

Kaikōura Water Zone Committee

Action Plan July 2021–June 2024



This summary highlights the key actions agreed by the zone committee for the next three years.

For more detail on the zone committee and plan, visit ecan.govt.nz/kaikoura-water-zone.

Our vision:

Clean Water, Healthy Life – Waiora, Hauora, Mauri Ora

Our purpose:

To uphold the mana of the freshwater bodies within Kaikōura by facilitating enduring land and water management solutions that give effect to the Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) vision, principles and targets in our zone.

The CWMS aims 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.

Our role:

- **To get involved** in an active programme of community engagement on freshwater management matters.
- **To facilitate relevant advice** to councils and other organisations contributing to freshwater management.
- **To extend the resources** available to implement the CWMS by: working with stakeholders across all sectors and seeking opportunities to promote, support, leverage and expand catchment-based initiatives that deliver the CWMS.
- **To report back** annually to councils and Rūnanga on progress towards delivery of the zone-specific priorities.

Our Councils' priorities for our zone committee are:

Kaikōura District Council

Ecosystem health

- Progress improvements to stormwater and wastewater infrastructure to reduce ecological damage to lowland streams from sediment and contaminants and fulfil requirements to obtain and comply with stormwater consents for townships by 2025.
- Review the state and operation of the district's wastewater treatment plant infrastructure to address and reduce potential impacts on the district's highly valued rivers.
- Continue regular community education/ behaviour change campaigns on stormwater issues and management.

Protecting biodiversity in our district by:

- Implementing a system to protect SNAs and maintain indigenous vegetation and work with Environment Canterbury to develop a biodiversity monitoring strategy.
- Review vegetation clearance rules as part of District Plan review.
- Continue to identify and map SNA sites throughout the district for inclusion in District Plan review in line with NPSIB criteria and requirements by 2026.
- Advocate for indigenous biodiversity through regular education/ behaviour change campaigns to improve understanding of the importance of protecting and conserving indigenous vegetation.

Source water quality

- Prioritise planning for water supply wells and treatment plant upgrades, in particular Suburban, Fernleigh and East Coast water supplies.
- Running campaigns to recommend regular testing of private bores and consider options for secure water supply.

Water use efficiency

- Improve compliance with national regulations on the measurement and reporting of water takes.
- Manage water demand through meeting requirements under LWRP and continue regular community education/behaviour change campaigns on water use management and conservation.

Environment Canterbury

Kaitiakitanga Wāhi Taonga and mahinga kai targets

Grow support and resources to achieve the goal of five mahinga kai projects.

Ecosystem health and biodiversity targets

- Increased riparian management to protect aquatic ecosystems.
- Reducing the number of fish barriers.
- Protection and enhancement of wetlands.

Recreation and amenity targets

Achieving the 2025 target to restore priority freshwater recreation opportunities in each zone.



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We will continue to support “ki uta ki tai” projects and identify future projects within our takiwā by:

Continuing to support whole catchment management of the Waiau Toa/Clarence by:

- Providing advisory support to maintain or increase predator control of threatened and at-risk bird nesting sites.
- Continuing to support and monitor weed control in the existing four priority areas.
- Continuing to collaborate and build collective knowledge with papatipu rūnanga, stakeholders, landowners, and wider community.

Continuing to support Waikōau/Lyell Creek catchment recovery by:

- Supporting the monitoring of Waikōau tributaries and all forms of pollution in the catchment and advocate accountability.
- Working with our community to improve amenity sites in the Waikōau.
- Supporting an annual event “Lyell Creek clean up” and promote community engagement.
- Using the Waikōau/Lyell Creek as an exemplar for future projects.
- Public advocacy of responsibility around waterways to residents, businesses and farmers in the area.

Identifying new “ki uta ki tai” opportunities by:

- Identifying ‘ki uta ki tai’ projects and opportunities that support existing efforts in this space.

We will support kaitiakitanga within our zone by:

- Continuing to collaborate with local groups to promote kaitiakitanga as a responsibility for all.
- Supporting mana whenua and whānau on mahinga kai projects.
- Supporting the management and water quality monitoring of freshwater mātaimai.
- Advocate for and support actions to address challenges in meeting CWMS targets.

We will facilitate action to enhance biodiversity and improve amenity and recreation outcomes by:

Supporting the protection and enhancement of wetlands across the zone by:

- Focusing advocacy on inanga spawning sites.
- Supporting the monitoring of existing funded wetlands.
- Facilitating landowner, community, and our schools’ understanding of the value of wetlands and wetland regulations.
- Coordinating and supporting “on the ground” actions such as trapping and planting.

Identifying and advocating action for priority areas to improve environmental outcomes, and amenity and recreation opportunities by:

- Working with landowners, rūnanga, whānau, communities, Councils, and others to identify priority improvement areas including priority freshwater recreational opportunities to support.
- Identifying and supporting opportunities along the coastal corridor including South Bay.

We will support our community to respond to changing requirements, and share resources for good management practice by:

- Sharing information and resources for managing riparian margins with landowners to enable effective and integrated management.
- Sharing information and resources with our community to enable good kaitiakitanga of our zone.
- Supporting farmers, landowners, businesses and our community to understand new legislation requirements around freshwater management.

We will facilitate understanding of catchment systems within our zone, build community knowledge and connection to these systems and increase public participation by:

- Building our understanding of our zone to enable us to provide robust advice.
- Building our understanding of Environment Canterbury’s water testing regime and the science behind it, so we can share our zones water story and progress.
- Working with mana whenua and whānau to build our community’s cultural understanding of our catchments.
- Building our community collective understanding of the geological and hydrological contexts of our catchments, and the impacts of climate change on our zone.
- Using our collective knowledge to identify mahinga kai opportunities.
- Investigating educational opportunities that encourage learning and research.
- Celebrating and sharing stories of success with our community.

Want to get involved? Head to ecan.govt.nz/kaikoura-water-zone

“ As Kaitiaki (guardians) we will ensure the water in our zone enhances the abundance and quality of life, we will rejuvenate its mauri, as stated in our zone implementation plan. ”

