

Grant Blackie – WRC Waipā Zone Manager 8 September 2015













Questions?

- How to make the Waipa Catchment Plan 'non-voluntary'? (4/108)
- How could different/better rules assist with WCP implementation?
- What other policy measures (ie outside of rules) could assist with WCP implementation?
- How could the roll out of new rules/policy assist with WCP implementation?

Typical WCP work in priority areas

- River management works
- Planting and fencing to control stream bank erosion
- Land use changes on marginal grazing land
- Protection/enhancement of native vegetation, wetlands, peat lakes
- Provide affordable plant materials
 - Native Plants Scheme
 - Poplar and willow material
- Advice, iimplementation and follow-up
- Collaboration with Iwi, industry and others

Issues in relation to WCP implementation

- Resourcing lots of 'them' and not many of 'us'
 - Slow and expensive one on one/small group process
- Economics cycles
- Voluntary, but needs a degree of compulsion
- Lack of appropriate rules/policy/industry drivers

Mandatory Permitted Activity Requirements

- stock exclusion from water
- earthworks/tracking
- dairy effluent
- fertiliser
- wetland/bush protection
- etc

Restrictions on Land Use

Compulsory Industry Requirements

Sust. Water Accord

 eg Fencing/riparian
 requirements

Voluntary Good Practice

Property Plans

- WRC 'farm plans'
- Beef+Lamb LEP's
- Dairy NZ SMP's
- Forestry NES harvest/earthworks plansother accredited plan preparers?

Incentives

- WCP
- WRC
- WRA
- other



Current WRP/RMA definitions

Artificial watercourse: A watercourse that contains no natural portions from its confluence with a river or stream to its headwaters and includes irrigation canals, water supply races, canals for the supply of water for electricity power generation and farm drainage eanals.

Bed: In relation to any river the space of land which the waters of the river cover at its fullest flow without overtopping its banks

Ephemeral streams: Streams that flow continuously for at least three months between March and September but do not flow all year.

Farm drainage canal: An artificial watercourse on a farm that contains no natural portions from its confluence with a river or stream to its headwaters, and includes a farm drain or a farm canal.

Modified watercourse: An artificial or modified channel that may or may not be on the original watercourse alignment and which has a natural channel at its headwaters.

Riparian margin: Means a strip of land, usually of varying width, directly adjacent to a waterway and which contributes to the maintenance and enhancement of the natural functioning, quality and character of the waterway and its margins.

River: A continually or intermittently flowing body of fresh water, and includes a stream and modified watercourse; but does not include any artificial watercourse (including an irrigation canal, water supply race, canal for the supply of water for electricity power generation, and farm drainage canal).

Wetland: Includes permanently or intermittently wet areas, shallow water, and land water margins that support a natural ecosystem of plants and animals that are adapted to wet conditions.

Sustainable Dairying: Water Accord

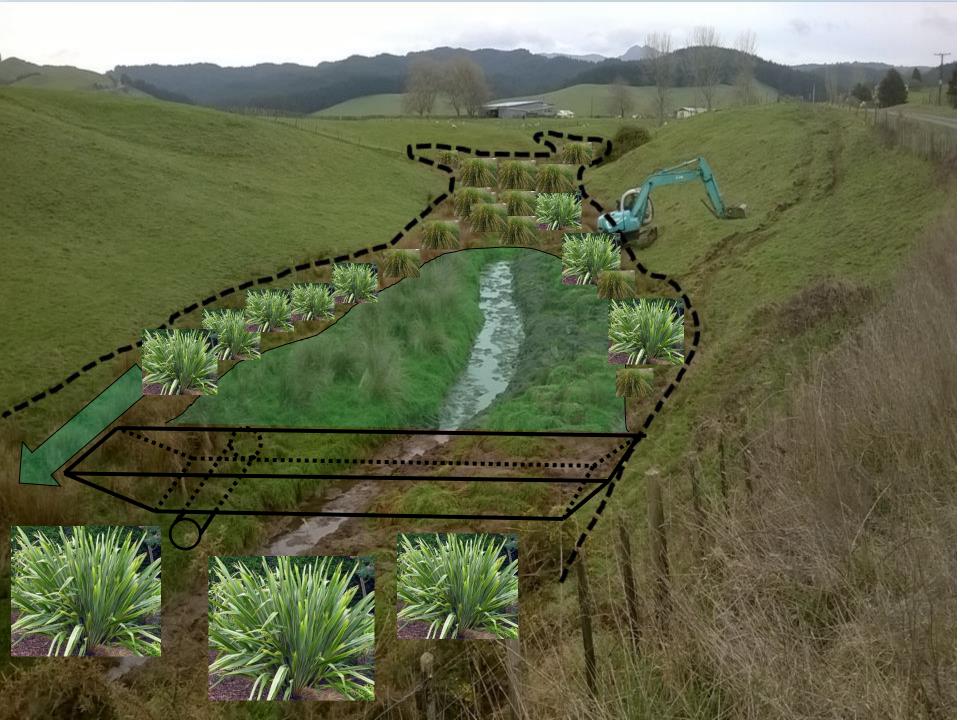
Significant wetland

An area which has a vegetative cover dominated by indigenous wetland plant species and which is identified **as significant** in an operative regional policy statement or regional plan.

Waterway

A lake, spring, river or stream (including streams that have been artificially straightened but excluding drains) that **permanently contains water** and any significant wetland. For the avoidance of doubt, this definition does not include ephemeral watercourses that flow during or immediately following extreme weather events.





How could different/better rules assist with WCP implementation?

- Provide the degree of compulsion requiring action
- Strengthening existing rules/PA stds which are working ok e.g. earthworks, forest harvesting, effluent?
- New rules to;
 - restrict indigenous vegetation clearance (including 'scrub')
 - protect wet gullies, springs, wetlands and indigenous remnants
 - exclude cattle/deer etc from surface water

Other non-rule policy measures to assist with WCP implementation?

- WRP could set out an accreditation process for plan 'preparers' to help farmers comply with current/future requirements?
- Provide some actions/future directions regarding;
 - land use on steeper hill country?
 - restricting cattle density e.g. controls on allowable N discharges and overseer?
- Other More 'assistance' to take actions to protect water quality and biodiversity?

How could the roll out of new rules/policy assist with WCP implementation?

- Staggered rollout for specified rules
 - Blanket rules earlier than more targeted rules?
 - Link to intensity of land use (eg cow density)?
- Staggered rollout for specified catchments
 - Higher risk earlier than lower risk?
 - Upper catchments earlier than lower catchments?
- Staggered rollout for individual properties
 - 25% by year x, 50% by year y, 100% by year z?
- Combinations

How could the roll out of new rules/policy assist with WCP implementation? eg;

Priority 1 Catchments

Stock	2020	2025	2030
Exclusion			
wetlands	>2ha	>1ha	all
streams	>100ha	>20ha	all
bush	>100ha	>5ha	>1ha

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