

FLAG MEETING NOTES: 4 July 2014

Purpose:	Takaka Freshwater and Land Advisory Group (FLAG)– Meeting 1
Date:	4 July 2014
Time:	9.30am-12.30pm
Venue:	Takaka Fire Station
Present:	<p>FLAG members: Graham Ball Greg Anderson Kirsty Joynt Mirka Langford Neil Murray Tony Reilly Mik Symmons Mike Newman Piers MacLaren Matt Rountree Margie Little (iwi representative on FLAG) Martine Bouillir (council representative on FLAG)</p> <p>Staff: Mary-Anne Baker (Environmental Policy Planner) Joseph Thomas (Resource Scientist Water & Special Projects) Trevor James (Resource Scientist – Freshwater and Environmental Quality) Steve Markham (Manager Environmental Policy) Monique Harvey (Hydrologist - Data Analyst)</p> <p>Andrew Fenemor (Landcare Research) Rochelle Selby-Neal (Independent Facilitator)</p>
Apologies:	
Notes taken by:	Monique Harvey (supplemented by other staff)
Definitions and Abbreviations	FLAG=Freshwater and Land Advisory Group NPS-FM 2014 = National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 NOF= National Objectives Framework TRMP = Tasman Resource Management Plan Unconfined aquifer = are those where permeable strata are open to the ground surface. Surface water (rainfall and/or river flow) is able to seep from the ground surface directly to the aquifer. Confined aquifer = are those where permeable groundwater bearing strata are separated from the land's surface by an impermeable layer (such as silt or clay) that prevents surface water from directly seeping into the aquifer. Groundwater migrates to confined aquifers from an unconfined recharge area located elsewhere.
<i>Note: records of discussion points have been grouped into similar topics and are not necessarily in the order discussed at the meeting.</i>	

Purpose of Meeting

- *To get to know each other better*
- *Understand the job we are here to do*
- *Agree how the group will work together*

Session 1 – Welcome and introductions

Councillor Bouillir welcomed the FLAG group on behalf of Councillor Bryant. Members gave a brief summary of their backgrounds, capabilities, motivations and time availability.

In summary, the group:

- Has a huge breadth and depth of experience, knowledge and skills relevant to managing the Takaka River catchment, and being involved in collaborative processes.
- Members have practical experience of what works and doesn't work 'on the ground' and are motivated to fix what isn't working
- Members spoke of the importance of the Takaka catchment and its waters in meeting economic, livelihood, recreational and spiritual/human wellbeing needs.
- Highlighted that they need to manage catchment for environmental, social, economic and cultural considerations.
- Is very aware of maintaining and improving river health for future generations.
- Members are willingly giving their time to this project – with a high level of commitment to the health of the Takaka community socially and economically, and to the health of the river.

“Rivers reflect quality of people and sustainability of life” (Maori proverb)

Session 2: Understanding the job

Presentation 1: Mary-Anne Baker (TDC) - Overview

Mary-Anne gave a presentation on the background and governing policies for water quality for the Takaka River area.

Key questions and topics of discussion arising from the presentation are outlined below:

How are new consent requests to take water from the Takaka River handled?

- *Currently there are default limits for surface water abstractions from the Takaka river and its tributaries, there are no limits specified for groundwater although the historic and informal limit relating to the Waikoropupu Springs recharge of 500l/sec is being maintained. The default provisions are specified in the TRMP.*
- *There is a waiting list of applicants wanting to apply for water. An applicant might sidestep the waiting list and apply for water as a discretionary activity and these are assessed on a case by case basis.*
- *Currently minimum flows are set by conditions at individual consent level, no minimum flows are set in a Plan.*
- *Most water take consent applications are not notified so the community is not aware or able to have input into these. If applications are made outside of current limits consent applications will be notified.*
- *Is the Council sending the message to the community that water is full allocated until further plans/limits are set? Within the Takaka catchment there are different zones with different requirements for consents based on the default flow limits. Current allocated water consents are not being fully utilized.*

The National Policy Statement Freshwater Management 2014 (NPS-FM 2014)

This has just been released, and is to be implemented by 2025. It requires a focus on community and Iwi involvement, hence the establishment of FLAG.

Other key points of the NPS-FM 2014 are:

- Requires efficient use of fresh water.
- Avoid over-allocation of takes and high nutrient inputs.
- Take an integrated approach in implementing the NPS-FM – consider the land, water and coastal environments.

- It sets compulsory values which are a minimum, and the community can set more specific values important to them for specific water bodies.
- To implement the NPS-FM set clear objectives and adopt methods, measures or rules to achieve the objectives.

The Water Conservation Order (made on behalf of Iwi) for the Waikoropupu Springs

The TDC preference, which it has communicated to the Minister for the Environment, is that the Order is put on hold as content will overlap, and the TRMP process will enable a wider scope of both land and water management throughout the catchment.

The Minister has yet to make a decision about the Order. Whatever the decision, the FLAG will have to account for the application.

Does this group only encompass the Takaka river catchment?

No, this group covers the Takaka catchment and North Takaka coastal catchments up to Tukurua and the eastern catchments to the Abel Tasman National Park water management zone.

What outputs are this group required to give Council?

- A draft plan change for Council approval.
- The draft plan change will need to specify values and objectives water is being managed for, and specify the water quality and water quantity necessary to meet management objectives, and methods such as allocation limits to ensure objectives are met.
- FLAG group needs to engage the wider community in developing the plan change.
- The expected timeframe for an outcome from this group is 2016, with interim progress reports.

It was noted that the Council is carrying out a region wide review of land disturbance provisions as a separate work stream.

Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the Advisory Group were read through, points raised in this discussion include:

- All meeting notes will be available on the TDC website.
- Two intentions - this group provides for the Council's desire for community involvement and the group needs to consider community expectations.
- Be aware of any implications of decisions made to the wider Tasman region.
- Each member is here on the basis of their own expertise and knowledge, not to represent their organisation's view or any position that they may hold. The views of stakeholder groups will be sought through the process and the range of values and management objectives considered.
- Discussion on the outputs of group as summarised above – group will be changing the TRMP, whilst giving effect to the Tasman RPS and the NPSFW (2014).

Session 3: Creating a successful advisory group

Acceptable Meeting Behaviours

- Be open-minded, have consideration of other issues and views
- Return to the group goal, maintain perspective
- Show respect
- Listen and don't interrupt or talk over others
- Be concise when speaking
- Stick to the issue – attack the issue not the person
- No negative side-talk
- Open and transparent communication with whole group

- Communication outside the group to be issues based
- Record what is and what isn't agreed
- Prepare for each meeting, and be punctual, meetings to start/finish on-time
- Cell phones – please turn off, leave meeting to talk if necessary
- Facilitator/chairperson can enforce rules of engagement

Meetings/Procedure

How often: Six weekly (scheduled monthly for 2014)

How long: One day, 9.30am to 3pm

Timeframe for meeting info: information to be sent at least one week prior to a meeting.

- Meetings closed to public to allow for focused group work. Group representatives will be invited to speak and Public forum during meetings will be provided as required.
- Agendas to be set as a group.
- Agreement to maintain Independent Facilitator through the process, perhaps appoint a Chairperson/Spokesperson at a later date.

Information Sharing

Inside the group:

- Specific questions to TDC staff – go to Mary-Anne Baker as first contact point
- Individual questions are to be given a collective answer
- Information shared via email correspondence through a group email list.

Outside the group:

- Full meeting notes available on the website (without names used, unless as agreed).
- Cr Bouillir has a 700 contact email list of locals (sends weekly update), if FLAG updates are included in these she will advise the group.
- Provide progress report/information to the wider community – at discretion of the group.
- Encourage discussion in community networks

Resources Available

- Council Staff:
 - Technical
 - Policy advice
 - Administration – note taking, agenda, support
- Facilitation of meetings (as required)
- Research assistance
- Meeting venue
- Website

Meeting Schedule 2014

Friday 15th August 2014, 9.30am to 3pm –**Note next meeting changed to 22 August 2014**

Friday 19th September 2014, 9.30am to 3pm

Friday 17th October 2014, 9.30am to 3pm

Friday 21st November 2014, 9.30am to 3pm

Action – Mary-Anne to booking Takaka Fire Station for venue.

Session 4: Summary and Action Points

Suggested Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- A briefing on the State of the Environment of the Takaka catchment and how it compares to National Standards.
- Historical summary of how the catchment once was, how the valley has changed.
Action: Mike Newman to provide the historical section of Don Mead's report for distribution
- Focus on and distinguish between water values, water quality and water quantity.
- Draft project management timeframe and process suggestions.
- Rochelle to draft an agenda for the next meeting then distribute to the group for input and agreement.

Action Points – Council Staff/Facilitator/Advisor

No.	What	Who
1	Distribute link to "Water Resources of the Takaka Water Management Area" on website.	MAB
2	Draft an agenda for the next meeting on 22 th August	RSN
3	A link to the electronic version of Freshwaters of New Zealand on the website	JT
4	Draft project timeline and process overview	MAB/R SN/AF
5	Mary-Anne to booking Takaka Fire Station for venue	MAB

Action Points – FLAG members

No.	What	Who
1	Provide feedback on agenda as required	All
2	Mike Newman to provide the historical section of Don Mead's report for distribution	Mike

Next meeting

Date	Friday 22 th August 2014 (Meeting 2)
Time	9.30am - 3pm
Venue	Takaka Fire Station
Draft Agenda Items	TBC
Preparation	See FLAG action points above. You will be sent any additional meeting prep once the agenda is finalised.

Subsequent meeting

Date	Friday 19 th September 2014 (Meeting 3)
Time	9.30am -3pm
Venue	Takaka Fire Station

FLAG MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE: If you have any questions or need anything between meetings, then please contact Mary-Anne Baker by email: marya@tasman.govt.nz or by phone ddi 03 543 8486.