

QLDC: Catchment Management Plans

BALANCING ACTS: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AMID BREAKNECK GROWTH

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Author - Disclaimer



語 Beca

I am an immigrant and am still learning about New Zealand's approach to stormwater and the mana of water. I am acutely aware that I have lots to learn and welcome any comments.





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Hierarchy of Stormwater Management

Canada



Hierarchy of Stormwater Management

New Zealand

HIERARCHY OF OBLIGATIONS IN TE MANA O TE WAI



Te Mana o te Wai



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This presentation reviews the challenges for the development of a consistent CMP for the following areas:

- Wānaka
- Hāwea
- Cardrona

These three systems were selected as case studies to highlight the variation across the district in the stormwater systems, the receiving environments, and in the quality and quantity of the existing data.



Stormwater in QLDC





Area Summary

Characteristic	WĀNAKA	HĀWEA	CARDRONA	
Land Use and Cover	Highest Density	Low Density	Very low Density	
Topography	Mix of steep upstream catchments and relatively flat	Relatively flat	Steep upstream catchment	
Receiving Environment	Lake Wānaka, Cardrona River, and Urban Stream Tributaries	Lake Hāwea	Cardrona River	
Population and Growth	Highest population High growth expected	Medium population Medium growth expected	Low current population with lots of growth expected.	

Stormwater in QLDC

Key stormwater challenges in QLDC include:

- 1. A volatile legislative environment
- 2. Pristine receiving environments with varying guidelines and targets
- 3. High growth leading to ad-hoc development driven by developers
- 4. Information variability in each area



Challenge 1: Legislative Framework

The legislative environment in QLDC is complex and contains draft, notified, and partially notified framework.



Challenge 1: Legislative Framework

Water Quality Groups



Challenge 2 Receiving Environments



Challenge 2: Receiving Environments



Relevant Area	Receiving Environment Group	Total Nitrogen (mg/l)	Nitrate- Nitrite Nitrogen (mg/l)	Total Phosphor us (mg/l)	Dissolved Reactive Phosphorus (mg/l)	Ammoniacal Nitrogen (mg/l)	<i>Escherichia coli</i> (cfu/ 100ml)	Turbidity (NTU)
N/A	1	-	0.444	-	0.026	0.1	260	5
Cardrona, Wānaka	2	-	0.075	-	0.01	0.1	260	5
Wānaka	3	-	0.075	-	0.005	0.01	50	3
N/A	4	0.55	-	0.033	-	0.1	126	5
Wānaka, Hāwea	5	0.1	-	0.005	-	0.01	10	3

Challenge 3 Growth



	Wānaka	Hāwea	Cardrona
Population (2023)	10,610	2,000	790
Growth (2023 – 2033) (residents)	2.8%	3.6%	2.5%
Growth (2023 – 2033) (Average Day visitors)	5.0%	5.7%	11.4%

Challenge 4 Variability of Information

Water Quantity Information	Wānaka	Hāwea	Cardrona
Recently completed flood modelling data (completed by DHI)	\checkmark	Х	Х
Previous versions of flooding modelling data	\checkmark	\checkmark	Х
Service Request for flood complaints	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
NZ Historic Weather Event Catalogue (NIWA, 2018)	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark

Water Quality Information	Wānaka	Hāwea	Cardrona
Water Quality Strategy (Beca , 2020)	\checkmark	Х	Х
Recent stormwater monitoring data	\checkmark	Х	Х
Annual contaminant load modelling (GHD, 2020)	\checkmark	\checkmark	Х
ORC Monitoring Data	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Proposed land use based on QLDC's Proposed district plan	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark

Challenge 4 Variability of Information - Wānaka

Boundaries of North Wānaka Model



Image produced by DHI, 2024



Flood Hazards

Challenge 4 Variability of Information - Wānaka

Sub-catchments substantially exceeding all trigger values

Contaminant Load Modelling





Challenge 4 Variability of Information - Hāwea

Historic Flooding Events Rivers and Creeks - Roads Flooding - damburst Flooding - rainfall Lakes Stormwater Scheme Boundar SW Complaints 2004-2022 High No. Complaints Low No. Complaints

Flood Hazards

Contaminant Load Model



Challenge 4 Variability of Information - Cardrona

Flood Hazards



Proposed District Plan



Now What?

- Doing nothing isn't an option
- Use the information you have
- Use best practices approach especially at CMP level





Risks – Stormwater Management

	Location and Risk				
Threats	Wānaka	Hāwea	Cardrona	Risk	
Volatile Legislative Environment	High	High	High	Changing Rules	
Construction Sediment Loading	Medium	Low	High	Sediment washing into stream with development.	
Stream Bank Erosion	High	Low	Medium	Stormwater mobilising sediment, in small streams	
Contaminant Load – Industrial / Commercial	High	Low	Low	Risk of contaminants entering receiving environment directly.	
Contaminant Load – Increased Density	High	Medium	Medium	Risk of contaminants entering receiving environment directly adjacent. Risk of contaminants entering receiving environment (highest concern for E. coli)	
Sensitivity of Receiving Environments	High	High	Medium	Consequence of impacting high value receiving environments is major.	
Information Gaps	Medium	High	High	Risk of existing contaminants entering the receiving environments.	
Primary Level of Service	Medium	Unknown	Unknown	Risk of properties flooding due to infrastructure having insufficient capacity.	
Secondary Level of Service	Medium	Unknown	Unknown	Risk of properties flooding, unsafe transportation during floods and secondary system not being appropriately designed to safely convey water.	

*risk levels are in comparison to each other catchment.

Summary and Next Steps

- Developing a flexible / robust prioritisation framework that can be tailored to the level of information available
- Developing capital projects based on this prioritisation framework to allow a "no regrets" approach to stormwater management
- Using the Urban Stormwater Management Principles to provide a foundation for nature based solution generation
- Considering a 'live' format for the catchment management plans to enable updates due to regulation change as well as asset changes due to fast growth
- Aligning CMPs across the district in a strategic way to unify the approach to stormwater

Acknowledgements









Thank you! Questions? Patai?



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