



Waitaki Water Allocation Regional Plan

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BOARD INFORMATION

About the Board

The Waitaki Catchment Water Allocation Board is an independent statutory body appointed by the Environment Minister and established under the Resource Management (Waitaki Catchment) Amendment Act.

How the Board operates

The Board determines its own procedures, although some things are specified by the legislation. For example, the legislation outlines the timeframes and processes for submissions and a hearing on the draft water allocation plan, and states that the reports the Board considers to help develop the plan must become publicly available.

The Board is serviced by the Ministry for the Environment's Waitaki Team in Christchurch. Ministry staff provide secretariat services, administration and information support to the Board.

Water Allocation Board members



Waitaki Catchment Water Allocation Board members, from left: Sheila Watson (Deputy Chair), Dr Nick Brown, Judge David Sheppard (Chair), Edward Ellison and Claire Mulcock.

Judge David Sheppard (Chairperson)

From Auckland, Judge Sheppard has had 25 years' professional experience as a judge in planning and resource management cases. He was the Principal Judge of the Planning Tribunal and the Environment Court for 14 years. He had a key role in developing the application of the Resource Management Act, and has taken part in many decisions on significant environment and planning issues.

Sheila Watson (Deputy Chair)

From Christchurch, Sheila Watson is a professional environmental manager with 20 years of experience in the field. She has a strong understanding of New Zealand resource management law, and of related science, engineering, local government, New Zealand society and business practices. She is currently an Environment Court Commissioner. Prior to the Environment Court position Ms Watson was Environmental Manager for Mighty River Power in Hamilton. Other positions have included Environmental Services Manager with the Electricity Corporation of New



Zealand, Environmental Planner at NIWA, Planning Manager with Works Consultancy Services, and Department of Conservation Regional Mining

Coordinator. Ms Watson holds a BA in Geography and Economics from the University of Guelph in Ontario Canada, and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Regional and Resource Planning from the University of Otago.

Edward Ellison

From Dunedin, Mr Ellison is currently a farmer and a Kaitakawaenga [iwi liaison] advisor to Otago Regional Council. Since 1998, Mr Ellison has had numerous short-term contracts and appointments to government advisory groups. He has extensive experience as a representative for Te Runanga o Otakou and Ngāi Tahu. Mr Ellison was a founding member of the Ngāi Tahu Maori Law Centre and its chairperson from 1992-99. He is the Otakou representative on Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and its former deputy chair. He is a member of the New Zealand Conservation Authority and past member of the Otago Conservation Board.

Dr Nick Brown

From Wanaka, Dr Brown is an economist specialising in resource economics, national and regional impact analyses, regional economics, cost-benefit analysis and development economics. His work has included a focus on agricultural economics, particularly relating to irrigation schemes and similar developments. Since 1982, Dr Brown has been a partner in a firm of consulting economists, undertaking work for private and public sector entities, and multi-lateral lending agencies, in New Zealand and overseas. He has governance experience on an number of boards and committees. Dr Brown has direct experience in water resource development through research on irrigation at Lincoln University, irrigation development projects overseas, flood protection appraisal, as adviser to a number of South Island water management schemes, and as an adviser to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. He has a Masters in Agricultural Science from Lincoln University, including a thesis on the economics of the Levels Plains Irrigation Scheme, and a PhD from Manitoba University.

Claire Mulcock

From Christchurch, Ms Mulcock is a resource management consultant with knowledge of water resources and experience in the agricultural sector. She has operated as a consultant since 2001 and acted as a member of a special tribunal appointed by the Environment Minister to hear the Rangitata River Water Conservation Order. Ms Mulcock was Manager of Rural Futures Group Ltd from 1999-2001, which was an independent company promoting sustainable management of rural land. She has carried out consulting work for many organisations including: the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, NIWA, High Country Federated Farmers, Merino NZ Inc., and Agriculture New Zealand. Ms Mulcock has governance experience as a Director of Landcare Research Ltd (1999-2003) and holds a Masters in Science (Resource Management) from Lincoln University.