ASHBURTON WATER MANAGEMENT ZONE COMMITTEE AGENDA

A **Meeting** of the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee will be held as follows:

DATE:	Tuesday 25 May 2021
TIME:	1:00 pm
VENUE:	Council Chamber 137 Havelock Street Ashburton
MEETING CALLED BY:	Hamish Riach, Chief Executive, Ashburton District Council Stefanie Rixecker, Chief Executive, Environment Canterbury
ATTENDEES:	Mr Chris Allen Mrs Angela Cushnie Ms Genevieve de Spa Mr Cargill Henderson Mr Bill Thomas Mr Michael McMillan (Te Runanga o Arowhenua) Mr Arapata Reuben (Te Ngai Tuahuriri Runanga) Mr Les Wanhalla (Te Taumutu Runanga) Mr Brad Waldon-Gibbons (Tangata Whenua Facilitator) Councillor Stuart Wilson (Ashburton District Council) Councillor Ian Mackenzie (Environment Canterbury) Mayor Neil Brown (Ashburton District Council)

Zone Facilitator
Dave Moore
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dave.moore@ecan.govt.nz
Environment Canterbury

Committee Advisor
Carol McAtamney
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Ashburton District Council

Tangata Whenua Facilitator
Brad Waldon-Gibbons
Tel: 027 313 4786
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Environment Canterbury

Canterbury Water

4 Register of Interests

Representative's Name and Interest	
Chris Allen	Farm owner of sheep, beef, lambs, crop Water resource consents to take water from tributary of Ashburton River and shallow wells National board member Federated Farmers of New Zealand with responsibility for RMA, water and biodiversity Member of Ashburton River Liaison Group
Neil Brown	Mayor Acton Irrigation Limited - Director Irrigo Centre Limited - Director Acton Farmers Irrigation Co-operative Limited - Director Browns Farm Limited – Director and Shareholder
Angela Cushnie	Owner of Country Copy, a communication and promotion business based in Mid Canterbury Operates a very small lifestyle block in Eiffelton Kanuka Mid Canterbury Regeneration Trust - Trustee NZ Landcare Trust 'Managing Westlands as Farm Assets's project' – Farmer Engagement Hinds Reserve Board Committee member Community Catchment Groups
Genevieve de Spa	Owner of Kakariki Camps focusing on 'Head, Hands, Heart' approach to biodiversity education Employee and member of Stavely Campsite Committee Recipient of Immediate Steps Funding Member Mt Somers Walkway Society and Ashburton District Biodiversity Action Group (ADBAG) Active member and organiser of 'Extinction Rebellion Rakaia Environmental Enhancement Trust
Cargill Henderson	Environmental Manager – ANZCO Foods Ltd
Ian MacKenzie	Environment Canterbury Councillor
Arapata Reuben	Trustee – Tuhono Trust Trustee – Mana Waitaha Charitable Trust Member - National Kiwi Recovery Group Rūnanga Rep – Christchurch – West Melton Water Zone Committee
Bill Thomas	Farm owner of Longbeach Estate Ltd (sheep, beef, lambs, arable, dairy) Member of Eiffelton Irrigation Scheme Hekeao/Hinds Water Enhancement Trust – Settler Director of Longbeach Estate & Longbeach Dairies
Les Wanhalla	Returning good health and mauri O Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere Kaitiakitanga, Whakapapa Rugby league, life member, honorary south Kiwi Trustee – Central Plains Water for Selwyn District Council
Stuart Wilson	Ashburton District Councillor A son who is a Director of Mayfield Hinds Irrigation Co and Chair of RDR

5 Confirmation of Minutes

Unconfirmed Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of the **Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee** held on Tuesday 27 April 2021, commencing at 1:00 pm in the Council Chamber, 137 Havelock Street, Ashburton.

Present

Councillor Ian MacKenzie, Councillor Stuart Wilson, Bill Thomas (Chair), Chris Allen, Angela Cushnie, Cargill Henderson, Araparta Reuben, Genevieve de Spa and Les Wanhalla

In attendance

Environment Canterbury: Dave Moore (Facilitator) and Carol McAtamney (minutes)

Andy Guthrie (ADC Assets Manager), Paul Churchill (ADC Surface Water Project Coordinator)

12 members of the public in attendance

1 Welcome

Genevieve de Spa opened the meeting with a Karakia.

2 Apologies

That an apology for absence be received on behalf of Mayor Neil Brown, Cr Ian MacKenzie and Araparta Reuben and for lateness for Chris Allen

Wilson/Brown Carried

3 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

4 Register of Interests

Angela Cushine – add Community Catchment Groups
Les Wanhalla – add Trustee Central Plains Water for Selwyn District Council

5 Confirmation of Minutes

That the minutes of the Ashburton Water Management Zone Committee meeting held on 23 February 2021, be taken as read and confirmed.

Wilson/Cushnie Carried

6.1 Matters Arising

6 Correspondence

Inward:

Nil.

Outward:

Dr Helen Rutter – Support for the 'Load to Come' research programme funding bid

7 Public Contributions

Nil.

8 Regenerative Design and Development

Genevieve de Spa – (1.09pm/1.38pm)

Presented on alternative ways to consider Regenerative Design and Development

9 MHV – Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring Programme Update

Justin Legg/Melanie Brooks (1.42pm – 2.20pm)

Where to from here:

- Soil moisture monitoring
- Irrigation trials NO3
- Rotational trials
- Examination of historical land uses
- Bio filters at key locations
- Westland development
- Fish/invertebrate monitoring
- Habitat and tree mapping
- Real time water quality monitoring
- Mapping open – framework gravels
- Paleo channel mapping

Next 12 months:

- Consistency of data collection
- Incorporating mātauranga māori into our research/outputs
- Water body health research
- Point source identification/remediation
- Collaborations
  - existing testing and historic results incorporated
  - education (share what we are doing)
  - catchment biodiversity vision

10 Essential Fresh Water Working Group

Melanie Brooks/Peter Lowe (2.20pm – 2.47pm)

Gave an update on the activities of the Mid Canterbury Essential Freshwater group.

- Travelled to Wellington to meet with Hon. Damien O'Conner and Hon. David Parker to discuss the proposed freshwater policy and the impact it will have in, its current form, on the Ashburton district
- Met with Ecan CE Stefanie Rixecker and Chair Jenny Hughey

11 Hinds Hekeao Biodiversity

Angela Cushnie (2.47pm – 2.57pm)

Group is made up of: Community Representatives, Kanuka Trust, ECan, ADC Biodiversity group representative and the Ashburton Zone Committee

12 Community Catchment Groups

Angela Cushnie and Duncan Barr (2.57pm – 3.35pm)

- Case for community-led catchment groups in the Ashburton district
- Bringing ideas and actions together to improve our environmental footprint and support wellbeing.
- Community-led change is a powerful tool and cohesion at a regional level builds people's capability and leadership

- Public meeting scheduled for 10 May, Eiffelton
- Zone committee gave their unanimous support to this concept

13 Facilitators Update

Dave Moore (3.35pm – 3.50pm)

Action Plan 2021-2023 – How Zone Committee delivers on their commitments was tabled and worked through.

- The June meeting is to be a field trip to Hinds

14 Other Business

- Ministers have released messages/guidelines on winter grazing expectations
- It has been advised that the Immediate steps funding budget is to be halved
- Possibility of a Marae visit in September 2021
- Final regional meeting of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Regional Committee is to be held on 11 May. Angela will be an apology, Les will be in attendance.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Ashburton Water Zone Committee will be held in the Ashburton District Council Chamber at 1:00pm on Tuesday 25 May 2021.

The meeting closed at 3.57pm with a Karakia by Genevieve de Spa

Dated this 25th day of May 2021 _____ (Chair)

Ashburton Zone Committee Report

Date	25 May 2021
Report to	Ashburton Water Zone Committee
From	Donna Lill and Donna Field
Subject	Immediate Steps Fund – New Projects for decision

8 Immediate Steps Fund

Purpose
To present Immediate Steps projects for consideration.

Recommendation
That the Zone Committee supports funding two projects - The Terrace – Rangitata River Terrace Riparian Planting and Silverstream (Anama) Planting – Stage 2.

Background
To date $78,536 has been allocated to seven projects from the 2020-21 Ashburton Zone Immediate Steps Funding leaving $21,464 to be allocated prior to 30 June 2021. The two projects for consideration request a total of $19,000.

Projects for Consideration
The project for consideration is listed in the table below:

Project name	**Ecological score (out of 39)***	**Funds recommended**
The Terrace – Rangitata River terrace riparian planting	18*	$9,000
Silverstream (Anama) planting – Stage 2	13*	$10,000
Total		**$19,000.00**

*Ecological score being peer reviewed at time of writing.

Details of these projects are on the following pages.

The Terrace - Rangitata River terrace riparian planting

Project Images

Planting area 1 to true left of stream.

Native vegetation growing through areas of willow.

Project Summary

This project will establish native plantings to enhance riparian areas of a spring fed stream & wetland, tributaries of the Rangitata River. The site is currently a mix of grass and willows, but has native plants scattered throughout the willows including Carex secta, Cabbage tree, toe toe, Lemonwood and Harakeke. The property adjoins the Rangitata River and includes areas along the terraces that have a variety of native species amongst established trees, providing a seed source for the area. The site is opposite Peel Forest (1.5km as the Kererū flys, with treed stepping stones along the way). There are no specific fish records for the property, however the stream is permanently flowing and there is no known fish barrier between the river and stream.

Project Details

Project CWMS Zone	Ashburton
Project Location	551 Rangitata Terrace Road
Nature of Project	Protection/Enhancement
Habitat Type	Lowland Streams/Wetlands
Project Aim (objectives and overall vision)	Protection of existing native biodiversity values on the property. Creation of a native corridor along the springfed stream to the Rangitata River.
Project Outcomes (what the project will achieve)	Native vegetation dominance across the planted area by 2025.
Actions proposed to achieve outcomes	Establish 2000 eco-sourced native plants.

Funding Requested

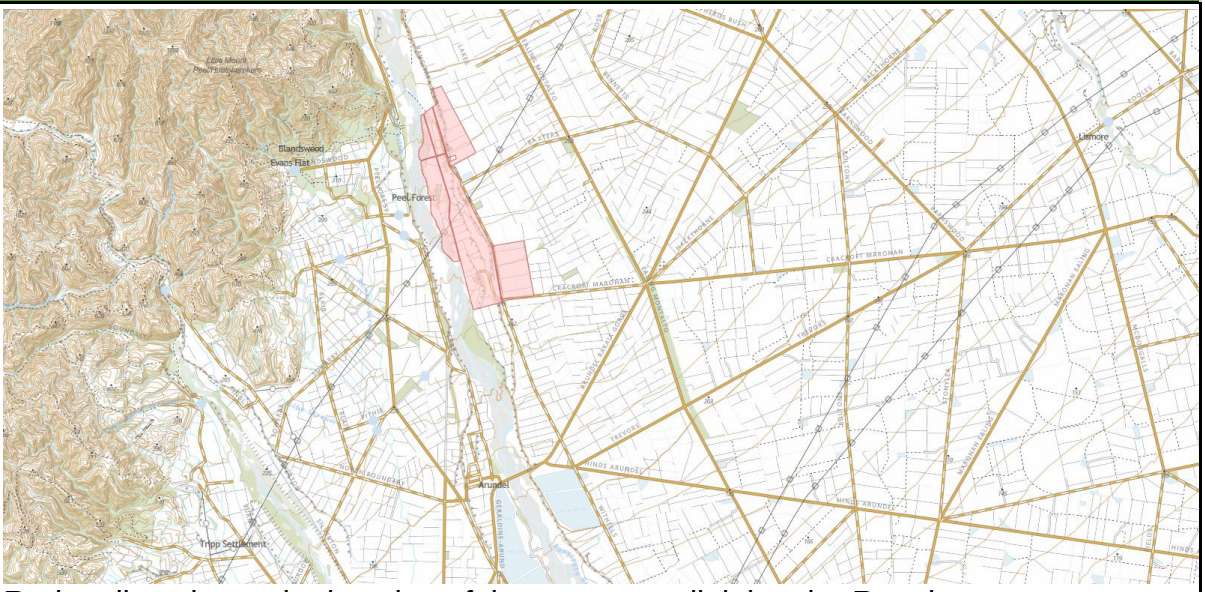
From ECAN	From Other Sources	Estimated Total (Applicant)
$9,000	$10,750	$19,750

Funding Detail

Task / Resource	Type	Paid for by	Units	Unit Type	Cost Per Unit *	Total Costs *
Labour	Site Preparation	Landowner	20	Hour	$25.00	$500
Plants	Eco-sourced Native plants	Immediate Steps	2000	Each	$3.75	$7,500
Plant protection	Guards	Immediate Steps	1000	Each	$1.50	$1,500
Labour	Planting	Landowner	170	Hour	$25.00	$4,250
Labour	Maintenance	Landowner	240	Hour	$25.00	$6,000
					Council Contribution	**$9,000**
					All Other Contributions	**$10,750**
					Total Project Funding	**$19,750**

* All costs exclude GST

Project Map



Red outline shows the location of the property adjoining the Rangitata.

Ecological Assessment	
Fundamental Project Criteria	
1. Reflects the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy's Guiding Principles	
Y	Focuses on protecting and maintaining what remains
Y	Focuses on restoring what has been lost
2. Contributes to the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy's Goals (1-6)	
Y	Protects or maintains the health of significant habitats and ecosystems
Y	Restores the natural character of degraded indigenous habitats and ecosystems
Y	Increases the integration and sustainable use of indigenous species in modified environments (e.g. farm, urban, lifestyle blocks).
	Enhances the public's awareness, understanding and support of biodiversity
Y	Encourages, celebrates and supports action by landowners and communities to protect, maintain and restore biodiversity
	Improves the range and quality of knowledge and information about Canterbury's biodiversity for its sustainable management
3. Project Viability	
Y	Project is feasible, cost-effective and an efficient use of funds.
Y	Project will realistically achieve outcomes/gains it is aiming to.
Y	Project is sustainable (e.g. any ongoing or future management requirements are identified and affordable).
Y	No other potential costs (e.g. consent costs) that may make the project less viable and/or affordable
4. Landowner Support	
Y	Project has landowner support
5. Eco-sourced Plants	
Y	Eco-sourced plants being used
	Not applicable
6. Is some or all of the work required under the Regional Pest Management Strategy?	
	RPMS
7. Is some or all of the work required under a District/Regional Council Plan?	
	District/Regional Council Plan
8. Proportion of cost	
0	Protection
100	Restoration
0	Creation
0	Monitoring

Existing Ecological Values		
Criteria	**Score (0 - 3)**	**Comments**
Representativeness	2	The stream maintains a natural flow path and is permanently flowing throughout its length. The planting sites are currently dominated by exotic grasses and willows though scattered native vegetation is present in both areas - Carex secta, cabbage trees, toe toe, harakeke, Pittosporum eugeniodes, coprosma species were observed. The landowners have not long brought the property so have not observed fish in the stream, but there are no apparent barriers to the Rangitata - a NZFFD record upstream shows trout, Alpine galaxis, torrent fish and Upland Bully.
Rarity or Distinctiveness	0	Nothing rare or distinctive was observed or known to be present.
Diversity and Pattern	2	Overall site provides a protected corridor from dryland terrace, down to wetland, stream and braided river. Several different native plant species are present at one site, in an area where very little remains.
Ecological Context	2	The stream and terrestrial corridor along it connects from the Rangitata River through to the terrace above the springhead. Native species are scattered along this terrace and are likely the source of seeds for the existing natives within the planting area. The site is also directly across the river from Peel Forest. Instream there is no apparent barriers between the Rangitata River and the stream so there is likely access from here, via the Rangitata to the sea.
Project Protects a Threatened Environment	2	Protects existing scattered native species and restores native vegetation in an area of <10% remaining.
Project Protects a Wetland or Coastal Dunes	1	Restores native vegetation to an area of wetland.
Project Protects Rare or Threatened Species	0	None found yet!
Sub-total	9	

Existing Ecological Values		
Criteria	**Score (0 - 3)**	**Comments**
Representativeness	2	The stream maintains a natural flow path and is permanently flowing throughout its length. The planting sites are currently dominated by exotic grasses and willows though scattered native vegetation is present in both areas - Carex secta, cabbage trees, toe toe, harakeke, Pittosporum eugeniodes, coprosma species were observed. The landowners have not long brought the property so have not observed fish in the stream, but there are no apparent barriers to the Rangitata - a NZFFD record upstream shows trout, Alpine galaxis, torrent fish and Upland Bully.
Rarity or Distinctiveness	0	Nothing rare or distinctive was observed or known to be present.
Diversity and Pattern	2	Overall site provides a protected corridor from dryland terrace, down to wetland, stream and braided river. Several different native plant species are present at one site, in an area where very little remains.
Ecological Context	2	The stream and terrestrial corridor along it connects from the Rangitata River through to the terrace above the springhead. Native species are scattered along this terrace and are likely the source of seeds for the existing natives within the planting area. The site is also directly across the river from Peel Forest. Instream there is no apparent barriers between the Rangitata River and the stream so there is likely access from here, via the Rangitata to the sea.
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Project Protects a Wetland or Coastal Dunes	1	Restores native vegetation to an area of wetland.
Project Protects Rare or Threatened Species	0	None found yet!
Sub-total	9	

Potential Ecological Values (in 10-15 years time – based on likely change)		
Criteria	**Score (0-5)**	**Comments**
Project Design is Effective/Addresses Key Threats	3	The main threat the stream and wetland area is stock access - this has been removed with fencing. The main threat once stock access is removed is weeds - planting the currently grass dominated areas will help to stop them being overgrown with weeds. The landowner is aware that there will be long term requirement to monitor and manage for woody weeds in the planted areas.
Project Potential/Positive Impact Ecologically	3	Protection of existing native scattered native vegetation and expanding native area.
Value for Money or Cost-benefit	3	This is a planting project with an enthusiastic landowner who has the time to complete the planting and maintenance.
Sub-total	9	

Other Criteria (non ecological or cultural)		
Criteria	**Score (0-3)**	**Comments**
Legally Protected	0	Private land.
Educational or Partnership Value	1	Landowner and staff will learn from these plantings with the intention of expanding them.

Immediate Steps Criteria	
Criteria	**Score (L, M, H)**
2.2.2 - Integrating biodiversity into the working landscape	H
2.2.4 - Protecting wetlands	H
2.2.6 - Increasing community understanding of biodiversity values	H
2.2.7 - Developing a biodiversity corridor from the mountains to the sea	M
2.2.10 - Protecting remaining biodiversity	H
2.2.32 - Braided Rivers - protecting wetlands & native vegetation	H

Overall Assessment Scores		
Criteria	**Score**	**Comments**
Ecological Assessment Score (Existing and Potential) /39	18	
Cultural	Unknown	
Other Criteria Overall Rating	Medium	
Immediate Steps Rating	High	

Silverstream (Anama) Planting - Stage 2

Project Images

Part of area to be planted along the Silverstream at the McDonalds property.

Project Summary

This project will continue to plant along both banks of the Silverstream near its confluence with the Hinds River adding to a corridor of native plantings being established in the catchment. 2,000 plants will be established along riparian margins of approx. 10m on the true right, and 20m on true left for 160m along the stream. Eels and trout have both been observed in the stream. The largely unmodified nature of the stream provides for a diversity of instream habitats (pools, run, riffle sequences).

Project Details

Project CWMS Zone	Ashburton
Project Location	135 Anama Settlement Road, Mayfield
Nature of Project	Protect/Enhance
Habitat Type	Hill country catchments
Project Aim (objectives and overall vision)	Creation of a native riparian corridor along the Silverstream from it confluence with the Hinds River to the top of the property.
Project Outcomes (what the project will achieve)	Native vegetation dominance across the planted area by 2024. Increased shade and instream habitat provision by 2024
Actions proposed to achieve outcomes	Establishment of 2000 eco-sourced native plants.

Funding Requested		
From ECAN	**From Other Sources**	**Estimated Total (Applicant)**
$10,000	$10,750.00	$20,750.00

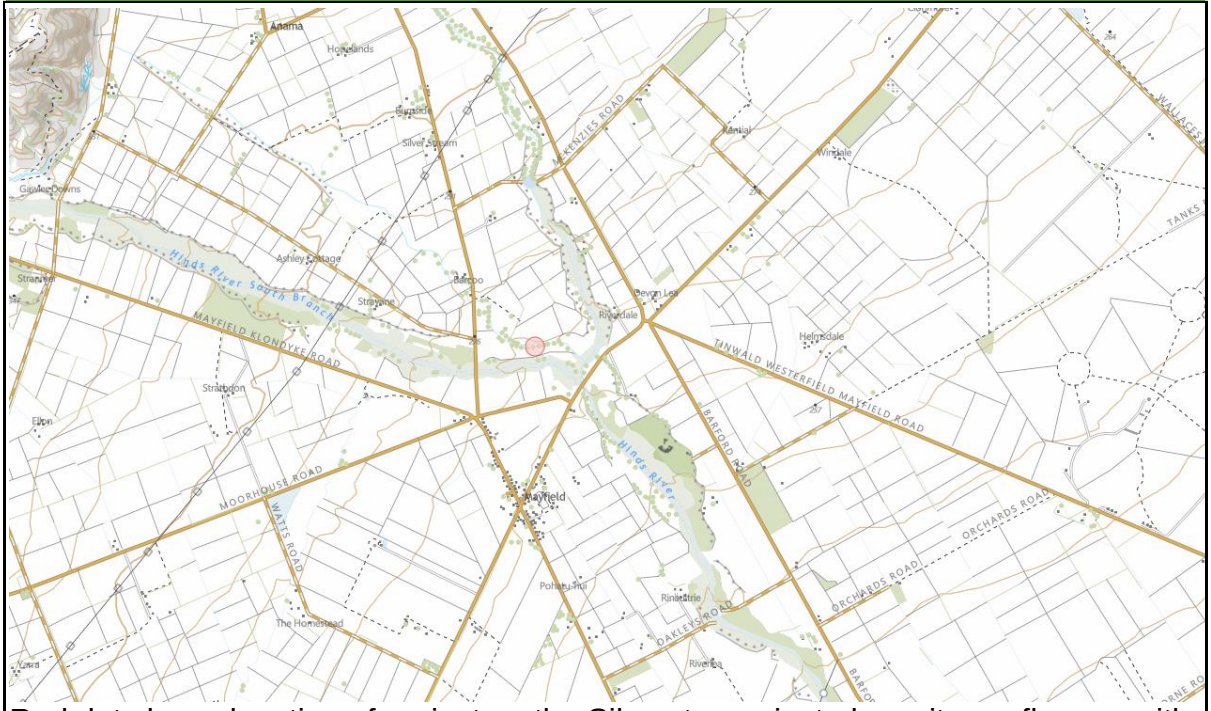
Funding Detail

Task / Resource	Type	Paid for by	Units	Unit Type	Cost Per Unit *	Total Costs *
Labour	Site Preparation	Landowner	20	Hour	$25.00	$500
Plants	Eco-sourced Native plants	Immediate Steps	2000	Each	$3.50	$7,000
Plant protection	Biodegradable Plant Guards	Immediate Steps	1000	Each	$3.00	$3,000
Labour	Planting	Landowner	170	Hour	$25.00	$4,250
Labour	Maintenance	Landowner	240	Hour	$25.00	$6,000

* All costs exclude GST

Council Contribution	**$10,000**
All Other Contributions	**$10,750**
Total Project Funding	**$20,750**

Project Map



Red dot shows location of project on the Silverstream just above its confluence with the Hinds River.

Ecological Assessment

Fundamental Project Criteria

1. Reflects the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy's Guiding Principles

Y	Focuses on protecting and maintaining what remains
Y	Focuses on restoring what has been lost
2. Contributes to the Canterbury Biodiversity Strategy's Goals (1-6)	
Y	Protects or maintains the health of significant habitats and ecosystems
Y	Restores the natural character of degraded indigenous habitats and ecosystems
Y	Increases the integration and sustainable use of indigenous species in modified environments (e.g. farm, urban, lifestyle blocks).
	Enhances the public's awareness, understanding and support of biodiversity
Y	Encourages, celebrates and supports action by landowners and communities to protect, maintain and restore biodiversity
	Improves the range and quality of knowledge and information about Canterbury's biodiversity for its sustainable management
3. Project Viability	
Y	Project is feasible, cost-effective and an efficient use of funds.
Y	Project will realistically achieve outcomes/gains it is aiming to.
Y	Project is sustainable (e.g. any ongoing or future management requirements are identified and affordable).
Y	No other potential costs (e.g. consent costs) that may make the project less viable and/or affordable
4. Landowner Support	
Y	Project has landowner support
5. Eco-sourced Plants	
Y	Eco-sourced plants being used
	Not applicable
6. Is some or all of the work required under the Regional Pest Management Strategy?	
	RPMS
7. Is some or all of the work required under a District/Regional Council Plan?	
	District/Regional Council Plan
8. Proportion of cost	
0	Protection
100	Restoration
0	Creation
0	Monitoring

Existing Ecological Values		
Criteria	**Score (0 - 3)**	**Comments**
Representativeness	1	Silverstream retains a natural flow path. Aside from the previous plantings at this site the riparian vegetation is modified, currently dominated by exotic grasses and large willow trees. The landowner has observed eels and trout in the stream. NZFFD shows Canterbury galaxias, Upland Bully and Canterbury mudfish at sites in the Hinds River adjoining this property. EPT taxa were observed in the stream - majority of species present were caddis and snails.
Rarity or Distinctiveness	0	Nothing rare or distinctive was observed or known to be present.
Diversity and Pattern	1	Due to the modified nature of the site the terrestrial diversity is low. The largely unmodified nature of the stream provides for a diversity of instream habitats (pools, run, riffle sequences).
Ecological Context	1	This project flows directly into the Hinds River. There are other riparian enhancement projects in Silverstream and the upper Hinds tributaries, but none yet directly connected to this area.
Project Protects a Threatened Environment	1	Restores native vegetation within area of <10% remaining.
Sub-total	4	

Potential Ecological Values (in 10-15 years time – based on likely change)		
Criteria	**Score (0 - 5)**	**Comments**
Project Design is Effective/Addresses Key Threats	3	Design is for planting of riparian margin with an effective fencing setback (10-20m) to exclude stock. This will re-establish vegetation and help filter stream inputs, providing useful habitat and improving stream health.
Project Potential/Positive Impact Ecologically	3	Planting will provide cover and shade to the stream as well as adding to the native riparian corridor along the stream.
Value for Money or Cost-benefit	3	This is a planting project where the landowner has a proven record.
Sub-total	9	

Existing Ecological Values		
Criteria	**Score (0 - 3)**	**Comments**
Representativeness	1	Silverstream retains a natural flow path. Aside from the previous plantings at this site the riparian vegetation is modified, currently dominated by exotic grasses and large willow trees. The landowner has observed eels and trout in the stream. NZFFD shows Canterbury galaxias, Upland Bully and Canterbury mudfish at sites in the Hinds River adjoining this property. EPT taxa were observed in the stream - majority of species present were caddis and snails.
Rarity or Distinctiveness	0	Nothing rare or distinctive was observed or known to be present.
Diversity and Pattern	1	Due to the modified nature of the site the terrestrial diversity is low. The largely unmodified nature of the stream provides for a diversity of instream habitats (pools, run, riffle sequences).
Ecological Context	1	This project flows directly into the Hinds River. There are other riparian enhancement projects in Silverstream and the upper Hinds tributaries, but none yet directly connected to this area.
Project Protects a Threatened Environment	1	Restores native vegetation within area of <10% remaining.
Sub-total	4	

Potential Ecological Values (in 10-15 years time – based on likely change)		
Criteria	**Score (0 - 5)**	**Comments**
Project Design is Effective/Addresses Key Threats	3	Design is for planting of riparian margin with an effective fencing setback (10-20m) to exclude stock. This will re-establish vegetation and help filter stream inputs, providing useful habitat and improving stream health.
Project Potential/Positive Impact Ecologically	3	Planting will provide cover and shade to the stream as well as adding to the native riparian corridor along the stream.
Value for Money or Cost-benefit	3	This is a planting project where the landowner has a proven record.
Sub-total	9	

Other Criteria (non ecological or cultural)		
Criteria	**Score (0 - 3)**	**Comments**
Legally Protected	0	Private land. Covenant not available.
Educational or Partnership Value	2	Mark McDonald has a proven record of riparian and wetland planting projects. He has been involved in research and community education projects in the past and continues to be willing to share his knowledge.

Immediate Steps Criteria	
Criteria	**Score (L, M, H)**
ZIP 2.2.1 - This project falls into priority area 1 - foothills streams.	H
ZIP 2.2.2 - This project integrates biodiversity into a working farm landscape.	H

Overall Assessment Scores		
Criteria	**Score**	**Comments**
Ecological Assessment Score (Existing and Potential) /39	13	This project falls within the Zone Immediate Steps Foothills Stream priority area. It adds to a corridor of plantings that Mark McDonald has already started on this stream.
Cultural	Unknown	
Other Criteria Overall Rating	Medium	
Immediate Steps Rating	High	

Ashburton Zone Committee Report

Date	20 May 2021
Report to	Ashburton Water Zone Committee
From	Dave Moore
Subject	Committee Updates

10 Committee Updates

Purpose
To update the Committee on actions from the previous meeting, relevant information and upcoming engagement opportunities.

Recommendation
That the Zone Committee receives the update.

1. Zone Committee Refresh Process
Applications have now closed for Community Representatives on the Ashburton Zone Committee. We have been fortunate to receive 11 applications.
A selection workshop is planned for the evening of 2nd June.

2. Ashburton Consents Review update
The Ashburton consent review to date has decided 57 consent reviews with 53 being granted (i.e. the minimum flow condition has been added onto the consent), one surrendered and three declined (discussed below).

There are 14 consent holders (30 consents) who have consents that have not yet been decided. Of those 14 consent holders, we are aware three are looking to source water from Barrhill Chertsey Irrigation Ltd (BCIL) and five are looking to 'swap' shallow groundwater/surface water for deep groundwater. We are waiting for BCIL to finalise the water sharing agreements with consent holders, and also for others to drill and develop their new deep bores and apply for the required new water permit. That leaves six consent holders with outstanding consent reviews, who we are actively working with.

Table 1 below provides a summary of the consent reviews. Further explanation of the process going forward is outlined below.

Notified consent review
The only publicly notified consent review currently is still awaiting a decision. The hearing was held on the 9th April but is yet to be closed as the consent holder finalises their right of reply. We are actively working with the consent holder to progress their review and will provide an update to the Zone Committee once a decision has been released.
Communication with consent holders and timeframe extensions
The project team continues to work closely with the remaining consent holders. As previously mentioned, we have advised consent holders no timeframe extensions will be granted past 30

November 2021. This is to ensure that there is plenty of time to hold any hearings and resolve appeals before the minimum flows apply from 1 July 2023. It also provides an additional winter for consent holders to undertake pump tests. Consent holders can apply for timeframe extensions up to this date although the criteria set out in Section 37 of the Resource Management Act 1991 still apply.

As highlighted in previous updates, the project team are aware that the consent reviews, in combination with other factors including COVID-19 and Microplasma bovis, may be affecting some consent holders' wellbeing. We continue to monitor this situation and have processes in place to identify and obtain assistance for these consent holders.

The next steps involve continuing to provide technical and procedural advice to consent holders while the consents are on hold (30 August 2021 is the furthest date currently).

Table 1: Summary of the consent reviews

Granted	53	These consent reviews have been granted.
On hold S37	30	Timeframes have been extended at request of consent holder while they further assess the impact of the proposed new minimum flows on the consented activity and to decide whether they will propose changes to the new conditions. No timeframes have been extended past 30 August 2021.
Declined	3	One was an ADC consent and the rate of take that would be subject to the minimum flow was within the margin of error for the water metering equipment which would mean that it would be impossible to measure compliance with the minimum flow. For the other two consents, it was demonstrated that the stream depletion effect was less than 5 litres per second and the taking of water does not need to be subject to a minimum flow.
Surrendered	1	The consent holder surrendered the water permit, so the review was no longer required.
Public notification	1	One consent was publicly notified because the consent holder proposed an alternative new minimum flow and the adverse effects of the alternative minimum flow may be more than minor. A hearing was held in April 2021.
Total	**88**	

Ashburton Zone Committee Meeting

Tuesday 25 May 2021

Timetable	
Time	**Item**
1:00 pm	Meeting Commences

Order of Business

1 Welcome, Karakia

2 Apologies

3 Extraordinary Business

4 Register of Interest 1

5 Confirmation of Minutes 2

6 Correspondence
- Outward
  - Nil
- Inward
  - Nil

7 Public Contribution

8 Immediate Steps Proposals 5

9 Eiffelton Biodiversity Collective Update (Angela Cushnie) ..... Verbal

10 Committee Updates 19

11 Zone Committee Planning Workshop.....Papers circulated separately

12 Other Business

13 Close Meeting and Karakia