

#NZAIA18 conference programme



NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT

~~Un~~Intended Consequences

Impact assessment for sustainable regional futures



2018 NZAIA Annual Conference | Wed 28th and Thurs 29th November 2018
Havelock North Function Centre | Havelock North | Hawke's Bay | New Zealand

www.nzaia.org.nz

Conference schedule

Abstracts and author biographies below

| Day 1 Wednesday 28 November | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 8.45 am | Registration |
| 9.15 am | <i>Mihi, welcome and conference opening</i> Prof Richard Morgan (Chair, NZAIA) |
| 9.30 am | <i>Keynote Presentation</i> <i>The Future Resource Management Reform Landscape</i> – Raewyn Peart, Policy Director, Environmental Defence Society |
| 10.30 am | <i>Break</i> |
| 11.00 am | <i>Session 1 Strategic Assessment</i> <i>Māori, Cultural Impact Assessment and Regional Development</i> – Roger Maaka (Eastern Institute of Technology) <i>Environmental models, regional planning and projects: building a reliable evidence base</i> – Pip Wallace (University of Waikato) <i>Environmental data collection, storage, evaluation and dissemination: the regional state of play</i> – Stephen Swabey (Hawke’s Bay Regional Council) |
| 12.30 pm | POSTER SESSION <i>Lunch</i> |
| 1.45 pm | <i>Session 2 Transport</i> <i>Cultural impact assessment and port developments: a case study of Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour</i> – Dyanna Jolly (University of Otago) <i>Whakatu Arterial Link: A Community-Led Decision Making and Design Process</i> – Stephen Daysh (Mitchell Daysh) <i>Kuaka Amidst the Wetlands: Safety, Heritage, or Amenity? Designing a new Northern Gateway For Napier</i> – Nick Aiken (WPS Opus) |

| | |
|---------|---|
| 3.15 pm | <i>Break</i> |
| 3.45 pm | <p>Session 3 Water</p> <p><i>TANK: how impact assessment was provided within a collaborative engagement process – Mary-Anne Baker (Hawke’s Bay Regional Council)</i></p> <p><i>Resource management: Lessons from the collaborative process – Tom Kay (Forest & Bird)</i></p> |
| 4.45pm | <p>Keynote Presentation</p> <p><i>Mahi Awatea: What does Social and Economic Sustainability Look Like? – Paul Spoonley (Distinguished Professor, Massey University)</i></p> |
| 5.45 pm | NZAIA AGM |
| 7.00 pm | Conference Dinner |

Day 2 Thursday 29 November

| | |
|----------|---|
| 9.00 am | <p>Session 4 Forestry</p> <p><i>National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry (NES-PF) – what is ahead– Elizabeth Heeg (Te Uru Rākau (NZ Forestry))</i></p> <p><i>The Ethical Forester: Because even the Right Tools aren't Enough– Chris Perley (Thoughtscapes)</i></p> <p><i>Forestry isn't just about the forests: Serious games for understanding communities and complexity– Lisa Sharma-Wallace (Scion)</i></p> |
| 10.30 am | <p><i>Break</i></p> |
| 11.00 am | <p>Session 5 Social</p> <p><i>What is Napier's and Hawke's Bay Economic Competitive Advantage: the Importance of Economic Impact Assessment – James Rowe (Economics Solutions Ltd.)</i></p> <p><i>Activating water sensitive design in New Zealand: understanding the costs and values – Sue Ira (Koru Environmental)</i></p> <p><i>Small Town Change and Challenges: The New Zealand Experience – Etienne Nel (University of Otago)</i></p> |
| 12.30 pm | <p><i>Lunch</i></p> |
| 1.30 pm | <p>Session 6 Tourism</p> <p><i>How to benefit from freedom camping and manage the local impacts – Neil Miller (Engineering New Zealand)</i></p> <p><i>Cycles in the local economy: impacts of cycle trails and the A2O in the Waitaki Valley – Nick Taylor (Nick Taylor and Associates)</i></p> <p><i>The end of desire: a reflection on the development and management of tracks and trails within the landscape of Aotearoa/New Zealand – Marion Read (Consultant)</i></p> |
| 3.00 pm | <p><i>Break</i></p> |
| 3.15 pm | <p>Indaba: Open space group discussion: topics identified by participants during the conference.</p> |
| 4.00 pm | <p>Indaba report back and discussion</p> |
| 4.30 pm | <p>Conference synthesis</p> |
| 5.00 pm | <p>Conference close</p> |

Abstracts and author biographies

Keynote Presentation

The Future Resource Management Reform Landscape – Raewyn Peart, Policy Director, Environmental Defence Society

It is a time of considerable change and opportunity for resource management practitioners in New Zealand. We have a new Labour-led Government with an ambitious environmental reform and regional development agenda. The Minister for the Environment Hon David Parker has indicated that he will be progressing resource management reform during 2019. To help inform this process, the Environmental Defence Society has been undertaking a first principles look at reforming New Zealand's broader resource management system (see www.eds.org.nz/our-work/rm-reform-project). This presentation will sketch the likely outline of a future resource management reform agenda, identifying key challenges and potential options. It will touch on the role and purpose of the system, the architecture of decision-making and the deployment of tools (including planning and consenting) to achieve our aims. Key points will be illustrated by local and regional examples of current challenges and potential solutions from around New Zealand.

Speaker biography:

As Policy Director, Raewyn currently heads EDS's environmental policy think-tank group. She has over 20 years professional experience in environmental law and policy having worked as a resource management lawyer and policy adviser to business, government and the not-for-profit sector. For more than two decades, Raewyn's work has focused on landscape protection, coastal development and marine management in New Zealand. She has written numerous papers, research reports and guidance material on these issues. Raewyn has published major books on coastal development (*Castles in the Sand: What's Happening to the New Zealand Coast?*), marine mammal protection (*Dolphins of Aotearoa: Living with Dolphins in New Zealand*) and environmental change in the Hauraki Gulf marine area (*The Story of the Hauraki Gulf*). She recently launched a book on fisheries management (*Voices from the Sea: Managing New Zealand's Fisheries*). Raewyn has been a leader in promoting the introduction of marine spatial planning to New Zealand and was a member of the collaborative Stakeholder Working Group which successfully prepared the first marine spatial plan in New Zealand for the Hauraki Gulf. She is currently undertaking a project distilling the lessons learnt from the Hauraki Gulf project and looking at how marine spatial planning can best be applied elsewhere in New Zealand. Raewyn is also leading EDS's Resource Management Law Reform project. She is investigating future management options for aquaculture alongside these projects.

Session 1 Strategic Assessment

Māori, Cultural Impact Assessment and Regional Development –Roger Maaka (Eastern Institute of Technology)

In 2018 and beyond and in the wake of a series of Treaty settlements Te Ao Māori is facing a very exciting and at the same time a very challenging future. The original philosophy underpinning treaty settlements was (a) to dispel the sense of grievance that claimants groups held and (b) to provide a catalyst to simulate the tribal (Iwi and Hapū) economies. Sustainable regional development is inextricably entwined with the progressive, social development of the Māori collectives that call these regions home. Therefore, Iwi and Hapū have a vested interest in the conduct and reporting of impact assessments as an integral part of future planning, particularly those that fall into the category of Cultural Impact Assessments.

Speaker biography:

Roger CA Maaka PhD, a Professor emeritus of Māori and Indigenous Studies who has worked at the Universities of Canterbury and Saskatoon, Canada, and the Eastern Institute of Technology(EIT). As a member of the Waitangi Tribunal he sat on the Indigenous Flora and Fauna enquiry, Wai 262, and he was among the group who first drafted the Mataatua Declaration to the UN on Indigenous Intellectual Property and Environmental concerns. Roger lives on his life style block in Takapau, Hawke's Bay, and continues his interest in Indigenous Peoples and environmental issues as well as the treaty settlement development of his hapū.

Environmental models, regional planning and projects: building a reliable evidence base – Pip Wallace (University of Waikato)

Environmental models are highly influential decision support tools pervasive in environmental planning decisions. Pivotal in impact assessment, models assist experts to understand natural systems with a view to informing both policy and decision-making. In this frame, modelled evidence is vulnerable to legal challenge and this presentation examines the nature of those challenges in the Regional planning context, and practices that build reliability of the evidence base.

Speaker biography:

Pip Wallace is the Convenor of the Environmental Planning programme at the University of Waikato and specialises in resource management law and practice. Pip's research has a focus on examining the intersections between natural systems and regulatory frameworks and the implications of this for law and planning.

Environmental data collection, storage, evaluation and dissemination: the regional state of play – Stephen Swabey (Hawke's Bay Regional Council)

Environmental data underpin precise, accurate, timely decision-making in many environmental, economic, cultural and social domains. Regional councils are tasked by s.35 of the RMA 1991 to monitor the state of the environment and report at least every 5 years. Consent monitoring, compliance investigations and regional plan implementation monitoring all are key to effective environmental management. Continuous improvements in instrumentation technology, data management, and data presentation techniques have made these tasks easier – and more complex. Data are now collected more frequently, for more parameters, in more locations. The consequent increase in data volumes has driven innovation in databases and communication technologies. Although councils have been placing more and more data on their websites and other digital systems, national initiatives such as EMaR and LAWA have aggregated these data in a national data presentation system. Scientists and environmental data managers are now discussing true nationally-based database systems – integrated rather than aggregated.

Speaker biography:

Stephen is Environmental Science Manager at Hawke's Bay Regional Council. Trained as a hydrologist, geomorphologist and geochemist, Stephen has lectured in Geography and Physical Sciences at University of Auckland and University of Tasmania respectively; managed natural hazards and environmental science teams at Otago and Hawke's Bay regional councils respectively; and coordinated the national climate change adaptation and natural hazards policy programmes at Ministry for the Environment. His previous role was managing software and database development to handle and process enormous volumes of spatial data. The last Environmental Impact Assessment he led was for a NZ\$650M mineral sand mine, and associated new infrastructure including a processing plant, power station, railway, port, sand dune dredge, sewage treatment plant and water supply system in Senegal, West Africa.

Session 2 Transport

Cultural impact assessment and port developments: a case study of Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour – Dyanna Jolly (University of Otago)

In this presentation I describe the experience of using cultural impact assessment (CIA) to facilitate Ngāi Tahu involvement in the recovery and development of Lyttelton Port following the Canterbury earthquakes. We used CIA to articulate Ngāi Tahu's long-term vision for Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour and the outcomes required from a Recovery Plan to ensure port recovery was consistent with that vision. We also used CIA to assess the effects of proposed capital dredging and reclamation projects on Ngāi Tahu rights, values and interests. In considering how we apply impact assessment to the analysis and planning of sustainable regional futures, I offer insights on the question: To what extent did CIA deliver outcomes that aligned Lyttelton Port Company's 30-year vision for recovery and development with the long-term vision of manawhenua for the harbour environment?

Speaker biography:

Dyanna Jolly is from Whitebear First Nations in Saskatchewan, Canada. She has worked with iwi and hapū in Aotearoa New Zealand for the last 15 years on resource management matters, including preparing Iwi Environmental Management Plans and Cultural Impact Assessments (CIA). She is currently a PhD candidate at the University of Otago, exploring iwi/hapū experiences with CIA and evaluating the extent to which the tool is contributing to treaty-based impact assessment.

Whakatu Arterial Link: A Community-Led Decision Making and Design Process – Stephen Daysh (Mitchell Daysh)

The Whakatu Arterial Link was identified as the highest priority roading project for the Hawke's Bay region to provide key links within the Hastings District. The broad area identified, included a wide range of planning and environmental challenges (e.g. Maori owned land, waahi tapu, existing communities, industrial activities, horticultural land and existing infrastructure) therefore the Hastings District Council saw that it was critical to ensure key stakeholders were fully engaged in the route selection process. Starting from a blank sheet of paper, a Working Group made up of a range of stakeholders considered options and the ultimate design for the route over a 6-month period in 2012, selecting a route that was accepted by the Council for the designation and consenting process. The high level of community engagement resulted in minimal opposition during the public notification process. The construction of the Whakatu Arterial link is now nearing completion.

Speaker biography:

Stephen has wide environmental consulting and management experience in New Zealand, Asia and the Pacific. He has considerable experience working with clients in all fields of environmental planning, and in the management and co-ordination of multi-disciplinary professional service teams for major projects. His primary specialty is the project management of feasibility studies, environmental investigations and permitting processes for energy and infrastructure facilities, and urban developments. He is a certified Commissioner Chair under the Ministry for Environment 'Making Good Decisions' programme and regularly sits as a decision maker in this capacity. Stephen is also a process and meeting facilitator with a focus in co-ordinating community-based option assessment processes for planning issues, often utilising multi-criteria evaluation methodologies. Stephen is the founding director of Environmental Management Services, which merged with Mitchell Partnerships Limited in 2016 to form Mitchell Daysh.

Kuaka Amidst the Wetlands: Safety, Heritage, or Amenity? Designing a new Northern Gateway For Napier – Nick Aiken (WPS Opus)

The intersection of SH2-SH2A-Watchman Road was already one of New Zealand's most dangerous intersections. Into the mix cast; traffic growth on the Hawkes Bay Expressway, rapid growth in visitor numbers through the airport, and the development of a new airport business park. Add a constrained location bounded by a coastal wetland of international ecological and cultural heritage significance, a holiday motor camp, recreational areas, coastal residential development and the expanding airport and associated business park. Last but not least, much tighter than usual time constraints for design, consenting and construction, and extremely interested stakeholder groups that already devoted significant amounts of free time and passion to the area.

The location and significance of the project meant that it was jointly sponsored by several agencies. The New Zealand Transport Agency, Napier City Council and the Hawkes Bay Airport.

With such a level of interest, site-sensitivity, timeframes and constraints, there was little margin for error. Getting it technically right was critical. But beyond that sequencing and true stakeholder engagement was also critical.

The outcome? Strong stakeholder and community support, rapid consenting, and a solution in-place.

This presentation will outline:

- Outstanding proactive engagement with a wide range of stakeholders with variant interests ranging from enabling development to protecting natural environments;
- Ambitious planning leadership to add amenity, recreation, ecological, cultural heritage, aesthetic, urban gateway and economic outcomes to what is essentially an intersection traffic safety project,
- A design that meshes cultural and natural heritage to provide a unique gateway to Napier for visitors arriving by road and by air;
- Best practice approach to RMA consenting through a focus on identified Plan outcomes and early establishment of environmental aspirations and bottom-lines;
- An example of how Planning best practice can and should take the lead, and add significant value to the development of major infrastructure from inception to construction.

Speaker biography:

Nick Aiken is the NZ Sector Leader for all Environment disciplines at WSP Opus, and the Market Leader for all the company's services to Local Government clients. He is a practicing Environmental Planner and Urban Designer; and an experienced certified Chair under the MfE Making Good Decisions RMA Commissioners programme. Nick is the Chair of the Central North Island Branch of the NZ Planning Institute, and sat on the NZ Urban Design Forum Committee for the 2-term maximum between 2014-2018. His technical work as a Planner and/or Urban Designer is typically associated with urban growth planning/design, visioning strategies, major infrastructure consenting, Plan-Review, stakeholder engagement, multi-modal transport corridor design, the CPTED approach to crime prevention, and optioneering approaches such as multi-criteria analysis (MCA). He has played a lead or significant design role on a series of award winning or acclaimed walkway-cycleway projects over the past three years.

Session 3 Water

TANK: how impact assessment was provided within a collaborative engagement process – Mary-Anne Baker (Hawke's Bay Regional Council)

The Hawkes Bay Regional Council embarked on a community led decision making process to review the land and water management provisions for the Tūtaekurī, Ahuriri, Ngaruroro and Karamu catchments in 2012. A group of people (the TANK Group) representing a range of interests and stakeholders and including representatives from iwi organisations was established to provide recommendations for water management to the Regional Planning Committee. They were asked to identify values held for freshwater bodies in those catchments, and to develop objectives, policies, rules and other methods to provide for those values. This paper describes some of this Group's journey as it worked through the complex science, social and cultural challenges that were required to be addressed in their decision making. A number of tools and approaches were adopted or developed to provide the Group members with the information necessary for them to understand connectivity and relationships and to predict effects of management changes on those, not only in the natural environment, but also in terms of economic, social and cultural well-being.

Speaker biography:

Mary-Anne has been working within the field of natural resource management for a great many years, starting first as a soil conservator for the Nelson Catchment Board. A period of working within both monitoring and resource consents management fields led eventually into a policy planning role. She has been involved with a range of challenging resource management issues at regional as well as national scales since then, including air quality, land use and development and freshwater management. Lately she has been working with the TANK collaborative group for the Hawkes Bay Regional Council to assist them in developing a draft TANK Plan Change.

Resource management: Lessons from the collaborative process – Tom Kay
(Forest & Bird)

Forest & Bird is constantly involved in resource management processes at national and regional levels. In recent years, processes have increasingly adopted the ‘collaborative’ approach – whereby groups of representatives from the community, businesses, or organisations are put together to inform the drafting of policy, in the hope that differences can be worked out early and lengthy court processes avoided. Tom Kay, Forest & Bird’s Regional Manager for Hawke’s Bay and Greater Wellington, will be discussing Forest & Bird’s experience with and perspective on the collaborative process; what Forest & Bird has learned as a participant of these processes; and what they consider necessary to ensure the success of the collaborative process for sustainable resource management.

Speaker biography:

Tom Kay is Forest & Bird’s Regional Manager for the Hawkes Bay and Greater Wellington regions. Tom grew up in Napier and spent a huge amount of his (ongoing!) youth kayaking on the Mohaka River. Tom’s passion for white-water kayaking and rivers led him to train as a raft guide, gain a BSc in Environmental Science at Massey University, and pursue his current MSc (Ecology) research on the assessment of river habitat quality. Prior to working in his current role at Forest & Bird, Tom worked in the field for predator control research and development organisation Zero Invasive Predators (ZIP).

Keynote Presentation

Mahi Awatea: What does Social and Economic Sustainability Look Like? – Paul Spoonley (Distinguished Professor, Massey University)

The “Rebooting the Regions” (2016) book was intended as a contribution to the debate about regional futures (compared to the growth dominance and dynamics of Auckland). Some of the key themes – population stagnation, young adult outmigration, economic diversification and disruption, the Māori economy – will be rehearsed as having ongoing impacts on questions of sustainability. But what was disconcerting was the reactions that the book induced – media hype (“zombie towns”), political denial, especially at the regional level (“look at the people leaving the disaster that is Auckland looking for the good life in our region”), the lack of evidence-based and forward-looking planning and the reluctance to engage with new paradigms. Mahi Awatea (work for tomorrow) was a collaborative project between Massey sociologists and the Taiwhenua o Heretanga in the 1990s to help more Māori hapu and marae-based communities into development (human and physical resources) mode, and to convince regional agencies to provide more appropriate services. Thirty years on, more “Mahi Awatea” projects would be welcome.

Speaker biography:

Distinguished Professor Paul Spoonley is the Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Massey University. He has been involved in some major research projects on immigration and diversity in New Zealand, including Capturing the Diversity Dividend of Aotearoa New Zealand (2014-2020). He is the author or editor of 27 books ranging from political extremism to the nature of work, and he was Ranginui Walker’s biographer (Mata Toa, Penguin). He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand and the Auckland War Memorial Museum. He was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of California Berkeley.

Session 4 Forestry

National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry (NES-PF) – what is ahead- Elizabeth Heeg (Te Uru Rākau (NZ Forestry))

NES-PF provides nationally consistent regulations to manage the environmental effects of forestry. This talk will address what lessons learnt have been from the first six months of implementation, the scale of the NES-PF and how it has tackled regional issues.

Speaker biography:

Elizabeth Heeg, Manager, Land Management Analysis, Te Uru Rākau (NZ Forestry), is a policy professional, who works in climate and forestry policy. She originally trained as an ecologist, earning a PhD from Victoria University of Wellington. After working for several years at QEII National Trust on private land protection and conservation, Elizabeth joined Ministry for Primary Industries. She now manages the Land Management Analysis team, which is responsible for the National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry, the operation policy to support the Emissions Trading Scheme, and policy implementation and outreach to support MPI's other forestry grants, schemes and programmes.

The Ethical Forester: Because even the Right Tools aren't Enough- Chris Perley (Thoughtscapes)

The management of plantation forests in New Zealand was corporatised and then privatised from the 1980s. Concepts such as multi-functionality were diminished in favour of a reframing of plantation forests as crops, and then more reductively still as finance. A number of codes, principles and standards have been developed in response to concerns regarding the effects of forests and their management. Most of these codes are 'positivist' – dealing with perceived facts. The latest is the NES-PF. 'Process' documents such as Best Management Practices guidelines (Essentially, "If these values and these particular conditions then consider these and other options") are now less popular. These represent 'normative', adaptive approaches. They are superior to standard prescriptions when applied to complex social landscapes because landscapes aren't standard. Effective land use requires more than obedience to standards. It requires both broad and long-term systems thinking, and an ethic that goes beyond mere crop or finance.

Speaker biography:

Chris Perley grew up in landscapes. His playgrounds were hills, streams, fields and woods. He studied forest ecology because of the sense of experience of sitting within a complex forest. He was not taught about those qualitative feelings studying either forestry or agriculture. The quiet dissatisfaction grew while working to integrate the woodland 'other' into what were essentially colonial factory-type agricultural landscapes, and in his policy analysis career. He realised that the resource metrics (yields and such) were the consequences of a constraining mechanical worldview, and that worldview was marginalising the potential of our landscapes, including social and economic potential. His subsequent work was on the philosophy and research required to re-imagine our landscapes and land use systems, and our human place within them. He has an extensive background in land, community and regional economies in management practice, policy and research. He is an affiliated researcher for Otago University's Centre for Sustainability, a member of Wise Response, and the youngest forester to be made a fellow of the NZ Institute of Forestry. He blogs at www.chrisperleyblog.com

Forestry isn't just about the forests: Serious games for understanding communities and complexity – Lisa Sharma-Wallace (Scion)

We highlight the use of serious games as a tool for better understanding the implications of various regional development initiatives. Serious games have been employed extensively across the world to help address complex environmental problems. We summarise our own experience developing and implementing a role-playing game in the case of large-scale erosion and afforestation on New Zealand's East Coast. We note the potential of the game on several fronts: building empathy between stakeholders, generating creative ideas, and increasing participants' awareness of the complex web of relationships, priorities, barriers, and enablers which sets the context for policy and development. We conclude that serious games can thus shed light on the messy, non-linear nature of development processes on-the-ground – a critical preliminary step in accounting for and understanding the sometimes-overlooked "big picture" impacts of regional development initiatives.

Speaker biography:

Lisa Sharma-Wallace is a social scientist at Scion with a background in human geography and a Master's degree in Environmental Studies from York University, Canada. As part of her work in Scion's MBIE-funded programme "Weaving the Korowai", she has helped develop tools for more effective multi-party decision-making, including a serious game to introduce new ways of thinking to communities and government agencies.

Session 5 Social

What is Napier's and Hawke's Bay Economic Competitive Advantage: the Importance of Economic Impact Assessment – James Rowe (Economics Solutions Ltd.)

This presentation examines the concept of competitive advantage and the importance of economic impact assessment. It has become apparent in recent years that those at the coalface of economic development need to understand and appreciate the forces that influence the business decisions that affect everyone. An understanding of globalisation and the fundamentals of competitive advantage are necessary because they directly influence corporate location decisions. A local economic development practitioner needs to grasp these essential concepts in order to influence, develop and adopt a strategy that is specifically designed for his or her local area. This presentation reviews the key concepts of competitiveness, globalisation and global cities, and develops a framework for understanding competitive advantage from the local economic development perspective. Against this background, we employ local examples such as the economic impact of the All Blacks game in Napier to illustrate the return on investment on such events and why public investment is justified.

Speaker biography:

James E. Rowe is a Senior Consultant with Economic Solutions Limited and the former Economic Development Manager for the Napier City Council. James has previously worked in Australia, Thailand, Kiribati and the USA. Dr. Rowe holds a Ph.D. in planning from the University of Auckland and master degrees from the University of Tennessee and the College of New Jersey. His most recent book, *Understanding the Practice of Local Economic Development: An Alternative Theoretical Framework* was published November 2014. He has published three other books, a book chapter and over 40 articles plus numerous book reviews in leading professional journals such as *Town Planning Review*, *Applied Geography*, *Regional Science Policy and Practice*, *The Australian Planner*, *Local Economy*, *Urban Policy and Research*, *Applied Research in Economic Development*, *Landscape Planning, Industrial Development*, *Economic Geography*, and *Growth & Change*. James is the current NZ VP of the Australia New Zealand Regional Science Association International.

Activating water sensitive design in New Zealand: understanding the costs and values – Sue Ira (Koru Environmental)

Research Team: Sue Ira (presenter), Robyn Simcock, Jonathan Moores, Chris Batstone

New Zealand may be the best place in the world for “Water Sensitive Urban Design” – many areas have a temperate climate with frequent rain and year-round plant growth, and passing storm water through plants and soil (not piping it straight to streams) aligns with kaitiaki values. WSUD has been used in New Zealand for more than 10 years, but there are significant barriers to its widespread adoption, and in many places maintenance costs are inflated, and its full benefits haven’t been realised – especially community (liveability) benefits. The National Science Challenge for Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities has funded our co-operative research team to understand and investigate the barriers to implementing WSUD in New Zealand. This presentation focusses on the costs and values of WSUD, with a focus on a case study subdivision at Kirimoko Park, Wanaka.

Speaker biography:

Sue is the Director of Koru Environmental and has a Master of Science (Environmental and Geographical Science) from the University of Cape Town, South Africa. She has long had a passion for sustainable water management, investigating ways of building resilience into stormwater management, and working with local communities. Sue has extensive experience in stormwater and project management, and in environmental education in South Africa, the United Kingdom and New Zealand. Since coming to New Zealand in 2003, Sue worked at the former Auckland Regional Council prior to starting Koru Environmental. On behalf of Landcare Research, Sue was the primary developer of the COSTnz stormwater life cycle costing model. She has also developed a methodology for costing stormwater treatment on a catchment-wide basis for NIWA. She has recently completed developing the Cost Aggregation Model, on behalf of Greater Wellington Regional Council, to assess the economic costs of different stormwater mitigation measures associated with urban development scenarios. Sue is currently working with Landcare Research, NIWA and Batstone Associates on National Science Challenge funded research to “Activate Water Sensitive Urban Design in New Zealand”. Sue also undertakes numerous technical stormwater and catchment based peer reviews for various regional councils around New Zealand, has run extensive community consultation processes on objectives for urban water quality and has been the science lead on many catchment management planning initiatives.

Small Town Change and Challenges: The New Zealand Experience – Etienne Nel (University of Otago)

Small towns in New Zealand are experiencing contrasting trends of selective growth and decline, and though this is not a new experience, post-1980s restructuring, globalization and neo-liberal policies have accelerated these processes. In turn, further overlays of an ageing population, youth outmigration, population based funding, and imitations on local government have exacerbated these trends. This paper explores these processes within the context of long-term economic and demographic change in small town New Zealand, drawing attention to current challenges and opportunities. A particular focus of the discussion is on the role which local and community-based action can play in towns coping with changing access to key services and employment opportunities.

Speaker biography:

Etienne Nel holds the position of Professor in Human Geography at the University of Otago. His research focuses on issues of local economic development, smalls towns, regional development and community development. His work has been primarily in New Zealand and Southern Africa. He has published over 100 articles and 11 books on these themes and currently leads a National Science Challenge research project looking at rural areas and small towns on New Zealand

Session 6 Tourism

How to benefit from freedom camping and manage the local impacts – Neil Miller (Engineering New Zealand)

The Freedom Camping Act was introduced in preparation for the 2011 Rugby World Cup. Councils had to determine which sites to restrict in local policies. Freedom campers came to be portrayed as undesirable freeloaders to be clamped down on. We saw a moral panic and hostile media stories. Yet other tourists were sought after and encouraged through publicly funded campaigns and facilities. The case example of the Far North showed a way forward that informed a National Situational Analysis. When we looked at the regulatory response, there had been a lack of objective analysis of the costs and benefits. In fact, freedom campers can be the highest spending tourists. This presentation will look at how to make better provision for our visitors. We will consider policies and approaches to avoid negative impacts on the environment and benefit local communities.

Speaker biography:

Neil Miller is the Senior Policy Advisor for Engineering New Zealand (IPENZ) which is the peak professional body for engineers. Neil has extensive local government experience having worked as a policy advisor and team leader for city and district councils in Auckland, Palmerston North and the Far North. Neil worked with the DIA on advice to the previous Minister of Local Government about freedom camping regulation based upon the experiences of the Far North District.

Cycles in the local economy: impacts of cycle trails and the A2O in the Waitaki Valley – Nick Taylor (Nick Taylor and Associates)

Research team: Michael Mackay (University of Lincoln), Nick Taylor (presenting author), Harvey Perkins (Professor Emeritus, University of Auckland)

The Alps to Ocean Cycle Trail (A2O) descends from Aoraki/Mt Cook down the Waitaki Valley to Oamaru. The trail is a partnership between central government, two territorial authorities, DOC and local communities for planning and development. The A2O originated in the efforts of an enthusiastic local group to achieve positive impacts on small towns, local businesses and employment, the outdoor recreation environment and heritage protection. Our National Science Challenge research investigating the economic regeneration of small towns found the A2O is helping to diversify and revitalise the local economy, which typically experiences cycles of economic development. Stakeholders recognise positive effects and sustainable futures depend on the ability of the affected area to integrate multiple tourist initiatives and opportunities. They also recognise burgeoning national visitor numbers will test the capacity of local infrastructure and the environment, including heritage resources. Potential negative effects include host resistance to any developments that are out-of-step with the social environment, and potential loss of a sense of place built around the unique geology, landscape, and heritage resources.

Speaker biography:

Nick Taylor is a principal of Nick Taylor and Associates, previously a founding director of Taylor Baines & Associates. With a PhD from the University of Canterbury he has been involved since the early 1980s in development of approaches and techniques for social assessment and undertaken a wide variety of assessments for the public and private sector. He is active in social assessment networks and training including the New Zealand Association for Impact Assessment and the International Association for Impact Assessment, for which he was President 2009-10.

The end of desire: a reflection on the development and management of tracks and trails within the landscape of Aotearoa/New Zealand – Marion Read (Consultant)

The development of walking as a recreational activity began in the picturesque gardens of eighteenth-century England where walking from one viewpoint to another was key to the appreciation of the larger composition. As appreciation of the garden transformed into appreciation of the wider landscape, walking left the garden and took to the hills. Within New Zealand this has resulted in the development of many walking tracks and trails which can be described as desire lines. That is, they reflect the desire of walkers to access a picturesque landscape feature: a valley; a mountain; a pass; a lake. In recent years trails and tracks have become objects of design instead of desire, with bulldozers replacing feet and shovels as means of construction; abstract rather than topographical constraints determining routes; and tourism becoming the focus. This paper aims to describe the planning process within which this occurs from a landscape architectural perspective.

Speaker biography:

Marion Read has a PhD in Landscape Architecture from Lincoln University and a Masters of Resource and Environmental Planning with Honours from Massey University. From 2005 to 2013 Marion worked for Lakes Environmental, and its predecessor Civic Corp, both organisations charged with the planning and regulatory work for Queenstown Lakes District Council, as a Landscape Planner. From 2013 to 2017 she was self-employed doing similar work in Queenstown Lakes and Southland Districts, and within Dunedin City. In these capacities she worked primarily in the assessment of resource consent applications and more recent years in landscape planning policy work. Marion has undertaken many appearances as an expert witness in both Council hearings and in the Environment Court. Having retired earlier this year, Marion lives on a small farm (lifestyle block) near Dunedin with her partner and her Jack Russell, Freddie. Marion is a keen tramper and last summer completed the bulk of the South Island leg of the Te Araroa Trail.