

WATER FOR OUR FUTURE

Chairman's Message

December 2010 for me marks the culmination of an extremely busy but successful year for the Hurunui Water Project. The year started well with HWP winning the Canterbury V5 award, and the subsequent support that it has brought for the project. We have since worked hard to support the Hurunui-Waiiau Zone Committee as a pilot for the region in order to work through a collaborative approach to finding a solution for water storage in the zone. Most importantly, we have won the support of over 90% of landowners in the Command Area through the over-subscription of our HWP share issue this October. That process has endorsed the need for water storage and irrigation in the Hurunui Zone, and gives the project far greater impetus.

Thanks to all members of the community who have supported the project, either financially through the prospectus, or through the welcome words of support that we have received from the wider community. This next year for the project is an important one, as it will enable us to find a storage solution that has the buy-in of the collaborative effort of the zone committee, and hence a greater chance of success.

From myself and the HWP team, we would like to wish you a happy and healthy Holiday Season, with some fine weather, and plenty of rain.

Mike Hodgen
Chairman, HWP



In This Issue:

Chairman's Message
What is the Zone Committee?
Waiiau Moratorium
WCO Hearings
HWP Online
Come and Meet Us
From the HWP Office

What is the Zone Committee?

The Hurunui-Waiiau Zone Committee was formed in June to enable a group of local representatives to discuss how to apply the Canterbury Water Management Strategy to the zone. This committee has been charged with a goal to find water storage solutions for the zone while working towards the CWMS targets. The HWP options are part of this consideration, along with other integrated options using Waiiau River water and considering all possibilities for irrigation. Both Mike Hodgen and Amanda Loeffen have been actively involved in the process with Mike sitting on the committee and Amanda attending the meetings in a support capacity.

Waiiau moratorium

Last month's decision by Environment Canterbury Commissioners to impose a moratorium on further consent applications for water from the Waiiau River catchment is another sensible move. We see this as complimentary to the Hurunui moratorium and further evidence that the Commissioners genuinely want to see an integrated catchment plan put in place next year. The Waiiau moratorium will stay in force until 1 October 2011 to align with the Hurunui River catchment moratorium.





HWP chairman Mike Hodgen discusses maps of the proposed irrigation area with interested parties.

WCO hearings

Despite the moratorium, hearings for a revised Water Conservation Order application for the Hurunui River are still possible early next year. It is generally recognized that if we can find a way to avoid the additional legislation, then it would be preferable to work to a solution through the zone committee process. This has yet to be established.

HWP online



Have you had a look at our new website yet? We have had more than 700 unique visitors to the site, which is regularly updated with news and information about the project. If you would like to contribute any stories to the site, please get in touch via the contact page on www.hurunuiwater.co.nz and send us your photos or points of view.



Our display at the INZ conference earlier this year

Come and Meet Us

HWP is going to partner with MainPower again with an exhibition at the North Canterbury A&P shows in March. While the river is under moratorium, the project has had time to invest in some thorough ecological research to understand the impacts

of water storage on the river, with the support of the University of Canterbury V5 grant. We will be displaying some of this research as well as plans of the various options being considered by the zone committee.

From the HWP Office:

You can probably guess how busy the team has been over the past few months, collating data for the shareholder database, and answering questions. The over-subscription, while a fantastic message of support for the project, gave us the added strain of making sure that we allotted the shares accurately to all landowners in the Command Area. I would like to say a special thank-you to the hard-working team in the office who have worked weekends and evenings in order to achieve the allotment in time.

Please get in touch with us if you need any additional information and we will be very pleased to chat with you (Ph 03 378 3524).

Amanda Loeffen, Project Manager

We are looking forward to a productive next 12 months, working constructively with all parties in order to find a solution that is endorsed by the zone committee. With an updated shareholder database, we now have a greater responsibility to keep in touch, and we will continue to run our newsletter on a bimonthly basis.



Wishing you a very
Happy Christmas