



REGIONAL FORUM

People Water and Land – *Te Mana o te Tangata, te Wai, te Whenua*

RECORD OF WORKSHOP

Tuesday 11 November 2021

Phase 3 Workshop 16, held at Salvation Army, Winton

Attendees

Fiona Smith (Chair)

Phil Morrison (Deputy Chair)

David Diprose

Lisa Pearson

Estelle Pera-Leask

Darren Rewi

Cain Duncan

Paul Marshall

Vaughan Templeton

Michelle Roberts

Sean Bragg

Apologies

Ewen Pirie

Rose Hanley-Nicols

Kelsi Hayes

Bernadette Hunt

Focus of the workshop

The aim of this one-day workshop was to give the Forum some extra time to discuss ideas and options - focusing on progressing their thinking on

- the structure of the report and the preferred methods
- specific advice (regulatory and non-regulatory) to Council and TAMI

Secondary to this, this workshop was also to highlight if there were any gaps in the Forum's knowledge that needed to be addressed ahead of them moving into the final part of their work.

Start and welcome

The workshop was opened with a karakia followed by Chair, Fiona Smith, inviting the group to reflect and raise any matters since the last workshop in October. This helped them to reconnect and clear their minds ahead of the workshop discussions.

Agreeing on preferred methods

A synthesis of the Forum's thoughts to date was prepared and shared ahead of the workshop as a basis for further discussion and agreement. This summary was based on the breakout group work/canvases and following discussion from the October workshop. This was used to help illustrate back to the Forum the type of thinking they had been doing during their recent sessions and highlighted the direction they seemed to be heading. Discussion about strategic direction and key components of actions followed. The discussion helped the Forum identify their preferred drivers for change.

More general discussion followed and allowed Forum members the freedom to articulate what they felt was important to be captured within the report. It was strongly agreed that clear understanding of why change was required and how it could be achieved (within/throughout the entire region) would be vital to encourage sufficient change to achieve the freshwater goals. Further discussion explored how the report might be structured to help achieve this.

The financial cost of doing nothing, or too little, versus the costs of fully embracing the preferred methods was debated. Scale and perspective were highlighted, as was the idea that this is a water security response as much as it is a water quality one. The Forum also discussed the implications of delaying action, which would result in greater financial cost in the future and more degradation in the meantime.

Some of the other topics included being holistic where possible; wetland restoration; what makes for useful advice; risk assessment and possible tools; and regulation.

Regulation was explored in more depth and the Forum looked at the implications (both positive and negative). They discussed that any regulation should be able to be adaptive in response to changing knowledge and/or different levels of action; Hauora Plans should allow space for adaptive management plans at catchment level; and risk analysis employed to guide what additional steps may need to be followed.

The Forum pondered how a collaborative approach could work between regional governance bodies, catchments, industry, and individuals. They discussed that direction and aspiration for our region should be reflected through the hauora and catchment plans and should be filtered down via these into individual's farm plans/environment plans.

Questions

The Forum asked the Kaititui technical team several questions for the purpose of clarity. These broadly fell under the topics of hauora and Hauora Plans; economics; Regional Policy Statement (RPS); the next plan change to the proposed Water and Land Plan (where the regulatory aspect of the Forum's advice would land if accepted by ES Councillors and TAMI Board).

The December workshop would be focused on fleshing out the detail.

Other topics explored

- Repurposing public land (especially Environment Southland land) - to encourage transitional learning as well as leading by example, and therefore could help people use land in ways that are better suited to their land type
- Industrial and urban management
 - stopping wastewater discharge to water bodies
 - stormwater discharge management
 - monitoring, consents, and incentives
- Wetlands – how, where, who, various types, maintenance, cost, scale, incentive/benefits, criteria, etc.

Wrap up

As Covid is expected to have ongoing repercussions the group were asked to share their thoughts/preferences over meeting in person or to consider other options. There was a preference for face-to-face workshops if risks were low, however, there are some concerns. Further input was invited via private conversation.

Darren closed the workshop with a karakia.