

Otago Catchment Community Newsletter July 2022

Kia ora,

Welcome to our second newsletter. By the time this newsletter reaches you, OCC will be about to launch into their annual Catchment Leaders Forum, in Alexandra. The day has been co-designed with Nicole Foote from NZ Landcare Trust and is shaping up to be a fun and informative day with some good take-home ideas for those that come along. If you miss the opportunity to get along for the day, you'll be able to read all about it in our next newsletter.

It's been a busy few months, the team has grown and we've managed to get a new funding round out to groups along with our support and connections which Anna and Sam bring to Otago's groups. You can read more about the funding and what groups have been up to below.

We'd like to welcome Camille McAtamney to the OCC team. Camille has been involved with the committee from the get-go, so is across all the workings of OCC. Camille farms with her husband near Waitahuna, and is involved with the Otago South River Care group. She joins the team, moving from the committee to administration super-star, supporting Anna and Sam with their work. Anna and Sam are immensely grateful for the focus, experience and know how that Camille brings to the job!

Thanks for joining us as we work together to support Otago's Catchment Groups.

Otago Catchment Group News

Mid-Taiari Wai



Established in 2021, Mid Taiari Wai has been operating for less than twelve months. Lead by community Hero's, this catchment group has been active among the community, hosting public meetings and information days with a Winter Grazing Field Day that had over 50 farmers turn up to have a better understanding of the regulations. They are currently planning two school stream studies, with OCC Seed funding to supply some plants and Kai to remember the day and inspire more native plantings around The Mid Taiari.

In June the Mid Taiari Wai Committee and some members came together with OCC and participated in a vision and value Workshop (which is still being completed). Their Values are:-

- Balanced Natural Ecosystem
- Enriched Community
- Shared Knowledge
- Adaptive and Robust Leadership
- Naturally Sustainable and Economic Land use

With a current vision of "Growing a future to be proud of".

Glenorchy Catchment Group

Glenorchy Catchment Group have had coordinator, Tilly Hasselman supporting them, since the RMPP funding was promoted to the regions a few years back. The group have been coming together a few times a year to meet and discuss upcoming changes and find out more around their main interests and concerns.

Earlier this year the group were successful with their application for seed funding from OCC. This was to enable the group to bring in experts – Environmental Accounting Solutions, an Environmental consultancy based in Central Otago.

The workshop invitation went out to their own group and further afield, to neighbouring farms – across the lake too.

This session provided a great overview of what goes on with ag emissions and sequestration, explaining how He Waka Eke Noa is shaping up and what it looks like alongside the Emissions Trading Scheme. Remote sensing, forestry, carbon accounting and leases and carbon rights were among the topics covered.

The group had plenty of questions for Felicity and Tim and with these knowledgeable heads in the room, ideas and concerns were able to be answered by people in the business of knowing in depth about emissions and carbon trading schemes.

Lindis Catchment Group Lindis CG Site Tour with Regional and District Councils



Lindis Group have been working on their willow removal project since receiving funding through Jobs for Nature 2 years ago. Clearance of willows from parts of the main stream and tributaries, along with follow up planting of natives, to help restore habitat, improve stream health and create areas for recreation have been involved in the work plan.

The group are seeking ideas for how to continue this work into the future, recognising that it is a long game approach needed. The long-term vision to create a corridor of native along the entire river, from the beech forest of the headwaters to the lake beaches where the river meets Lake Dunstan will require multiple years to remove willows from the river and follow up planting of appropriately selected plants essential.

A site tour was organised recently to bring ORC councillors and staff, along with CODC Mayor and farmers from the group together to look at the progress to date as well as spend time face to go over ideas of how this work might continue.

The outcomes so far and what could be achieved through getting all interested parties on board was discussed, both over-looking new native plantings and the fantastic afternoon tea put together at Matt and Jo's place.

By bringing stakeholders together for a common purpose, the hope is that ideas and perhaps some dollars will flow to help continue this good work.

East Otago Catchment Group



The amount of activity and community involvement in 2022 saw the East Otago Catchment Group move to a space where they have contracted Steph Scott into a part time coordination role. East Otago Catchment Group has partnered up with Friends of Tumai Trust and have

been having community planting days that have highlighted their Catchment Group to the locals and to the wider Otago Community with Dunedinites coming out to help plant.

The East Otago Catchment Group is heavily involved with the Pleasant River Project Funded by MFE and in conjunction with ORC and Puketeraki Hapu, this project aims to help improve the ecosystem.

At the recent East Otago AGM, it was a time for celebration, forming a coordinator role, finding volunteers for planting events and successful applications to Beef and Lamb's funding and OCC's funding to host two events (one being a mental health evening with Matt Chisolm and one being a planting event with signage of the EOCG). EOCG are also recipients of OCC's Direct Group Funding which is part of the funding for their coordinator.

Funding available for Catchment Groups

We are always ready to hear what your water-care and catchment groups might need support with.

OCC's seed and small project fund is available for Otago's groups to apply to any time of the year*, there is flexibility and opportunity for groups to work to their own timeline, not just when funding windows are open. For all information please head over to the website where application forms and criteria can be found under the Funding Tab.

*subject to funds' availability



Direct Group Funding

OCC's first funding round for resourcing groups with personnel time, came and went in May and June. Through the applications which came in, groups are demonstrating that a lot can be done with a modest budget. OCC look forward to seeing the progress in the groups they have funded. Read more here. The next Direct Group Funding round will open in November.

Get in touch with Sam or Anna if you'd like to find out more.

Other Catchment News

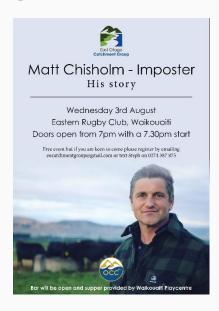
WOMEN IN CATCHMENTS

OCC host an online group for women in Otago who have an interest in or are part of a catchment group.

Lee Cowan who works with Thriving Southland ran a session earlier this year with the group, giving some tips and tricks around great communications for Catchment Groups. Grab a cuppa and click on this link for the recorded session.

If you want to find out more about this group give Anna a call 022 6522 779

Coming Up





Alliance & B&LNZ Greenhouse Gas Calculator & Action Plan Workshops - click here for more info

New Zealand Landcare Trust

National Catchments Forum – Oct 6 & 7 2022

Otago Regional Council

To view ORC's Intensive Grazing Factsheet click here to find out more.

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Get in touch with OCC for any catchment group related enquiry and get the support you need to find success in 2022.