

Recommendations

Recommendation one

The Feasibility Study will need to take into account via a social impact assessment uses of the Girl Guide lodge facility in the lower Lee Valley in relation to possible options for a storage dam (or dams) in the Lee Valley.

Recommendation two

Tasman District Council should explore multiple opportunities for planning and implementation of water conservation measures and practices. These can be linked to awareness-raising and/or educative initiatives (see recommendation three).

Recommendation three

Tasman District Council should create opportunities for increasing public awareness and knowledge of the water systems and water management practices and options in the Waimea region, including iwi perspectives on freshwater.

Examples of mechanisms to achieve this include:

- Talking with members of NIRMAK and MIRMAK to discuss ways in which Maori perspectives and concepts could be included in educative opportunities.
- Internal communication within TDC to ascertain opportunities to enhance social learning.
- Displays of the hydrology of the Waimea region in the foyer of the council building.
- A series of articles in the TDC newsletter.
- Contacting schools in the area to identify where school curricula may provide opportunities for 'local learning' either through fieldtrips and/or additional information.

Recommendation four

Residents of the Lee and/or Wairoa Valleys need to be provided with timely information about the progress of the Feasibility Study, and the possible implications of outcomes. This could be done via a widely distributed newsletter and/or membership on a community reference group with identified mechanisms for dissemination of information to other Lee and/or Wairoa Valley residents. The costs of widespread dissemination needs to be weighed against the possibility of much higher costs that could stem from community groups distrusting the Feasibility Study, and challenging the implementation of its

recommendations at the RMA consent stage.

Recommendation five

The Waimea Water Augmentation Committee, Tasman District Council and the ESR research team should set up a community reference group to meet with designated members of WWAC and the consultants on a six monthly basis for the duration of the Feasibility Study. This group could be comprised of representatives from the stakeholders identified in the stakeholder analysis carried out for the ESR research along with further input from the TDC policy and planning unit. The purpose of this group should be to:

- (i) Provide input to the feasibility study.
- (ii) Provide advice as to what information could be sent out via the newsletters and other publications.
- (iii) Act as a potential conduit between those involved in the Feasibility Study and others in the community.
- (iv) Provide advice on opportunities for increasing public awareness and knowledge of water systems and management in the Waimea region.