

The Selwyn-Waihora Zone Committee is one of 10 zone committees established throughout Canterbury in 2010 under the Canterbury Water Management Strategy.

The zone committee operates as a joint committee of Environment Canterbury and the Selwyn District and Christchurch City councils.

The committee works collaboratively to develop an effective water management implementation programme in consultation with the local community. The programme includes strategies, tactics and activities to give effect to the Canterbury Water Management Strategy's principles and targets.

The Selwyn-Waihora Zone takes in Te Waihora / Lake Ellesmere, Lake Coleridge and the townships of Leeston, Lincoln, Hororata, Darfield, Rolleston and Springfield.

### Targets

The committees are working to achieve the wide-ranging set of targets agreed as part of the development of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy.

The targets have ten broad areas and set goals for the coming five years, as well as setting milestones in 10 years and 30 years. The targets cover:

- Ecosystem health and biodiversity
- Braided rivers and natural character
- Kaitiakitanga
- Drinking water
- Recreational use and amenity opportunities
- Water-use efficiency
- Irrigated land area
- Energy security and efficiency
- Regional and national economies
- Environmental limits

### Activities and actions

Since its formation in September 2010 the Selwyn-Waihora Zone Committee has had many meetings to bring members up to speed on water issues in the region.

It has received presentations on a variety of issues including biodiversity, water quality, nutrients, and Te Waihora / Lake Ellesmere.

The committee has also been on a number of field trips to visit sites of interest to engage with community members and familiarise themselves with the catchment, and the social, cultural, economic and environmental values attached to various locations.

The goal of the committee is to develop an implementation programme that recommends actions, responsibilities and time-frames to help achieve the principles, targets and goals set out in the Canterbury Water Management Strategy.

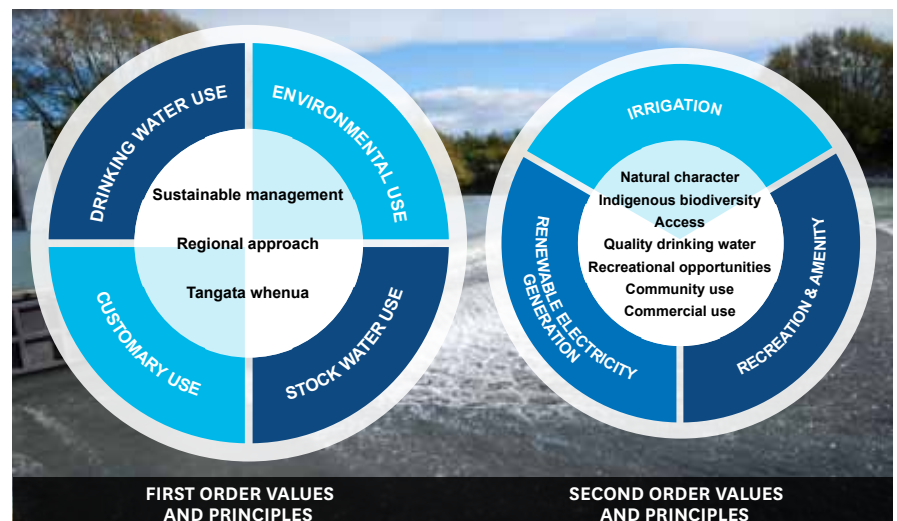
A draft Zone Implementation Programme (ZIP) was released for public feedback through online submissions and community meetings. Community members had until 18 November to provide their feedback.

Earlier in the year stakeholders and the community were asked for their thoughts on the zone committee's priorities for water management in the zone. The priorities helped form the basis of the draft ZIP. The priority areas include;

- Thriving communities and sustainable economies
- High quality and secure supplies of drinking water
- Best practice nutrients and water management
- Kaitiakitanga is integrated into water management in the zone
- Healthy lowland streams
- Te Waihora is a healthy ecosystem
- Hill-fed waterways support aquatic life and recreation
- Alpine rivers and high country values are protected
- Enhanced Indigenous Biodiversity across the Zone

Once stakeholder and community and feedback has been considered, the zone committee will present its ZIP to Christchurch City and Selwyn District Councils, and Environment Canterbury at the end of 2011.

### The value the community places on water



## The Selwyn-Waihora Zone Committee comprises:

### Community Members:

**Chair:** Peter Jackson, North Canterbury Fish and Game Council member

John Sunckell, dairy farmer from Brookside, fisherman, Chairman of Leeston Rural Drainage Committee

Douglas Catherwood, arable farmer from Hororata, Director of Central Plains Water Trust and CPW Ltd

David Painter, water resource engineer

Eugenie Sage, former Environment Canterbury regional councillor, member Biosecurity Ministerial Advisory Committee

Sue Cumberworth, agricultural business consultant Tai Tapu

**Rūnanga representatives:** Robin Wybrow (Wairewa)  
Te Whe Phillips (Rāpaki)  
Terrianna Smith (Taumutu)  
Clare Williams (Tūāhuriri)  
Charlie Crofts (Koukourārata)  
George Tikao (Ōnuku).

**Environment Canterbury appointment:** Commissioner Donald Couch

**Selwyn District Council appointment:** Councillor Pat McEvedy

**Christchurch City Council appointment:** Stewart Miller



## Immediate Steps to protect biodiversity

The zone committee is also responsible for local implementation of the Immediate Steps Biodiversity programme.

Immediate Steps is a new \$10 million programme for biodiversity which is being introduced as part of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy.

The programme has an initial five year focus and will cover the protection of endangered species and waahi taonga (sacred sites). Immediate Steps also covers maintenance of Canterbury's braided rivers, providing habitat for native flora and fauna, as well as protecting wetlands and other ecosystems.

## Zone Committee contacts:

### Zone Facilitator

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[www.ecan.govt.nz/canterburywater](http://www.ecan.govt.nz/canterburywater)

## Committee meetings

A schedule of meetings is available at [www.ecan.govt.nz/canterburywater](http://www.ecan.govt.nz/canterburywater)

Zone Committee meetings are open to the public.