



Christchurch City Council Surface Water Strategy 2009

Kaitiakitanga (Stewardship)
Mō tātou, ā, mō kā uri āmuri ake nei
For us and our children after us



Christchurch
City Council



Christchurch City Council (the Council) has a responsibility to ensure surface water is managed in a manner that supports the environmental, social, cultural and economic well-being of current and future generations.

What is the Council doing to manage surface water?

To work towards achieving the goals, the Strategy includes an implementation programme (action plan) which focuses on areas where the Council can make the most difference and address the most pressing issues. It reflects a realistic expectation of what the Council can put into action.

The programme states the Council will:

- (a) Minimise sources of pollutants.
- (b) Manage stormwater in line with policies stated in the Strategy.
- (c) Develop Integrated Catchment Management Plans (ICMPs).
- (d) Review development standards.
- (e) Implement a community education programme.
- (f) Undertake further investigations.



Our Vision and Goals:

The Council's vision for surface water is that:

The surface water resources of Christchurch support the social, cultural, economic and environmental well-being of residents, and are managed wisely for future generations.

Our goals are to:

1. Improve the water quality of surface water resources.
2. Reduce the adverse effects of flooding.
3. Improve the ecosystem health of surface water resources.
4. Restore Tangata Whenua values associated with surface water resources.
5. Support a range of recreation activities on and around waterways.
6. Protect heritage values associated with surface water.
7. Protect and enhance the landscape values of surface water.
8. Support community involvement in surface water management.
9. Manage stormwater in an efficient manner that supports Goals 1 to 8.



Christchurch's Surface Water

The springs, streams, rivers and lakes of Christchurch are vital to the well-being of our communities, and are one of the City's defining features.

What is Surface Water?

The size and range of these surface water resources is extensive, and includes:

- Lake Ellesmere/Te Waihora and Lake Forsyth/Te Roto o Wairewa
- The Avon/Ōtakaro, Heathcote/Ōpawaho, Styx/Puharakekenui, and part of the Halswell/Huritini and Waimakariri Rivers
- Many tributaries and streams
- Springs
- Wetlands associated with the above
- Stormwater

Why surface water is valuable

These surface water resources are an important part of the unique culture, and the natural values of the area, shaping the landscape and our heritage.

Surface water is fundamentally important to Ngāi Tahu, highly valued by residents for recreation and crucial to the health of the environment in which we live.

Surface water affects the state of the coastal and marine environment, including highly significant locations, such as the Avon-Heathcote Estuary/Ihutai. On Banks Peninsula some communities, including Akaroa, Duvauchelle, Pigeon Bay, Takamatua and Little River, get their drinking water from surface water.



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