Water Wairarapa

Indicative Feasibility Work Programme as at June 2016

Dates are approximate and subject to review as investigations progress.

	Stage 1						Stage 2							Stage 3					
	2015		2016											2017					
Workstream	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Technical	Geotechnical investigations							1												
	Water conveyancing via rivers / Hydrology Stage 1						Hydrology Stage 2													
Water Demand	Land use case studies																			
		Survey Pilot				Farmer engagement & Infobase					Farmer Survey									
Financial						Develop financial model				2a	Financial modelling continued			2b						
										Commercial / Governance options										
Community						Council engagement - community use of water / impacts														
						Assess social & economic benefits & effects														
	Affected landowners - inform, engage, arrange property access for investigations																			
	Stakeholder Advisory Group - review, debate, feedback, guide																			
	Iwi - further relationship & identify & optimise benefits/impacts																			
Environmental							Land use modelling - environmental impacts													
									Model scenarios - Whaitua Committee					Whaitua Committee develops recommendations						
Planning											Reporting> next stage planning>next steps									
														Stage 3 programme 3						

MILESTONE/DECISION POINTS

While scheme feasibility is continually being reviewed, key milestones are:

1 Review feasibility following geotechnical and river conveyancing work.

2a Review feasibility following farmer demand work; confirm scheme/s and progress transition into commercial arrangements.

2b Review feasibility following review of early financial modelling, farmer infobase and council engagement.

3 Implement new commercial structure, undertake further investigations, raise capital, plan for consent application (subject to feasibility).

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Indicative feasibility work programme as at June 2016

The feasibility work programme aims to transition the project into a new commercial structure, the shape of which is yet to be determined.

The following outlines the activities designed to answer questions across a range of areas.

TECHNICAL

How suitable is the land at the proposed dam sites?

- On-site drilling to further determine suitability for constructing dams.

Could the Tauweru River (Tividale scheme), sections of the Wakamoekau Stream (Black Creek Scheme) and sections of the Ruamāhanga River (both schemes) convey water without losing too much along the way?

- Further investigate suitability of rivers to convey water, particularly the Taueru River.
- Understand operational implications for supply of water via river conveyance.

How reliable is the modelled data on water availability?

Gauge river flows to validate previously-modelled outputs of river flow dynamics/ hydrology.

WATER DEMAND

What could viably be farmed/grown on different Wairarapa soils? What are the effects of this?

Study of 5 potential irrigated land uses on 3 actual farms inside the water supply area:

- Financial viability.
- Nutrient balance.
- Management/lifestyle implications.
- Based on actual market conditions.

Who are the scheme's potential customers & what do they want?

- Provide information about viable irrigated land uses.
- Farmer interviews: face-to-face discussions with farmers in the water supply area.
- Independent survey to understand farmers' collective preferences for:
  - scheme ownership.
  - buying scheme water, timing, volumes, delivery areas.
  - reliability and delivery pressure required.
  - land use and production.

At what rate would customers sign up for scheme water?

- Map water uptake based on results of farmer demand surveys.

FINANCIAL

How would investigations & any resulting scheme be structured & consents funded after 2016?

- Develop financial model including construction costs, cost ranges for water and revenue.
- Assess potential funding sources and develop funding model.
- Identify options and develop corporate structure to suit funding sources.

COMMUNITY

How would construction and operation of a scheme and the resulting activities affect the wider community? How could the scheme create value for people and communities?

- Continue to liaise with local government, industry & interest groups.
- Assess social and regional economic impacts, based on refined land use, farm returns and farmer demand data.

Māori

- Continue to build working relationships at iwi, hapu and treaty settlement levels.
- Identify and pursue the social and economic opportunities presented for Māori and the wider community.

Affected landowners

- Continue to inform and engage with owners and occupiers of land under investigation.
- Arrange access to properties for technical and environmental investigations.

ENVIRONMENTAL

How would more intensive & different land uses affect water quality in the catchment?

- Modelling of water storage and land use scenarios as part of the Ruamāhanga Whaitua process.
- Consider possible integration of treated waste water and water races in the scheme.

REGULATORY

How would permission to construct and operate a scheme be gained?

What could be the rules for taking and using water be?

- Develop Natural Resources Plan/ Ruamāhanga Whaitua Implementation Plan.
- Understand the effects and implications of the region's new Natural Resources Plan on project development and ultimately scheme construction and operation, and farming practices.

How would the scheme meet National Policy Statement (NPS) for Freshwater objectives/water efficiency and allocation?

- Comply with NPS including water efficiency and allocation discussions with key stakeholders.

PLANNING AND REPORTING

- Evaluate feasibility study results (Stages 1 and 2).
- Plan for Stage 3.