

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture Intersessional
Workshop Part A

*Freshwater management for
water quality – a New Zealand
perspective*

Presentation by New Zealand

UNFCCC SB Sessions, June 2021

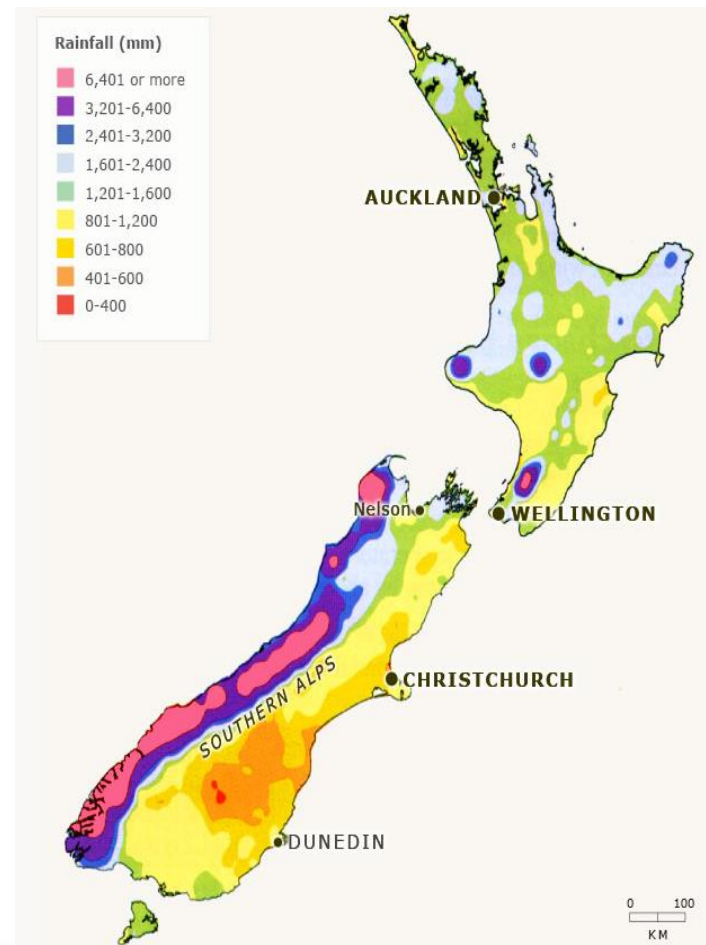
Agenda

1. New Zealand's circumstances
2. New Zealand's approach to freshwater management
3. Case study 1 – Freshwater Farm Plans
4. Case study 2 – Te Awa Tupua



New Zealand's National Circumstances

- Net exporter of food – 85% total food production sold internationally
- Agriculture is an important part of the economy, representing ~10% of GDP and ~75% of our merchandise exports
- ~50% of total land area is used for horticultural and agricultural purposes
- Temperate climate allows outdoor grazing to be practised virtually all year round, including in winter
- Water-rich



Our Challenge and Goal

OUR GOAL: TO BE THE WORLD'S MOST SUSTAINABLE PROVIDER OF HIGH-VALUE FOOD AND FIBRE

We aspire to:

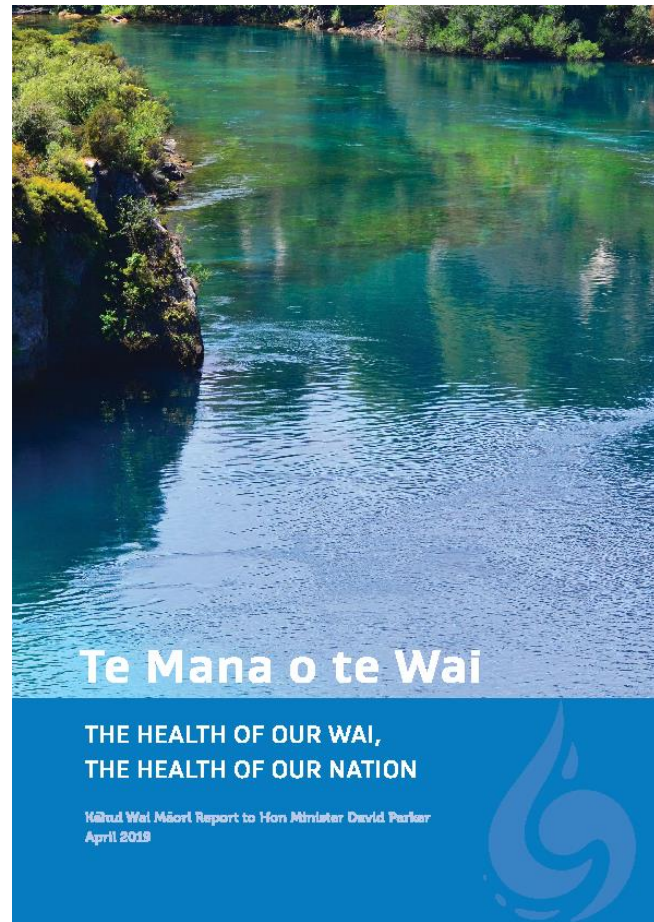
- provide consumers with outstanding, ethically produced food, sourced from our land and oceans
- restore the health of our water
- reverse the decline in biodiversity
- support the economy and our rural communities



Overarching Framework: Te Mana o te Wai

Guided by the Māori worldview

- The health of the climate, land, water and living systems comes first. When nature thrives so do our families, communities and businesses.
- Embrace the Māori view of a deep relationship of respect and reciprocity with the natural world.



Essential Freshwater Package

- National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020
- National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES)
- Resource Management Act
 - Stock exclusion regulations
 - Measurement and reporting of water takes
 - a faster freshwater planning process and mandatory and enforceable **freshwater farm plans**



Case Study 1:

Freshwater Farm Plans

Know



Do



Check



- Designed to create pathways for continual improvement of on-farm practices by improving performance, resilience and sustainability
- The approach aims to assist farmers to:
 - Recognise on-farm environmental risks and provide tools to manage them
 - Focus on water quality, managing nutrient and sediment loss from farm, and improving farm efficiency by reducing environmental losses.



Case Study 1: *Freshwater Farm Plans*

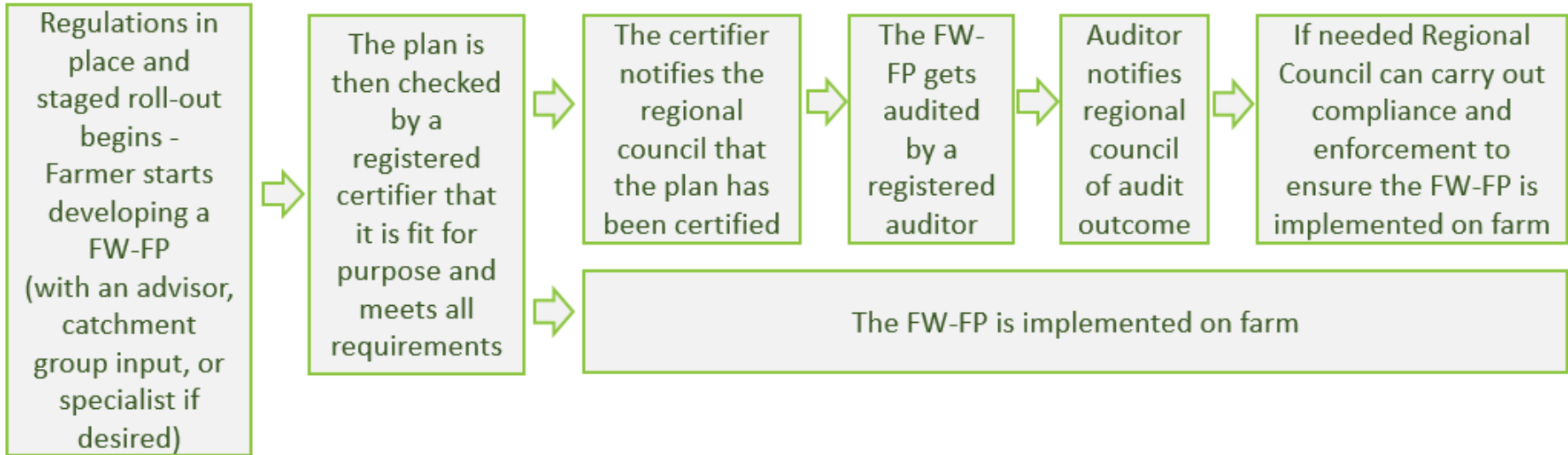
Know



Do



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Case Study 2: *Te Awa Tupua*

- Whanganui River first river to be granted legal personhood in 2017
- Rights, duties, liabilities associated with legal personhood
- Two appointees as voice of Te Awa Tupua
- Collaborative body to set strategy for care for health and wellbeing of Te Awa Tupua



International Collaboration

- Increasing global ambition for sustainable agricultural practises
- The Global Research Alliance for Agricultural Greenhouse Gases – cobenefits of work
- **International research community through our research organisations**
- **Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture in the UNFCCC**
- Food and Agriculture Organisation
- **Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development**
- Two way exchanges directly with Parties through dialogues and discussions at bilateral and regional level



United Nations
Climate Change



Opportunities for the UNFCCC



United Nations
Climate Change

- Highlight importance of agriculture and food security in the context of climate change for international community
- Enable information exchange between Parties leading to policy implementation at regional and national levels
- Utilise existing financial mechanisms to support agriculture activities and enable access to finance



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Thank you / kia mihi

Any questions?

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