



WWUP Governance Group

AGENDA

WHEN 14 August 2015
WHERE Meeting Room 1 @ 1pm
FILE NUMBER ENV/05/01/57-v1

- Item 1 **Welcome and apologies**
 - Item 2 **Interests register**
 - Item 3 **Confirmation of meeting minutes**
 - Item 4 Project Director's report Michael Bassett-Foss
 - Item 5 Finances Sue Nelson
 - Item 6 Feasibility phase update Bruce Geden
 - Item 7 Regional Plan update Michael Bassett-Foss
(includes a verbal presentation by Jonathan Streat,
Manager, Environmental Policy)
 - Item 8 Farmer demand programme Michael Bassett-Foss
 - Item 9 Comms update – paper to be tabled at the meeting
- Meeting dates (for reference)



Interests register (as at July 2015)

Name	Involvement in other organisations/interests
Bob Francis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Heartland Wairarapa • Chair Aratoi Foundation • Chair Pukaha Mount Bruce, National Wildlife Centre • Chair Wings over Wairarapa • Member Wairarapa Development Group • Chair Wairarapa Healthy Homes • Member Wairarapa Irrigation Trust 2002 – Present • Member WWUP Working Group • Trustee Wairarapa Arts Festival, Kokomai • Chair of the Te Kāuru Upper Ruamahanga River Floodplain Management Plan subcommittee
Bob Tosswill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inaugural and current chair of Wairarapa Regional Irrigation Trust (since 2007) which has lead the case for irrigation development in the Wairarapa • WRIT representative on Leadership Group and Stakeholders Advisory Group and part of WWUP Working Group • Formed Wairarapa Water User’s group for existing irrigators • Member of Environmental Defence Society and have attended some key conferences esp. leading to establishment of Land & Water Forum • Member of various local rural groups • Note: has a water race through his property in the Wairarapa • Farms in an area likely to be in the command area for the possible Waiohine River investigation which has recently been confirmed as being considered for on-farm storage.
Mandy Armstrong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involved with Wairarapa community networks: organic farming, environmental advocacy with Sustainable Wairarapa • Greater Wellington Regional Council’s Wairarapa Water Use Project (http://www.wairapawater.org.nz) – Member of Leadership (Governance) Team as the representative for the environment

Name	Involvement in other organisations/interests
	<p>and recreation consortium.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave No Trace NZ (http://www.leavenotrace.org.nz) – board member & Treasurer. • Currently on contract at Te Tumu Paeroa and reporting to a member who is on the Board of Directors of Crown Irrigation Investments.
Jim Lynch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owns a 47ha farm in the Carterton District. • Farm is adjacent to a section of the Ruamahanga River which would be used to convey water if the Project proceeded with Tividale. • Jim Lynch has a small farm in the indicative irrigable area, potentially served by the Tividale and Black Creek schemes.
Jason Kerehi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serves as a negotiator for the Rangitane Settlement Negotiations Trust (RSNT) and Rangitane Post Settlement Governance Entity – Rangitane Tu Mai Ra (RTMR).
Fran Wilde	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair, Greater Wellington Regional Council • Member of Weltec Whitireia Board • Spouse member of Crown Irrigation
Nelson Rangi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair, Kahungunu ki Wairarapa iwi authority • Ara Tahi - iwi/GWRC partnership • Ngati Kahungunu Iwi Finance & Audit Committee • Ngati Kahungunu Iwi Inc. Board of Directors • Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Group • Masterton district Council – Maori Liaison Task Group Caucus • Wairarapa Police – Maori Advisory Board
John Booth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor of Carterton District Council • Owner of a 160ha farm in Dakins Road, Carterton • Chair of Carterton District Water Race Committee • Have Taratahi water race on property • Member of Carterton District Council Wastewater Committee

Name	Involvement in other organisations/interests
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="548 344 1372 378">• Director of Emquip NZ (heavy machinery import and exporting)<li data-bbox="548 394 1117 428">• Existing irrigation consent holder and user



WWUP Governance Group

MINUTES

WHEN	9 July 2015
WHERE/TIME	2 pm, Meeting Room 1, Shed 39 and Choice Room, Masterton office
ATTENDEES	Greg Campbell, Nigel Corry, Mandy Armstrong, John Booth, Bob Francis, Jim Lynch, Bob Tosswill, Jason Kerehi, Nelson Rangi, Michael Bassett-Foss, Bruce Geden, Geoff Copps and Kevin Steele (IAF)
FILE NUMBER	ENV/05/01/57-v1

1. **Welcome/apologies**

Bob took the opportunity to thank the project team and comms advisor for the huge amount of work that has gone into the project to date.

An apology was received from Fran Wilde and John Booth for lateness.

2. **Conflict of interest declarations**

Bob Tosswill farms in an area likely to be in the command area for the possible Waiohine River investigation which has recently been confirmed as being considered for on-farm storage. The Register will be updated to reflect this.

3. **Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting**

The Governance Group confirmed the minutes of the meeting of 4 June 2015.

Moved: Jason Kerehi/Nelson Rangi

4. **Project Director's report**

- Big focus on communications to affected landowners after the announcement of the scheme options
- Letters to affected landowners were hand delivered and followed up by a phone call
- A collective meeting was called for by several landowners at the Black Creek site – this was held on 25 June
- SAG to meet on 9 July, will discuss the progress and have input into the scoping for the feasibility stage of investigations

Moved: Mandy Armstrong/Bob Tosswill

5. Finances

The finance report is taken as read.

6. RMA Lawyer and Commercial Advisor selection

The Project has now reached the stage where it needs the expertise of a RMA legal opinion and commercial advisor.

The paper included two attachments: *Registration of Interest for RMA Legal Services* and secondly, *Expressions of Interest for a Commercial Advisor*.

A meeting was held with Crown Irrigation prior to the Governance Group meeting to seek input into the two documents. There will be changes to the current wording.

The services provided by the RMA Lawyer and Commercial Advisor could be sourced from a large firm and/or different firms provided they have sufficient resources/experience with projects of this type and scale.

It would be prudent to have a closed tender as the more appropriate way to go to restrict the number of consultants.

There was some discussion around the timeline identified on page 35 in relation to timing of regional plan and science modelling work.

The project will need to be mindful of the timelines for gathering information chronologically from various work streams, before it advises the public eg:

- The Ruamahanga Whaitua decision on standards for water quality is due end of 2016.
- The initial results of the science modelling programmes based on a Ruamahanga are expected in October this year. The full results are expected February 2016.

The timeline identified on page 36 of the reports needs to be reworked in order that a final decision is not made until after the outcomes of the Ruamahanga Whaitua are known.

The Natural Resource Plan plays a big part in the project around water takes.

Action: Briefing by Jonathan Streat on the Natural Resource Plan at the Governance Group meeting of 14 August.

Moved: Bob Tosswill/Jason Kerehi

7. Feasibility scoping

The project is focussing on the workstreams identified in the paper.

At the conclusion of the feasibility phase, sufficient information will have been collected to establish an opinion whether either/or both schemes meet the requirements of resource consent applications.

The diagram on page 35 is work in progress. It was suggested that both agriculture and environmental work areas should be linked as equal importance.

Mandy Armstrong noted that there should be integration between some of the environmental land use intensification with some of the on-farm case studies and modelling work.

Farm survey work continues. It is imperative that farmers are up to speed with their knowledge of irrigation. Greg Ordish to have one-on-one meetings with farmers to educate them around different water requirement scenarios and irrigation options. Farmers need to have enough knowledge to make sound decisions.

Choice Modelling – farmers answering a range of questions to come up with preferences. This survey work could commence approximately March/April 2016

Dr Sue Cassells, Massey University has been advising on how an independent approach to farmers could assist with the Choice Modelling process.

Moved: Mandy Armstrong/John Booth

8. Comms update

Taken as read. Noted the significant information provided from media clippings.

Moved: Bob Francis/Bob Tosswill



WWUP Governance Group

DATE 14 August 2015
AUTHOR Michael Bassett-Foss
SUBJECT **Item 4: Project Director's report**
FILE NUMBER ENV/05/01/57-v1

1. Introduction

The Feasibility phase of the project is gathering momentum, after formally starting on 1 July. Following the last meeting of the Governance Group on 9 July, the project team has been busy developing the Feasibility work plan. This will be presented as work in progress in Item 6 of the papers.

The following topics are covered in separate reports to the Governance Group's meeting of 14 August:

- **Finances** – to end of July are not available at the time of writing this report and will be discussed at the meeting
- **Feasibility scoping** – outlines the progress and status with scoping for the Feasibility phase of the project
- **Regional Plan update** – will be a verbal report outlining the progress and timing of the Natural Resources Plan and Whaitua work
- **Farmer demand programme** – outlines the planning for farm case study and farmer survey/educational work, and
- **Communications** – provides an update on recent communications.

2. Landowners

The project team were involved in an intensive period of affected landowner communications during June and early July. As reported at the last Governance Group meeting, this involved written communications, group meetings, drop-in days and individual discussions.

The project team is committed to landowners that the next communication about the Feasibility work programme will be in mid-August.

3. Stakeholder Advisory Group

The last meeting of the Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) was held on the 9 July. The focus of the meeting was to provide an overview of the final decision process and schemes selected for Feasibility studies.

At the meeting a workshop was also held to develop views on the investigations needed for the Feasibility phase of investigations.

The next SAG meeting will be on 27 August. The project team will present progress with the Feasibility programme of investigations and an overview of SAG input to these investigations.

4. Leadership Group

The next meeting of the Leadership Group will be scheduled for early September.

5. Recommendation

That the WWUP Governance Group:

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the contents.*

Report prepared by:

Michael Bassett-Foss
Project Director



WWUP Governance Group

DATE 14 August 2015
AUTHOR Michael Bassett-Foss
SUBJECT **Item 5: Finances**
FILE NUMBER ENV/05/01/57-v1

1. Update

Budgets are still being prepared and at the time of writing, July costs have not been compiled. However, July costs relate to internal charges only.

There will be an up-to-date finance report prepared for our September meeting.

2. Recommendation

That the WWUP Governance Group:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the contents.*

Report prepared by:

Michael Bassett-Foss
Project Director



WWUP Governance Group

DATE 14 August 2015
AUTHOR Bruce Geden
SUBJECT **Item 6: Feasibility phase update**
FILE NUMBER ENV/05/01/57-v1

1. Introduction

The purpose of this report is to update members with progress on the process of scoping the Feasibility phase investigations.

The current phase will be the first pass at priority Feasibility investigations – the investigations will focus on demand for water, the environmental/regulatory status, commercial positioning and key geotechnical aspects.

Depending on the commercial entity status, this may be followed by **Stage 2 Feasibility** that would get WWUP to the pre-consent application investigations. With the information gained from Stage 2, the **AEE/Consent Application** would then be prepared and lodged.

To put WWUP's current progress in perspective, the 5 typical design phases that major project pass through are:

- a) **Concept design** –the end of Options Refinement
- b) **Preliminary design** – WWUP's current design level
- c) **Developed design** – generally needed for a consent application; usually produced by the end of Feasibility; that will needs to be developed in Stage 2 Feasibility
- d) **Detailed or final design** – follow the granting of consent when consent conditions are known; generally projects go out for tender for construction at this stage depending on the financing/ownership model
- e) **Construction design & specifications** – typically the designers in combination with the construction contractors will determine the construction method(s), materials etc.
- f) **Producer Statements** - describe exactly what was in fact built – not necessarily what was deigned

Again, depending on future project ownership and funding, design stages c) & d) above could be combined especially if there was significant (early) contractor involvement. As each of the above phase's progress, progressively accurate costs estimates will evolve.

2. Funding Sources

Funding for the GWRC's portion of the shared costs has been established in GWRC's Long term Plan (LTP). More specifically, funding has been confirmed until 30 June 2018.

2.1 GWRC's Share of Funding

The following table summarises the details of funding allocated to the WWUP Feasibility investigations:

a) WWUP LTP Budget

\$600,000 per year (\$1.8M total) between 1st July 2015 and 30th June 2018. Because it is debt funded, there's some flexibility as to when this is expended depending on the distribution of investigation costs.

b) Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS) Budget allocation - farm case studies

\$75,000 to be expended between 1st July 2015 and 30th June 2016.

c) Collaborative Modelling LTP Budget - land use scenario testing

\$150,000 to be expended between 1st July 2015 and 30th June 2016.

2.2 Combined (GWRC / IAF) Funding

WWUP Feasibility Funding Sources Summary (\$,000)	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	Total
GWRC funding (50% share)	825	600	600	2,025
MPI – IAF (50% share)	825	600	600	2,025
Total Funding (GWRC + IAF)	1,650	1,200	1,200	4,050

3. IAF Application

One of the prerequisites for being granted funding from the Irrigation Acceleration Fund (IAF) is lodging the preformatted application form. The application then gets reviewed over several weeks or possibly months by the Ministry of Primary Industries as part of the review process.

4. Work Programme

The Feasibility investigations are anticipated to take 18 months, followed by an expected 6 months of implementation and planning for the next phase. The *WWUP Summary Indicative Timeline* (refer **Appendix 1**) provides a schematic depiction of the path the project investigations are proposed to follow during this period.

5. Programme Tasks

The following summarises the main tasks to be achieved during the first pass of the Feasibility work programme are:

- Confirm farmer demand within the indicative command area including Choice Modelling
- Run land use intensification scenario tests (ex the Collaborative Modelling project)
- Conduct case studies on ‘alternative’ land uses, determine on-farm, economics, prepare farm management plans and a nutrient balance for each land use
- Evaluate the 3 dam foundations and a landslide by drilling and assessing the implication of the geotechnical conditions
- A preliminary assessment of the Waiohine on-plains storage option
- Hydrometric gauging of the affected or utilised rivers and streams
- Assess the ability of the rivers and streams that are proposed to convey water
- Conduct preliminary field ecological investigations and advise on outcomes
- Assess commercial structure options and funding sources, and implement as appropriate
- Continue to engage with iwi to identify values, issues, possible studies, options, etc.
- Develop a high level strategic approach towards RMA issues and obligations
- Review implication of findings on scheme costs, risks and opportunities

It’s proposed to review progress on the investigations at roughly 6 monthly intervals to assess such matters as implications (including withdrawing a scheme), options to be explored and changes in approach.

6. Recommendation

That the WWUP Governance Group:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the contents.*

Report prepared by:

Bruce Geden
Project Manager

Appendix 1

Draft v4	Wairarapa Water Use Project - summary indicative Feasibility timeline																													
Work area	2015												2016						2017											
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun						
	Feasibility phase												Implementation of Feasibility																	
Staging	Stage 1									Review point	Stage 2						Review point	Stage 3					Review point							
Agri	Farm case study programme and land use options						Further work to be considered						Undertake further farmer engagement																	
							Value-add opportunities												Further work to be considered											
	Farmer survey - phase 1						Farmer survey - phase 2																							
Commercial	Expert advice, RF						Assess funding sources and develop model						Demand profiling						Capital raise process											
													Implement structural and funding transition																	
	Procurement strategy						Project fund scoping for next stage						Prospectus development																	
Community	Affected landowners - inform, engage, negotiate property access for investigations																													
	Stakeholder Advisory Group - review, debate, feedback, guide																													
	Maori - develop relationship so as to identify and optimise benefits/impacts																													
													Social/economic benefits/effects																	
Environmental	Terrestrial prelim ecology study - feildwork, issues, risks and high level mitigation optid												Review and plan for full ecological assessment																	
	Aquatic prelim ecology study - feildwork, issues, risks & high level mitigation options																													
	Land use intensification and water quality modelling																								Scenarios - Whaitua committees develop limits					
Regulation	Consenting stragtegy						Consider appropriate assessment of environmental effects																		Plan assessment of environmental effects					
	Regional plan/whaitua																													
	NPS objectives																													
Technical	Geotechnical						Review procurement strategy outcomes and develop further work as required																		Plan for require feasibility work and prep final design/procurement					
	River water conveyancing																													
	Water availability - gauging validation																													
	On plains storage/run of river supply opportunities																													

Appendix 2 – WWUP IAF Draft Application Investigations August 2015

Phases	Investigation Groupings	Technical Investigations	Tasks	Comments / Explanation			
1. PREPARATION	Feasibility Phase Management		Ongoing project management	Scoping & costing investigations, specialists advice, IAF application preparation & reporting, preparation & management of EOTs, RPFs & contracts.			
	Farmer demand	On-Farm Activities	Comprising:				
2. WORKSTREAMS			Farmer Demand Engagement	Case Studies External consultants & WWUP team Farmer Demand Engagement Greg's time spanning 3 months			
			Choice Modelling	Comprising: Specialist independent external consultant plus Greg Overseer Assessments Farm Environment Plans Farm Land Management possibly - 3 farms			
			LUI Scenario Modelling	Comprising: a) Pilot Choice Modelling b) Full scale Choice Modelling c) Scenario development & testing d) LUI outcomes assessment			
			Geotechnical Investigations	Comprising: Drilling contractor, lab & T&T. (task & cost break down available) The investigations comprise: a) Tivdale Dam • Drilling including establishment, accommodation, travel, water, Lagoon testing, piezometer installation, minor downtime b) Wakamoekau Stream Dam • Core Penetration testing (CPT) for some sites only c) Black Creek Dam • Downhole testing (downhole imagery, core orientation, downhole shear wave velocity testing) for some sites only d) Saddle dam or connecting channel • Level logger installation for some sites only • Laboratory testing • Seismic refraction survey for some sites only • Digger to set up tracks and platforms (2-10 days depending on site). • Survey • Minor reinstatement • Core storage • Review tender prices, liaise with contractors, verify requests for payment, schedule lab testing • Supervise drilling, Lagoon testing & piezometer installation (not for full drilling period), log & photograph core, process & interpret data • Preparation of factual report & provide comment on factual flaws (if any) & implications for remaining investigations			
			Landslide Investigation	Drilling contractor, soils lab & T&T (detailed break down available) Principal T&T & Greg. Prelim assessment to establish whether its worth further investigation (task & cost break down available)			
			Waiohine On-Plains Storage	Preliminary assessment only			
			River Conveyancing	T&T & GWRC (detailed break down available)			
			Hydrometric gauging	T&T & GWRC; specify & install gauging at dam sites and harvesting intakes (rainfall, continuous measurement of turbidity, series of suspended sediment gaugings, continuous flow gauging etc.) - ASAP, the better (task & cost break down available)			
			Prelim Ecol Assessment	Comprising: Identify key the ecological issues/risks and high level mitigation options & scope full ecological assessment requirements			
			Field Support			a) Terrestrial Ecology Assessment within the reservoir footprint	
						b) Aquatic Ecology Assessment within the reservoir footprint	
						c) Conveyancing waterways ecology Assessment of the rivers & streams where the conveyed water will comprise a significant portion of their summer flows	
						Arrange & manage access to farms for field investigations Includes legal T&T, re H&S, land access arrangements & site supervision, etc. landowner interface, on-site oversight based on \$20K per 5 'Priority' studies, namely geotechnical, landside, Waiohine On-plains storage, river conveyancing, ecological assessments	
						Identify and action where appropriate, potential funding sources and a commercial entity structure in anticipation of GWRCs involvement phasing out Comprising:	
			3. Project reporting/Peer review/Decision phase			Commercial Options & Opportunities	Development of a strategic approach especially in terms of what sort of expertise the RFP is targeting a) Independent Expert Advice & RFP b) Funding Sources ID Assess potential funding sources such as farmers, iwi, TAs, private sector, crown entities. Will inform the commercial structure arrangements. c) Commercial structure options A commercial expert to identify commercial entity options to get through the GWRC exit stage, RMA consenting, construction & operational phases. d) Commercial entity implementation Selection & implementation of a planned approach of commercial entities e) Project fund scoping Scoping the project elements and the associated costs for which funding is required, including where funding will be sourced based on b) above f) Prospectus development & initial capital raise
Cultural values & options	Ongoing twi engagement, including ID of values, issues, possible studies, avoidance or mitigation of adverse effects, recommendations for further work, establishment of indicator sites, taonga survey, harvest plan, biodiversity management plan, advice and consultation with wider parties						
RMA Strategy/Approach	Appoint a lawyer to advise how to approach RMA 'permissions' e.g. the court process, timing, technical advice composition, advice 'bundling' of consents, etc.						
Proposed Natural Res Plan	Review recently released Plan						
Scheme Costs	Review capital & operating costs Determine the implications of the above investigations for the schemes						
4. Project Review						Review of the Priority Investigations	Preparation of consolidated report & an evaluation workshop similar to Value Engineering workshop, plus outcomes/scoping/actions etc.
						Project reporting/Peer review/Decision phase	Includes communications (media, public enquiries & web site, etc.), ad hoc, community & stakeholder engagement meeting costs (including GG, LGSAG & WG), WUP team salaries, GWRC costs (vehicles, IT etc.), etc.
ANTICIPATED FUNDING							
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST							
Comprises: WWUP: \$1.8M x 2 = \$3.6M WRS: \$75K x 2 = \$150K Env Science: \$150K x 2 = \$300K							



WWUP Governance Group

DATE 14 August 2015
AUTHOR Michael Bassett-Foss
SUBJECT Item 7: Regional Plan update
FILE NUMBER ENV/05/01/57-v1

1. Purpose

At the last Governance Group meeting, there was a wide ranging discussion on the timing of the science modelling work and the regional plan process.

The Governance Group asked for a briefing on the Natural Resources Plan scheduled for its next meeting. This paper introduces this briefing.

2. Natural Resources Plan briefing

The Natural Resources Plan was notified and open for submissions on 31 July. It sets out rules and guidelines for using and protecting natural resources in the region. In particular, via the Whaitua programme, it will define limits for water quality and quantity.

Jonathan Streat will attend the meeting to provide a verbal update on the process and timing for the Natural Resources Plan and the Whaitua programme, and provide clarity on the purpose of these two related streams of work.

This will be an opportunities for questions and general discussion on the potential implications for WWUP.

3. Recommendation

That the WWUP Governance Group:

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the contents.*

Report prepared by:

Michael Bassett-Foss
Project Director



WWUP Governance Group

DATE 14 August 2015
AUTHOR Michael Bassett-Foss
SUBJECT Item 8: Farmer demand programme
FILE NUMBER ENV/05/01/57-v1

1. Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to provide the Governance Group an overview of the farmer demand activities, particularly the farm case study programme and farmer survey/education work.

2. Farm case studies

The farm affordability report completed by Baker & Associates for the pre-feasibility phase of the project was based on their considerable experience in the region. It was, however, based on hypothetical farm units.

The farm case studies will investigate land use change under irrigation on actual un-irrigated farms. This will make the case studies more “real” than the theoretical models that have been used to date.

The farm case studies consider a range of potential land uses across three farms. The financial aspect of land use change will be analysed, along with the management and lifestyle implications of the change. A farm environmental plan will compare the current farming system with the impact created by the changed irrigated farming system.

More specifically, the outputs of the farm case studies work will include:

1. A Farm Environmental Plan of the current position describing such characteristics as soils, climate, slope, infrastructure, natural features.
2. An analysis of the potential for land use change across a range of pre-determined land uses. In all cases the potential for multi-land use in any one property will be analysed. The analysis will include financial and management/lifestyle changes required.
3. The financial analysis will be based on actual market conditions and supply chain capability rather than generic market prices.
4. The environmental impact of the selected land uses will be undertaken.

Farm advisor experts will be contracted to deliver items 2 and 3 above. There will be specialist farm advisors selected for different land uses. A separate consultant will be contracted to deliver environmental related items 1 and 3 above.

The work programme will consist of the following methodology:

1. WWUP Project team select case study subject properties. This will be based on coverage of the command area, a range of soil and climate types and willingness of subjects to be involved.
2. A Farm Environment Plan of the selected properties will be undertaken to provide a base line set of data.
3. The commissioned land use experts will undertake a high-level assessment of the potential for land use on all or part of the selected properties. This will be done based on the information in the environmental scan. (i.e. desktop)
4. WWUP project team will select a set of land use scenarios for each case study property based on the high-level assessments. It is expected that there will be more than one scenario for each property and that each scenario will involve a mix of land uses in some form of mixed farming in many cases.
5. The land use experts will be commissioned again to develop detailed land use conversion plans for their component of the operation. These conversion plans will address the capital costs (including irrigation development costs), the future “effective farm surplus” calculations, the connections to the market and the management and lifestyle changes involved. This stage will involve farm visits.
6. Grow Wellington will engage in a market validity analysis for each selected product type. This will include an analysis of industry infrastructure limitations.
7. In addition, the selected land use mixes will be assessed for their environmental impacts by running each scenario through an Overseer assessment.
8. The WWUP project team will engage with the final report writer to compile the work from a range of providers into one coherent “document”.

Seven land uses have been selected for this programme of work. They are based on existing land use in the Ruamahanga Valley, although they cover more land uses than previously examined. They consist of:

- Dairy Conversion
- Livestock Finishing
- Arable and Seeds
- Sheep Dairy
- Apples
- Free Range Pig Farming
- Market Gardening

A Request for Proposal has been issued to suitable consultants. The following outlines the high level timeline for the case study work.

Date	Milestone
31 July 2015	Case study farms selected and agreements reached with owners
21 August 2015	Consultants selected and contracted
31 August 2015	Status Quo Farm Environment Plan complete
28 September 2015	High level assessment of land use options complete and combinations selected for full assessment
12 October 2015	Market and processing targets identified based on high level assessments
27 October 2015	Completion of peer review and decision on which land use options/combinations to move to full assessment
30 November 2015	Full Assessment of land use options complete
21 December 2015	Environmental Impacts complete using Overseer 6.2
15 February 2016	Final Report completed allowing communication programme to begin

The use of Overseer 6.2, to assess environmental impacts of land uses under irrigation, will produce nutrient loss information. There is the option to use this information as part of the GWRC Science Department's Modelling programme.

3. Farmer demand assessment

Through option identification, options refinement and pre-feasibility phases of the project, the project team has engaged with land owners to assess the potential demand for water. At first this was undertaken at a Ruamahanga catchment scale. As the scheme command areas have progressively been refined, the study area has been adapted to these areas. Approximately 67% of land in the command area has been interviewed to date by the project team.

As has been discussed previously with the Governance Group, it is planned that an independent process be run to assess farmers demand using a Choice Modelling process. In order to bring dryland farmers up to speed with irrigation options on their land, so that they can answer questions rationally during the Choice Modelling process, an initial round of farmer visits will be undertaken by the project team.

It is planned that these meetings with landowners be individualised so that discussions can focus on irrigation options relevant to each landholding. There may be two meetings with landowners prior to Choice Modelling depending on time and progress.

The meetings will provide information on the project, outline the timeline and process, and introduce the concept of water contracts. The meetings will also work on farm irrigation options and the process that should be followed to assess, develop and implement an irrigation system. The results of the case study work will be discussed with farmers, and the Choice modelling process introduced.

The farmer surveys will not be limited to those farms inside the command area. They will also extend to those immediately adjacent. Properties over 20 hectares will be the main focus.

During the farmer interviews, the following topics will be traversed:

1. Their appetite for water use, do they want to irrigate
2. Options for land use intensification/irrigation
3. Financial implications/benefits of using water
4. Succession planning
5. Scheme ownership and capital investment in the project.

Public meetings and open days will also be held within the command area to reach out to those farmers not yet on our database and to keep the wider community informed.

The Governance Group will be provided a regular update of farmer meetings and key indicators.

4. Recommendation

That the WWUP Governance Group:

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the contents.***

Report prepared by:

Michael Bassett-Foss
Project Director



WWUP Governance Group

Meetings 2015

The following meetings have been set for 2015:

- ~~— Monday 23 February~~
- ~~— Thursday 26 March~~
- ~~— Thursday 30 April~~
- ~~— Thursday 4 June~~
- ~~— Thursday 9 July~~
- Friday 14 August
- Thursday 17 September
- Thursday 15 October
- Thursday 12 November
- Thursday 10 December

All meetings have been booked in **Meeting Room 1** and commence from **1 – 4pm**.