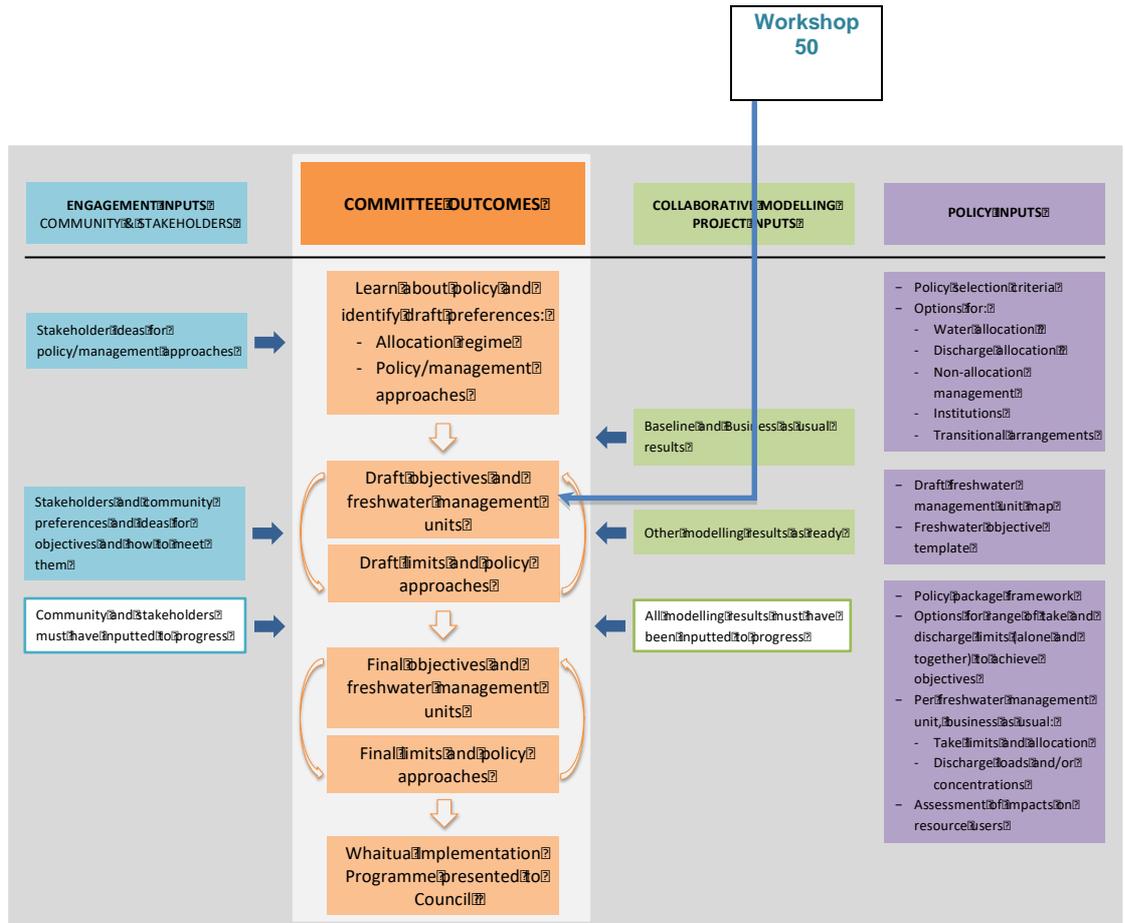


# Meeting Notes: Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee

## Deliberations Phase 3 – Workshop 50

Monday 9 October 2017, 1-5PM

South Wairarapa Working Men’s Club, Greytown



**Summary** This report summarises notes from a workshop of the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee held from 1-5PM on 9 October 2017 at the South Wairarapa Working Men’s Club in Greytown.

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**Contents** These notes contain the following:

- A** Workshop Attendees
- B** Workshop Purpose and Agenda
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- F** Workshop Notes – Whaitua process and timelines
- G** Workshop Notes – Developing freshwater objectives
- H** Workshop Notes – Engaging with community and stakeholders on water allocation

**Appendix 1:** Photos of Flipcharts

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## **A Workshop Attendees**

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**Workshop Attendees**

*RW Committee:*

Aidan Bichan, Mike Birch, Esther Dijkstra, Andy Duncan, David Holmes, Peter Gawith, Russell Kawana, Ra Smith, Rebecca Fox, Chris Laidlaw, Colin Olds, Phil Palmer, Mike Ashby.

*Greater Wellington Project Team:*

Mike Grace, Alastair Smaill, Natasha Tomic, Kat Banyard, Jon Gabites, Pauline Hill.

*Modellers:* John Bright.

*Independent Facilitator:* Michelle Rush.

*Apologies:* Vanessa Tipoki, Horipo Rimene.

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## **B Workshop Purpose and Agenda**

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**Purposes**

The purposes were:

1. Confirming the way forward for Category A groundwater and the phasing in of minimum flows for the Upper Ruamahanga and Waipoua.

2. To seek feedback on the proposed approach to community engagement on water allocation.
3. Understand the next stages of the process - use of CMP results in the development of freshwater objectives and the process for preparing the WIP.
4. Build on our understanding of freshwater objectives, and what is needed for an effective freshwater objective.

All 4 purposes were achieved.

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**Agenda**

The agenda is detailed in the table below.

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<b>Time</b>	<b>Task</b>
1:00-1:30PM	Lunch
1:30 – 1:40PM	Welcome (Peter Gawith) and Karakia (Ra Smith), Purposes (Michelle Rush)
1:40 - 2:00PM	Touch base on water allocation
2:00 - 2:40PM	Whaitua process and timelines (Al Smaill)
2:40 - 3:30PM	Developing freshwater objectives (Al Smaill)
3:30 – 3:45PM	Afternoon tea
3:45-4:30PM	Engaging with the community and stakeholders about the draft water allocation package (Jon Gabites)
4:30 PM – 5:00PM	General business

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## **C Committee Decisions**

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**Committee Decisions**

No decisions were made.

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## **D Workshop Actions**

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**Workshop Actions**

**Reading ahead of next workshop**

Committee to read policy context report and the NPS-FM again prior to the next workshop.

### **Committee workshops**

Project team to organise additional workshops prior to Christmas to get through development of freshwater objectives.

### **Engagement around water allocation proposals**

Start drafting letter to those with water takes that would potentially be impacted by the Committee's draft proposals. The letter will invite them to a face to face meeting for discussion and feedback.

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## **E Workshop Notes – Water allocation**

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### **Water allocation**

A short discussion was held in relation to previous discussions around water allocation and in response to the documents provided at the last workshop.

Some key things discussed were around:

- The economic information we currently have available about the impacts on Category A groundwater and what additional information will be available as a result of the modelling.
- The current situation in regards to Category A groundwater restrictions at minimum flow and the PNRP.
- Agreed to resend map of Category A groundwater around the Committee.

Further work on the water allocation package will be completed following the modelling results and community engagement.

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## **F Workshop Notes – Whaitua process and timelines**

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### **Timeline for WIP**

Discussed timeline. Agreed substantive decisions will be made by Christmas. Then we'll look at the package overall to make sure it all fits together.

Timeline following that will be:

- Feb/March – Engagement on the whole package
- April – WIP finalised
- May – WIP to Council

Discussed timing with PNRP decisions from the commissioners.

Engagement on the whole package:

- RWC will need to decide what to present
- RWC are prepared to change decisions based on discussions

- Need to explain the story around the numbers
  - Can we start outlining the WIP now? – are starting to be able to tell a story
  - We already have the foreword written by the Committee
  - Use the knowledge of each Committee member
  - Project team are mocking up a structure for the WIP for Committee feedback
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**Upcoming process**

Al gave a presentation to the Combined Council meeting on 29 September which was well received by councillors and mayors. This will be circulated to all Committee members.

Process from here:

- The modelling results are coming in bits
  - We will start by looking at *E. coli*, then ecosystem health, social impact assessment, economic, mana whenua etc.
  - The Committee will utilise the modelling results to help set freshwater objectives. How much change can be achieved at what cost?
  - The project team is working to turn the modelling results into information that is useful for the Committee to make their decisions e.g. some maps.
  - Committee ongoing concern about areas where we don't have lots of information – the Committee can recommend further monitoring.
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## **G Workshop Notes – Developing freshwater objectives**

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**Introduction**

Al Smail presented a reminder to the Committee about what an objective is and how we might develop one. This will be the focus of the upcoming workshops.

[Freshwater objectives presentation](#)

A report was also provided in advance of the workshop with information about how to write a good objective.

[Writing a good objective](#)

The Committee was provided with a policy context report and advised to read this and the NPS-FM again prior to the next workshop.

[Policy context of the Ruamāhanga Whaitua decisions](#)

The Committee discussed what makes a good objective (and the need to take into account the values, knowledge and statutory

context when setting objectives):

- Full sentence
- What, where, when?
- Clear, specific details
- Written so it can be measured
- Know who it's talking to and what it's trying to answer
- Gives voice to what you want the future to look like

Some other general points were made:

- Statutory context – must take account of national bottom lines and requirement to maintain or improve.
- The Committee decides the amount of improvement they want and the timeframe in which this improvement will occur (except E. coli 2040 national requirements).
- 'How' that objective will be achieved is important and that will be the next step in the Committee's work. There are multiple way in which objectives can be achieved.
- Objectives will be developed FMU by FMU. Some will apply everything, some only in certain FMUs.

The Committee then workshopped developing an example freshwater objective cascade as shown in the presentation. They then had a session practising writing their own freshwater objectives e.g. around swimming, around flow regimes, natural character etc.

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## H Workshop Notes – Engaging with community and stakeholders on water allocation

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### Engagement – discharges survey

Jon Gabites gave a presentation feeding back on the discharge survey results and starting planning for discussions on water allocation.

[Presentation - feedback on discharges survey and planning for water allocation engagement](#)

Committee gave the same weight to all who responded to the discharges survey. Happy that stakeholders shared the survey among their members but concerned that people felt they could influence the results through the number of respondents. The Committee accepted the report outlining the results and for it to be made publically available on the website.

The results of the survey can be found:

[Discharges survey results](#)

When determining their policy package for managing discharges the Committee will also bring in other community views gathered through Council meetings, stakeholder workshops, hui with kaitiaki, written responses received etc. It is important to show a line of sight between what people are saying and the Committee decisions. The Committee requested a session to consider policy package in light of the comments.

Improvements for future surveys:

- Ask for basic demographic information so we can understand whether a range of people are responding – location, affiliation, age.
- Correlate promotional activities with responses to see what was successful e.g. handing out cards at the Beef and Lamb field day.
- Word the questions in a way to ensure results aren't skewed by pressure groups and are representative of the community's views.
- Use popular publications like 'On the land' to promote surveys. This is an additional way to get feedback.
- Push to get responses from urban people as well. Committee could go and target those people specifically e.g. commuters on the train.
- RWC test survey with a small number of the community to make improvements before making it widely available.

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**Engagement –  
water allocation**

The Committee discussed the proposed approach to engaging with the community around the proposed water allocation changes.

The Committee agreed a letter to those potentially impacted by their water allocation proposals as they are at the moment is the first step (specifically around Category A groundwater and surface water takes in the Upper Ruamāhanga and the Waipoua). The letter will invite people to a face to face meeting for discussion. Advise stakeholders at the same time. Need to also be clear to those with water takes in other parts of the catchment why they are not receiving letters.

Noted it is also important to get the views of more than just water users on the potential proposals.

Use farm discussion groups to encourage engagement.

Whaitua Committee to front meetings with support from the project team.

Timing for this to be confirmed in the next few weeks.

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**Any other  
business**

Agreed to additional Committee workshops before Christmas.  
Dates to be confirmed.

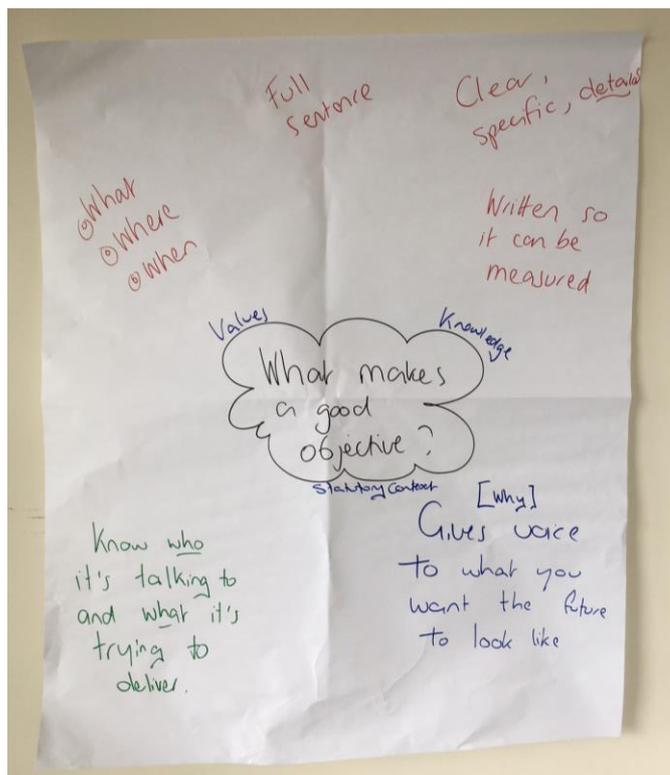
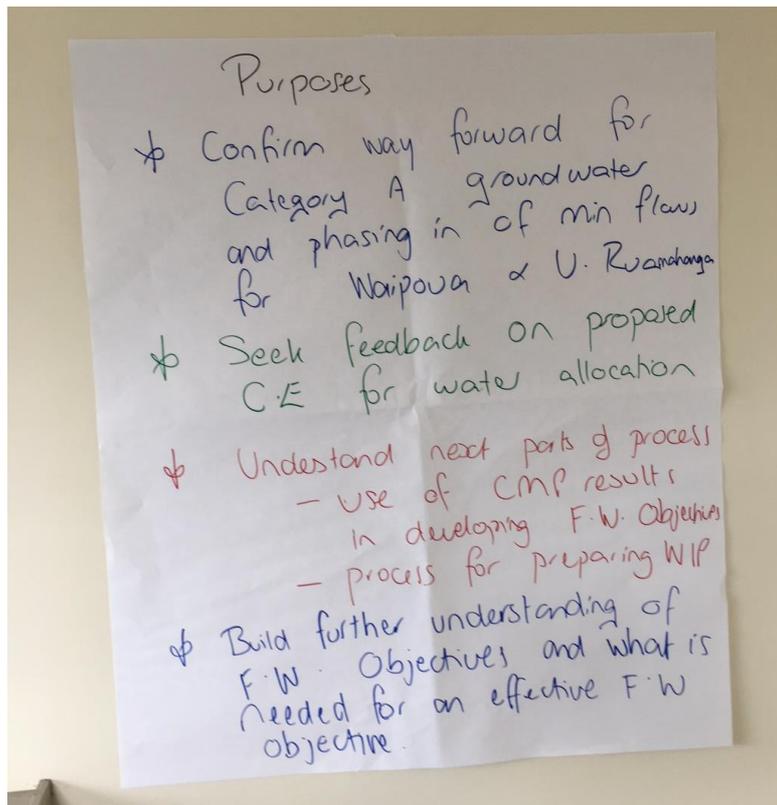
Colin reported back on a water races user group meeting he  
attended.

There is a Fish and Game NZ Committee meeting tomorrow night.  
Esther will be attending.

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## Appendix 1: Photos of flip charts

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\*\* Use media - last supplement

→ push w urban Bll

→ Don't put out a draft survey  
test w RWC  
- Check if q's are useful - provide the info they need.

→ Letter - invite

- why  
- RWC meeting soon

→ Out to others as well. who are directly affected.

→ rep groups at the same time.

→ letters to others who rep the alternative view

→ What's front w backing of RWC

\*\* use from discussion groups

### What next?

→ Need to show "line of sight" from what community has said back into what the committee has decided.

→ RWC → session to work through <sup>feedback</sup> - check this against discharge package

→ manawhau P

→ stakeholder workshop / F&C workshop  
- any written info

→ Formal consideration eg. letters against discharge policy package

→ Allocation Package

Better - location -  
understand - affiliation -  
who - demographic - age/  
submitted are.

ENDS