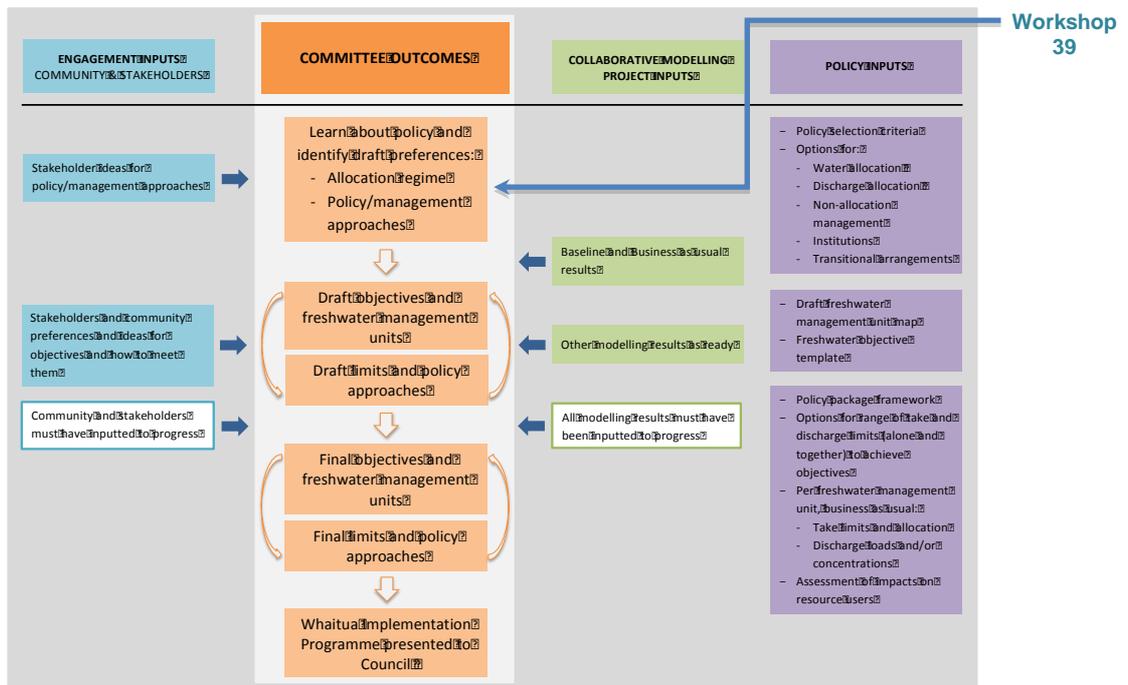


# Meeting Notes: Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee

## Deliberations Phase 3 – Workshop 39

Monday 27 March 2017, 4-8PM

Carterton Events Centre



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**Summary** This report summarises notes from a workshop of the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee held from 4 – 8PM on Monday 27 March 2017 at the Carterton Events Centre.

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**Contents** These notes contain the following:

- A** Workshop Attendees
- B** Workshop Purpose and Agenda
- C** Workshop Decisions
- D** Workshop Actions
- E** Workshop Notes – Additions and changes to events
- F** Workshop Notes – Non-allocation policy tools for managing discharges
- G** Workshop Notes – Questions for the community
- H** Workshop Notes - Updates to allocation of diffuse nitrogen direction

**Appendix 1:** Photos of Flipcharts

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## **A Workshop Attendees**

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**Workshop Attendees** *RW Committee:* Peter Gawith, Vanessa Tipoki, Mike Ashby, Chris Laidlaw, David Holmes, Colin Olds, Esther Dijkstra, Aidan Bichan, Ra Smith, Russell Kawana, Phillip Palmer, Rebecca Fox, Andy Duncan.

*Greater Wellington & Project Team:* Alastair Smaill, Kat Banyard, Murray McLea, Horipo Rimene, Natasha Tomic, Mike Grace.

*Modellers:* John Bright.

*Independent Facilitator:* Michelle Rush.

*Apologies:* Mike Birch.

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## **B Workshop Purpose and Agenda**

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**Purpose**

1. Refresh understanding of the policy options available to manage discharges in relation to freshwater management objectives, both where there is a limit set, and where there isn't.

2. Refresh understanding of policy options for allocating diffuse sources of nitrogen in the future.
3. Confirm a preferred set of policy tools for managing discharges to discuss further with stakeholders and the community.
4. Confirm the RWC's overall policy approach to managing discharges.

**Purposes 1-3 were achieved.**

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**Agenda**

The agenda is detailed in the table below.

<b>Time</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Who</b>
4-4:15PM	Welcome, Karakia and Purpose	Peter, Michelle, Ra
4:15-5:30PM	Non-allocation policy tools for managing discharges	All
5:30-6PM	Allocation nitrogen – where the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee is at	All
6-6:30PM	Dinner	All
6:30-7:15PM	Nitrogen allocation in the future (only to be completed if the committee want to signal a regime).	All
7:15-7:45PM	Articulating the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee's approach to managing contaminants	All
7:45-8PM	Investment funding sources	All

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## **C Workshop Decisions**

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**Management tools**

Add the following management tools to the list of potential tools: off-setting provisions, regulatory breaks, land use controls (activity focused), R&D, rates breaks.

Land use zoning to be removed from the list of tools the Committee are considering.

The Committee wants to emphasise the use of integrated planning tools (sub-catchment planning and implementation and farm or property scale planning and implementation) as a priority and to test this with the community.

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<b>Allocation of diffuse nitrogen</b>	<p>The Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee agreed their draft preference around allocation of diffuse nitrogen to test with the community.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Allocation of diffuse discharges of nitrogen is not feasible at present.</li> <li>2. The regional council could consider nitrogen allocation in the future (for example at the next regional plan review i.e. 10 years) in the following circumstances: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Limits are not being met in an FMU and/or freshwater objectives were not being achieved.</li> <li>b. Tools to administer an allocation regime (e.g. for measuring or estimating leaching at the property scale) are adequate and trusted.</li> <li>c. Other alternative management methods have been considered and rejected.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. The regional council should signal now what allocation regimes might be considered in the future, in order to provide some certainty and reduce ‘gaming’. Allocation regimes considered should be confined to the following types; equal allocation or allocation based on soil type or leaching risk. The Committee is clear that grand-parenting should not be considered in the future.</li> </ol>
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## D Workshop Actions

<b>Table of events</b>	Update the table to events the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee are attending with the information discussed and send around the Committee.
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## E Workshop Notes – Additions and changes to events

<b>Updates to the events table</b>	<p>The Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee identified some updates to the table of events put together from their 13.03.2017 workshop.</p>
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The updates are below.

- The meeting with TeamAg is on 6 April at 2PM at the Woolshed in Masterton. All Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee members are welcome. It is about getting the message out to farmers. Kat to provide any materials needed to share. Will include information on timing and how the whaitua has got where it’s at. Potential attendees – Aidan, Phil, Mike, Peter.
- Wairarapa Moana Field Day on 20 April. Aidan has secured a speaking slot. Need to decide who will speak.

- 20 April there is a planning day for mana whenua engagement. Attendees: Ra, Russell, Horipo, Natasha, Brett, Carlene, Reuben and Johni.
- On 31 March at Akura Nursery there are 50 MPI people attending a field day about forestry initiatives. Unfortunately Ra can't attend. David, Philip and Peter said they will attend instead. Ra to send details to them.

ACTION: Kat to update table and send around the Committee.

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## F Workshop Notes – Non-allocation policy tools

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### Overview

Al Smail gave an overview of the 'non-allocation' policy options available for managing discharges – both where a limit had been established, and for situations where there wasn't a limit established. This was also informed by the handout – potential direction for management of discharges. This was informed by previous Committee conversations throughout this process.

[Landing on management options - presentation to RWC 27.03.2017](#)



Potential Direction  
for Management of D

Key points and Committee discussion:

- A limit is a regulation.
- A limit is the total amount that can be discharged to a freshwater management unit.
- Using a range of the tools is advisable.
- The Committee might want to use different tools at different times and progressively.
- There is lots of areas where is no industry good practice. This could be added through sub-catchment and farm scale planning tools. Programmes could also be used to foster innovation.
- Input controls are not often used.
- The discharge limit can often be an incentive for change in itself. People will have to be more efficient over time to create headroom to make money over time. In a non-allocation management approach there would need to be a system where an assessment was made of whether a change of land use would stay within the overall limit.
- We are making the assumption that the outcomes of what people do will be monitored.
- The whitua don't control things like international markets.

However one of the things to be discussed is the institutional arrangements of sub-catchment groups. Part of that is what is their relationship with other institutions?

Each option under regulation, education, investment and integrated planning was worked through to check RWC understanding.

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**Additions to the list of tools**

RWC members were then asked what might be missing in each tool category under regulation, education, investment and integrated planning. The suggestions made were checked as to whether they were discrete, or whether they were a sub-set of the tools already identified.

Out of this, the following additional policy options were identified:

**Regulation**

Off-setting provision

Regulatory breaks

Land use controls (activity focused)

**Investment**

R&D

Rates Breaks

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**Workshop activity**

In break out groups, RWC members were then tasked with assessing the combination of possible policy tools, and discuss the extent to which these will ensure measures to try and achieve the objective will actually ‘stick’ and ensure that the objective is met in time. The two example freshwater objectives from the presentation were used as a guide but the Committee were tasked with thinking more widely.

The instructions to the breakout groups were as follows:

In reviewing the tools, discuss the following:

- The degree of certainty – for the resource user; for the community that the package does or doesn’t create;
- The extent to which the package achieves the FW objective and the wider outcomes RWC has identified;
- Efficiency – the extent to which the package and its components will be easy and cost effective to administer.

Where does the emphasis need to lie? Do you use all these categories equally? Or do you emphasise some policy tools more than others? And why?

When discussing this, in respect of the objective you are managing for, is it a matter that needs a high level of certainty and therefore an emphasis on regulatory policy tools may be preferable? Or is it a matter, for which a more flexible, innovative approach is needed?

**Report back on the following:**

For each freshwater management objective (FWMO):

Any policy tools you want to remove from the package for that example FMO? And WHY?

Where you see the emphasis as needing to lie for that example FMO? And WHY?

Two freshwater management objective examples:

- Maintain periphyton levels less than 150.
- Maintain temperature below 20 degrees.

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**Group 1 –  
flipchart notes**

Periphyton freshwater objective example:

All tools are on the table.

Emphasise industry good practice, farm advisory services and R&D together.

How would we engage farm advisory services as they are not engaged at the moment?

Should be a 30% split regulation, 40% integrated planning, 15% education, 15% investment.

Regulations should be a bottom line, not a target. Encourage people to do more through incentives.

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**Group 2 –  
flipchart notes**

Temperature freshwater objective example:

- 1) Integrated management
  - a. Farm plan, planting plan
  - b. Needs to be addressed catchment wide
  - c. Use pools and riffles
- 2) Investment
  - a. Big investment needed
  - b. Community will benefit
  - c. Rates breaks are important

- d. Can use non effective land
- 3) Education – to understand why
- 4) Regulation – won't achieve objectives

Why?

- It needs to be a catchment wide programme to be effective.
- Large contributor to healthy stream.
- Needs community support that won't come through regulation.
- The best things take time.

Periphyton freshwater objective example:

- 1) Integrated planning and education
  - a. Regulation does not address the problem.

Regulation – Input controls, dairy effluent, point source, land zoning.

Education – all have a part to play.

Investment – re-plumbing not relevant to this example, all others are relevant, stock race schemes get stock away from rivers.

Why?

Periphyton is the end result to address and it needs an integrated catchment approach taken at farm level.

Education is the catalyst for action.

**Group 3 –  
flipchart notes**

- Demonstrate benefits of mitigation e.g. land loss to buffers balanced against continuity of use.
- Catchment group as a basis for riparian management policy setting.
- Stock exclusion – regulation.
- Riparian management and buffer zones emphasis on integrated planning.
- Education.
- No land zoning.
- Farm management plans including riparian.

Emphasis:

- Integrated planning – ‘the only way to meet nutrient limits is as a catchment community’.
- It will enable multiple outcomes to be met – temperature, sediment etc.

- Comes with farm planning.

**Group 4 –  
flipchart notes**

The group gave each tool a number of ticks reflecting the degree of certainty of the method meeting the objective or contributing to meeting it and the efficacy of the method.

Regulation:

Point source ✓✓✓  
 Stock exclusion ✓✓✓  
 Dairy effluent ✓✓✓  
 Earthworks ✓  
 Input controls ✓  
 Land zoning ✓✓  
 Off-setting ✓  
 Regulatory breaks ✓

Education:

Required for all programmes ✓✓✓  
 Industry good practice and guidance ✓✓✓  
 Farm advisory services ✓✓  
 Banking advice ✓

Investment:

Infrastructure ✓✓✓  
 Incentives/programmes ✓✓✓  
 Community programmes ✓✓✓  
 Re-plumbing Lake Wairarapa (not relevant to this exercise)  
 R&D ✓✓  
 Rates breaks ✓

Integrated planning:

Sub-catchment planning and implementation ✓✓✓  
 Farm or property scale planning and implementation ✓✓✓

The greater the risk of not meeting the periphyton objective the greater the emphasis on regulatory methods.

E.g. regulation to move from NOF D band to NOF C band.

Education and community planning if in A band.

**Summary of  
workshop  
activity**

The table below outlines the results when each group explained their thinking to the whole Committee – it outlines the number of groups who wanted to keep each policy tool and emphasis where it was specifically recorded. Some groups specifically only considered the two examples, others considered the tools in a wider context.

<b>Regulation</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>Investment</b>	<b>Integrated Planning</b>
Point Source Discharge (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓✓✓)	Education required by all programmes (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓✓✓)	Infrastructure (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓✓✓)	Sub-catchment planning and implementation (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓✓✓)
Stock Exclusion (4 out of 4 groups) (1 group said it was relevant to the periphyton example, not the temperature example) (Emphasis: ✓✓✓)	Industry good practice guidance and programmes (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓✓✓)	Re-plumbing Lake Wairarapa (2 out of 4 groups)  Note: Two groups said this was not relevant to the example FWMO's but was important to keep in when considering other FWMO's.	Farm or property scale planning and implementation (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓✓✓)
Dairy Effluent Disposal (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓✓✓)	Farm Advisory Services (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓✓)	Community programmes (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓✓✓)	Catchment planning?
Earthworks (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓)	Banking Advice (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓)	Incentives / programmes: riparian, erosion control, nutrient management (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓✓✓)	
Input Controls (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓)		R&D (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓✓)	
Off-set Provisions (3 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓)		Rates Breaks (4 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓)	
Regulatory Breaks (3 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓)			
Land Use Controls (activity focused), e.g. current provision requiring class 7e and 8 lands to be retired (3 out of 4 groups)			
Land Use Type Zoning (2 out of 4 groups) (Emphasis: ✓✓)			
<b>Where should the emphasis lie – one group answered across all categories rather than tools within categories:</b>			
Less than 30%	15 %	15%	40%

## **Workshop Session Results**

Following each group adding the results of their discussions to the sticky wall, a conversation was had about each tool where there wasn't committee consensus.

A discussion was had on the definition of land zoning and whether this should be included in the list of tools.

Land zoning is where some land uses are permitted and others are not in that area. Would this lead to efficiencies? What would be the cost of moving to this system? It is applying a piece of regulation to the land. Might be used for specific areas you want to protect.

A land use control is different from zoning and would control the activity on the land. This has already been added to the list of tools.

Upon clarification of the difference between land use zoning and land use control it was agreed:

- Land use zoning as a tool would be discarded.

Catchment planning was brought up as a potential additional tool but it was clarified this is what the whitua committee are doing and results in changes to the whitua chapter in the regional plan. Not added as an additional tool.

All other tools would stay on the table and be tested with the community.

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## **G Workshop Notes – Questions for the community**

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### **Question**

As part of the discussions on non-allocation policy tools, the Ruamāhanga Whitua Committee stated they wanted to make the following points or ask the following questions of the community:

The government is proposing national level stock exclusion rules which will need to be followed.

Current dairy effluent rules are poor. We need better ways of dealing with the effects. This is part of the limit cap. How do we manage and leave room for innovation? Is it a high risk activity and do we want to regulate for the whole of catchment?

The Committee are considering higher levels of regulation in areas of poorer water quality. The converse is also true.

In general favour the more non-regulatory activities. Regulation should be more targeted at the laggards – those who haven't historically complied. Try other methods first.

Should integrated planning be our top priority? This is the Committee's preference.

How do we make farm plans happen and be implemented? Is it a case of providing incentives and education?

Ask people what would help a farm plan be used rather than left in the bottom drawer?

General comments in the discussion:

Would putting the emphasis on individuals at the farm scale lead to quicker results than at the sub-catchment scale? That will be a question for the next workshop – what decisions would be best made at a farm scale vs at a sub-catchment scale?

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## H Workshop Notes – Updates to allocation of diffuse nitrogen direction

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### Overview

The Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee reviewed the allocation of diffuse nitrogen discharges document drafted from their discussions at the 13.03.2017 workshop.



Allocation of Diffuse Nitrogen Discharges -

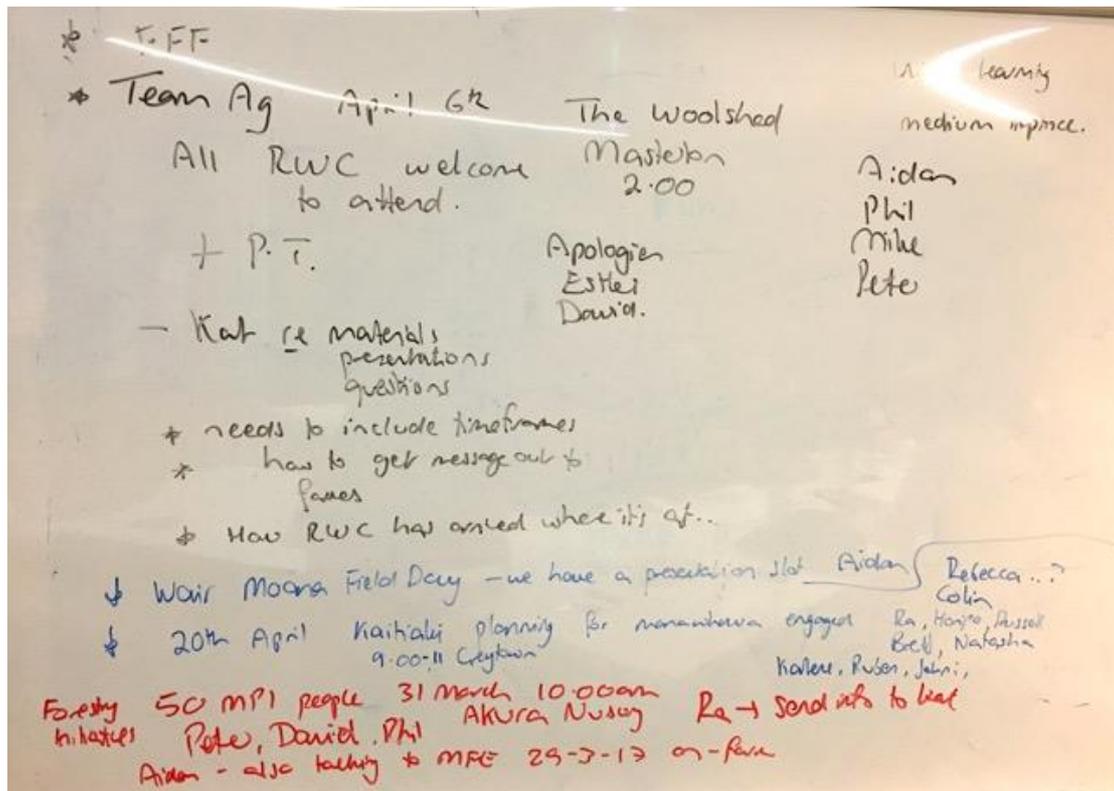
Two small changes were agreed:

- 'Allocation of diffuse discharges of nitrogen is not appropriate at present' was changed to 'Allocation of diffuse discharges of nitrogen is not feasible at present'.
- Don't say Overseer and instead replace with 'measuring or estimating at a property scale'.

The Committee noted they were happy with the remaining conclusions in the document and to test these with the community.

They wanted to allow a grandparenting conversation to happen in the community. Need to be explain what grandparenting means as not everyone may be aware.

## Appendix 1: Photos of flip charts



Regulation	Education	Investment	Integrated planning
✓✓✓ Point source	Required for all programmes ✓✓	Infrastructure ✓✓	Sub-catchment planning and implementation ✓✓
✓✓✓ Stock exclusion	Industry Good Practice guidance and programmes ✓✓	Incentives/programmes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• riparian</li> <li>• erosion control</li> <li>• nutrient management</li> </ul>	Farm or property scale planning and implementation ✓✓
✓✓ Earthworks	Farm advisory services ✓	Community programmes ✓✓	
✓✓ Input controls	Banking advice ✓	Re-plumbing Lake Wairarapa	
✓✓ Land zoning			
✓✓ offsetting regulatory burden			

In addition, decisions regarding investment funding need to be considered. Funding will come from four main areas; government grants, general rates, targeted rates and user pays.

Questions?

- What should be regulated, and how should it be regulated?
- What are the institutional arrangements and accountability of sub-catchment planning and implementation systems?
- What are the nature and accountability of property scale planning and implementation?
- How should investments be funded? General rates, targeted rates, user pays?

combination.

dropped because it is not going to meet the periphyton objectives.  
~~the~~ temperature

The number of ticks reflects the degree of certainty provided by the method to meeting the ~~limit~~ objective and the efficacy of the method.

The greater the risk of not meeting the periphyton objective the greater the ~~more~~ emphasis on regulatory methods.  
 eg regulation to move from NOF D Band to NOF C Band  
 Education, community issues etc if in Band A.

ENPL-6-1351

# Temperature

## Regulation

### ① Integrated management

- farm plan, planting plan

- needs to be addressed catchment wide

- use pools & riffles

### ② Investment

- big investment needed

- community will benefit

- rates breaks are important

- ★ can use non-effective land

### Education

### ③

- to understand why

### ④ Regulation

- won't achieve objective

# Why catchment wide

- needs a catchment wide programme to be effective
- large contributor to healthy stream
- needs community support that won't come with regulation
- the best things ~~come with~~ <sup>take</sup> time

We are talking about a high catchment to healthy stream that can be supported by support community that has a high target objective

## Periphyton

## Emphasis

### regulation

- input controls
- dairy effluent
- point source
- land zoning

① - Integ planning  
+ education

- regulation - does  
not address the  
problem

### education

- all have a part to play

### investment

- re plumbing not applicable
- all others are relevant
- ~~stock~~ <sup>stock</sup> ~~traces~~ <sup>traces</sup> schemes gets stock away ~~from~~  
from rivers

## integrated planning

Why

- Periphyton is the end result & to address it needs an integrate catchment approach taken at farm level
- Education is the catalyst for act

integrated planning

\* Demonstrate benefits of Mitigation  
eg; land loss to buffers balanced against continuity of use

\* Catchment group as basis for  
riparian mgmt policy setting

\* Stock exclusion ~~for~~ regulation

\* Riparian mgmt & buffer zones

Emphasis on Integrated Planning

Education

Farm mgmt Plans  
Include riparian

No land zoning

Emphasis → Integrated Planning

"the only way to meet nutrient limits  
is as a catchment community"

It will enable multiple outcomes to be  
met; turbidity, sediment etc...

- Comes with farm planning

Periphyton - All <sup>tools</sup> are on the table.

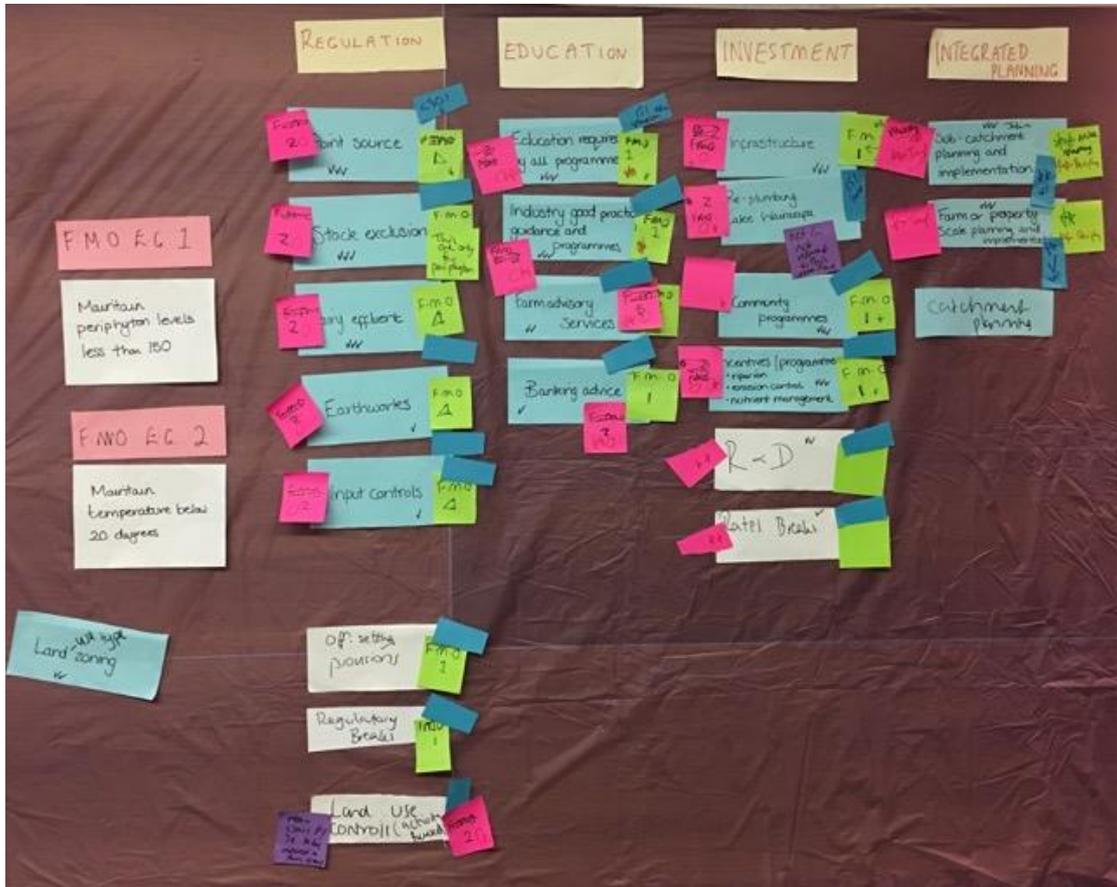
Emphasis of industry good practice  
farm advisory services → ~~can~~ how would we involve them?  
Engage at a high level as not at moment.

all together {  
- R & D

→ 30% reg, 40% IP, 15% education, 15% investment

→ All regs as a bottom line. Not a target. Encourage to do more than by incentives.

→



## Package of Policy Tools

Land zoning in freshwater planning?  
When would you use it?

Taken out

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Points to include when discussing this in the community

Stake exclusion - explain  
Govt push

Dairy effluent - how can we  
ensure we just manage the effects  
and leave room for innovation -  
→

In general, higher justification to use  
regulation where the water quality is  
bad. →

In general favour the non-regulatory methods,  
Laggard rule

- † Ask what people think of our emphasis on sub-catchment plans
- † Ask people what would help that form plan be used and not left in the bottom drawer
- † what decisions are best made at the property scale versus the subcatchment scale.

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
x

Interim preference — not now but possible in future and not favouring grandparenting (need to explain this)