signal options - would provide certainty as to types of regime that might be introduced

provides certainty

gives go away if the "here here" right.

Group John

Yes providing 2 criteria or met...
FNU in trouble - env trigger - less room to game
Have the technology to monitor compliance