

# Recommendations for the future of Takaka's water

A new report into freshwater management in Takaka makes a range of recommendations to help improve freshwater management in the catchments from Wainui Bay to Tukurua, including the Takaka River and its tributaries.

The report, by the Takaka Freshwater and Land Advisory Group (FLAG), covers water allocation, water quality management, and water body restoration. It was accompanied by a report, *Manawhenua Mātauranga Report for the Tākaka Catchments*, from Manawhenua ki Mohua, which outlined iwi freshwater management principles, values and aspirations for the future.

We set up the FLAG as a community-led advisory group to help us develop ways to manage freshwater resources and meet the obligations of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management. The FLAG report recommends a number of new water controls for the area, and asks the Council

to consider how they can be effectively and efficiently implemented.

One of the FLAG recommendations is to implement new flow and water quality protections for Te Waikoropupū Springs as soon as possible, which will complement the protections anticipated from the Water Conservation Order process.

The FLAG says the recommendations are an integrated package that is intended to operate as a holistic framework.

"We have worked hard to reach a consensus on these issues," FLAG spokesperson Mik Symmons says. "We would like to see the Council adopt our recommendations and

progress their implementation to improve freshwater management in our catchments."

We will now consider the recommendations and their implications for the Takaka community, and decide how best to progress the remaining work.

Mayor Richard Kempthorne acknowledged the significant amount of time that FLAG members gave to the report, and says the Council will now seek to fully understand the package's implications for the whole community.

"We are very grateful to all of the FLAG members for their effort, passion and persistence during this process."

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## Young people contribute to climate change planning

We've been working with youth leaders and Zero Carbon Nelson Tasman to develop an initial plan for responding to climate change.

Climate change is happening now and the impacts on the environment and people are predicted to worsen over time and continue for many generations.

It's widely accepted internationally that the costs of inaction or delayed action outweigh the cost of acting now. We are committed to doing what we can to protect our community and help it adjust to this global threat.

This year Tasman District councillors, staff, Enviroleaders from local secondary schools, and the Zero Carbon Nelson Tasman group have been working together to identify and prioritise actions that we can take in response to climate change. Our initial response will be focused on what we can do in-house as a first step.

The draft Tasman Climate Action Plan includes themes on mitigation, adaptation, and leadership; that is, how we can reduce greenhouse gas emissions from our activities; ways we can respond to our changing environment, including positive opportunities; and how we can lead by example, advocate, and encourage others to take action.

One of our medium-term aims is to work collaboratively with Nelson City Council, iwi and communities across Nelson and Tasman to develop a broader strategy for responding to climate change. The draft Tasman Climate Action Plan will be considered at the Full Council meeting on 12 September 2019.

This work complements our ongoing coastal hazards consultation across the district. Consultation started in August and is focused on raising awareness within our community of the effects of sea level rise and coastal hazards. We have prepared a map, which is available

on our website, showing various sea level rise scenarios and the impacts on coastal properties. Feedback is open until 13 September 2019.



Above: Motueka High School Enviroleaders Layla Sudol, Ai Takahashi, Saskia Gray and Moeka Koyama are among the young people who took part in climate change workshops with councillors and staff. The students outlined the importance of reducing waste, public education, sustainable transport infrastructure and reducing emissions.