

Freshwater - Fresh Thinking

Enhancing impact assessment in water management



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Finding common ground, or is it water? – participatory land and water planning in Canterbury



Introduction and context



SHARED VISION: to enable present and future generations to gain the greatest social, economic, recreational and cultural benefits from our water resources within an environmentally sustainable framework



Introduction and context

TARGETS

These cover
all values

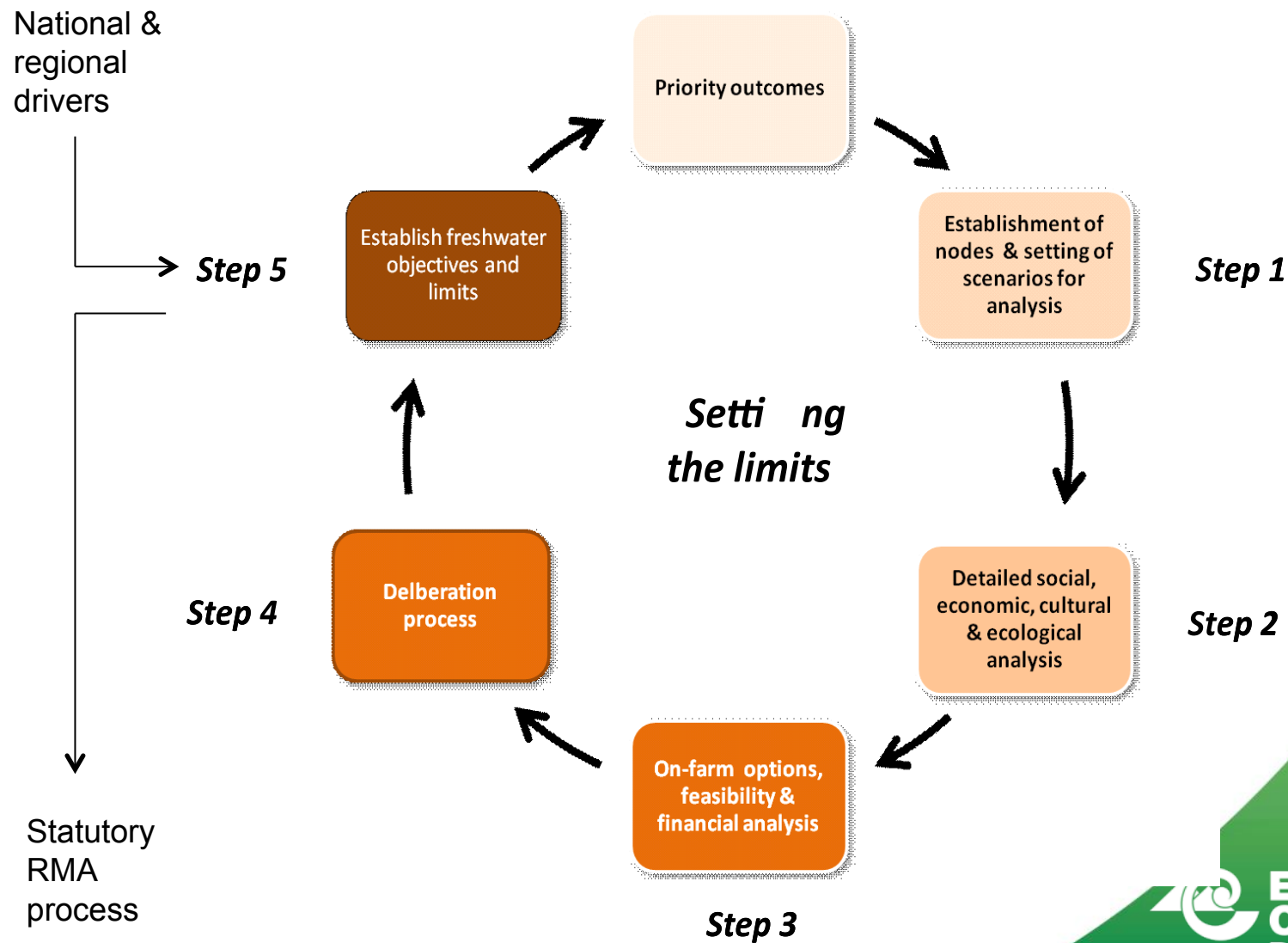
- Ecosystem health/biodiversity
- Natural character of braided rivers
- Kaitiakitanga
- Drinking water
- Recreational & amenity opportunities
- Water-use efficiency
- Irrigated land area
- Energy security and efficiency
- Regional and national economies
- Environmental limits



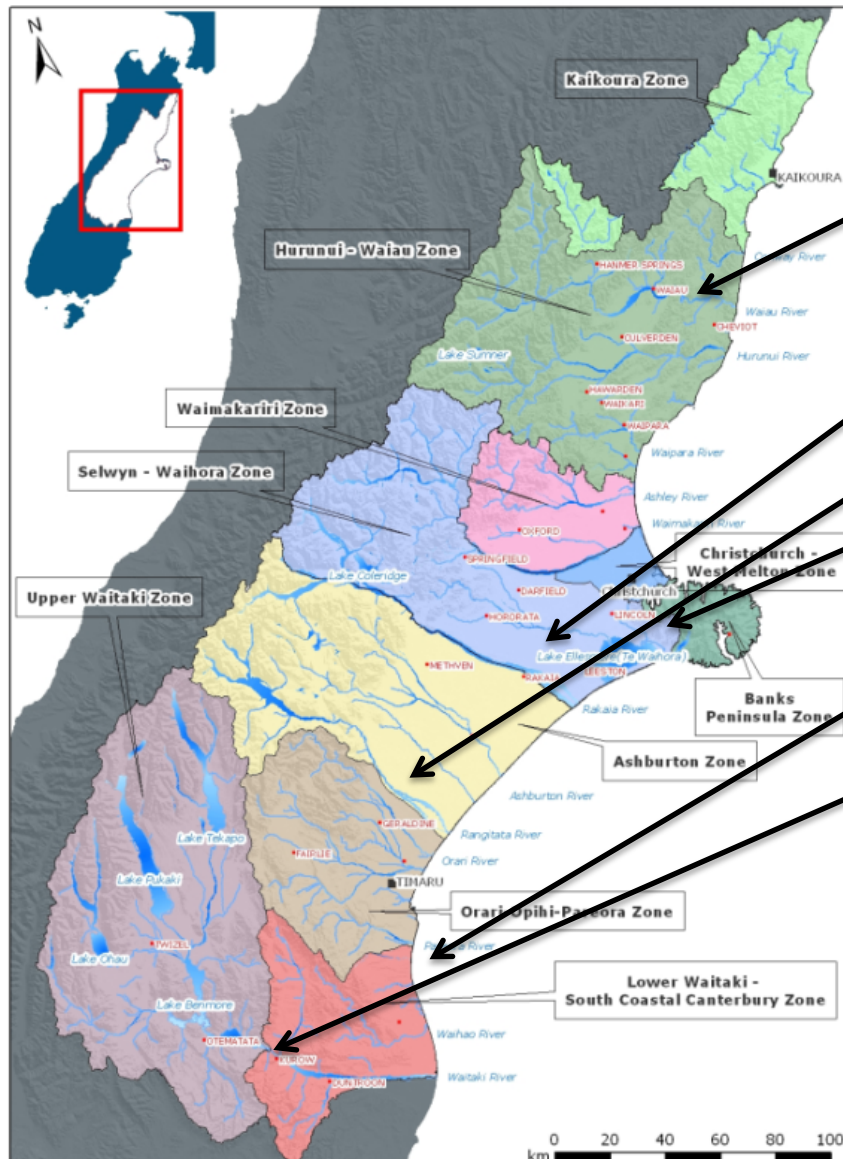
Limit setting processes

- Aim: Setting environmental limits and managing to limits – both quality and allocation.
 - Required under NPS on freshwater management
 - One of the ten CWMS target areas
 - Limits implemented through the Land and Water Regional Plan
- Hurunui-Waiau zone was pilot for developing the ‘preferred approach’ (collaborative process)
- Output is a sub-regional plan and a Zone Implementation (ZIP)/addendum
- What is the outcome?

'The Preferred Approach'



Catchments/Zones



Hurunui-Waiau

Selwyn-Waihora

Hinds (Ashburton Zone)

Wairewa (Banks Peninsula Zone)

South Coastal Canterbury

Waitaki

Collaborative processes - methods



- Processes led and hosted by the zone committees



- Identify “desired outcomes” from Zone Implementation Programmes (ZIPs) and develop indicators
- Options/scenarios used by community groups to explore impacts and discuss possible solutions

Almost certainly	Probably	Possibly	Unlikely	Highly unlikely
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- Workshops informed by technical work: social, cultural, economic, environmental. (Modelling, mapping, literature reviews, reports, interviews, conversations, investigations)
- Community group deliberations provide zone committees with information they need to make recommendations on limits in the catchment
- Process has evolved and changed

What have we all learned?

	Positives	Challenges
Involvement	People appreciate having their say and being part of discussions; Zone Committee 'ownership' is important People want to stay involved;	Who is actually involved? Local reps vs national reps; rūnanga involvement; how to ensure everyone has a say; timeframes
Understanding	People appreciate opportunity to ask technical questions and understand 'the science'; enhanced understanding e.g. of cultural and Māori values and uses; that 'drains' have values; having conversations about impacts and values; sharing data and science	Questioning the science and data; explaining the models; 'opening up' ECan; science and tools aren't perfect; wanting <u>more</u> information; sharing science; experts on tap; role of media
Integrated water and land management	The CWMS, ten targets, and cultural, social, economic, environmental impacts are all integrated through this process	Dealing with 'really big dilemmas' and 'new territory'

What have we all learned? continued...

	Positives	Challenges
Not just about planning	Collaborative process is part of cultural change and delivering on the CWMS	Personal challenges for everyone; Role of zone committee as move from this collaborative process to the RMA process
Next steps	Groups emerging to show leadership	Collaborative implementation; being flexible; good things take time

An example – drinking water

- Deliberative process made us focus on drinking-water from a social and technical perspective, looking at drinking-water as a social issue.
 - Input from Canterbury District Health Board and influenced by Canterbury Health in All Policies Partnership (CHIAPP)
 - Issue repeatedly raised by local people
 - People questioned data reliability
 - Media contribution

Conclusions

- Process is enabling communities to find common ground/water
- Not without its challenges
- Question: Do 'impact assessment' approaches need to adapt for participative methods?



Thank you...