

RECORD OF MEETING

SUBJECT	Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee meeting
WHEN	Monday 20 October 2014 at 5.00pm
WHERE	Kiwi Hall, Featherston
ATTENDEES	Peter Gawith, Esther Dijkstra, Mike Birch, Andy Duncan, Rebecca Fox, David Holmes, Siobhan Garlick, Rawiri Smith, Colin Olds, Chris Laidlaw, Philip Palmer, Aidan Bichan, Mike Ashby
PUBLIC	Eleven members of the public were present.
APOLOGIES	Siobhan Garlick, Vanessa Tipoki

1. **Welcome**

Alastair Smaill (Project Manager, Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee) opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

It was noted that the public was invited to participate with the committee members on the meetings exercise of exploring Freshwater Management Units (FMUs).

2. **Freshwater Management Units**

Each committee member and others present were sat at one of six tables with a laminated map of the Ruamāhanga Catchment on it. With a whiteboard marker, each group outlined potential Freshwater Management Units (FMUs) on the catchment. Each tables then reported back on what FMUs they had identified, why and any questions or concerns.

2.1 **Summary**

This is just a first step in assessing the appropriate FMUs for the Ruamāhanga whaitua. The identification of FMUs will aid identification of values and objective setting. The number and boundaries of FMUs may change during this process.

The groups identified on their maps between 3 and more than eight FMUs depending, in part, whether they were “lumpers” or “splitters”.

Some looked at land use as a starting point, others started with catchments and river types or character.

In general, everyone agreed that the Tararua/Rimutaka ranges were one FMU. One group suggested separating the foothills. Several groups identified Aorangi as being separate to the other eastern hills and similar to the Tararuas.

The north-east and eastern hills were grouped. Some groups separated this area into two while others had one.

In general, most groups agreed the central valley was one FMU. Some groups divided it into two.

The question of urban areas as separate FMU's is still open and will be discussed further as freshwater objectives are developed.

Lake Onoke was identified either separately or as part of a larger tidally influenced FMU.

Wairarapa Moana was identified either separately or as a catchment that included its tributaries.

The meeting closed at 6.30pm.