

## Tasman Area Community Association update – February 2022

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### Moutere Eastern Groundwater Zone remains in Stage One Water restrictions

Tasman District Council is keeping Stage One water restrictions in place for water users in the Moutere Eastern Groundwater Zone, despite recent rainfall around the region.

Stage One Rationing, which is a 20 per cent cut in authorised weekly usage will continue from Monday 21 February 2022 for the holders of consents within the Moutere Eastern Groundwater Zone.

Most parts of the district had received significant rainfall over the past two weeks, which had allowed previous Stage One and Phase A water restrictions to be lifted in most areas on February 4.

The Cobb Dam in Golden Bay was now filled to more than 55 per cent capacity, while the Kainui Dam at Wai-iti had reached full capacity last week.

However, the clay-based, non-porous nature of the soils in the Moutere Eastern Groundwater area meant large amounts of rainwater had not been absorbed as much as in other zones.

Restriction of domestic water use within the rationed water management zone means watering of lawns or decorative gardens is not permitted, although stock drinking water is not restricted.

Demand for water over the next month is expected to ramp up in the absence of rain, so the Council needs to manage abstraction through to the end of the growing season.

If levels improve above the trigger levels, the Council will review this decision.

It is important that all users connected to Council water supplies continue to conserve water in the coming weeks.

### Red drives interactions online

Driven by the nationwide change to Red on the CPF (COVID 19 Protection Framework), the decision has been made that all Council meetings, consultation, and hearings will now be managed online. Where possible this will include staff presenting to external groups and associations

There are several reasons supporting this decision.

- We have an obligation as an employer under the Health and Safety at Work Act to ensure we do not place staff at risk where that risk can be mitigated,
- We cannot place our community at risk when we have an alternative means of consulting and providing the opportunity to interact with us, and
- Our responsibility as a provider of essential services has taken on a higher level of importance with the very real possibility of widespread Covid-driven disruptions. If this does happen, it is imperative the community can rely on the Council to deliver the services required to households and businesses.

The change in circumstances has reinforced the need to ensure our community are aware of, and are able to take, the opportunity to interact with our decision-making processes,

Therefore, Council will put more emphasis on advertising, online information and consultation resources and education resources to ensure our community knows when and how they can take part.

## Fish Passage Project underway in your area

Our Jobs for Nature Freshwater Improvement Fund – Fish Passage Project has been funded to improve fish diversity and abundance by searching out and remediating in-stream structures across the Tasman District over a 5-year period.

This project is allowing action to be taken to address these barriers to fish migration as they are identified.

Currently work is being completed in Sherry River/Tadmor and will soon begin in Riwaka, Aorere Valley and selected areas of the Moutere as part of the start-up phase.

Once the initial start-up phase is complete, work will focus on the Golden Bay region moving systematically by catchment. Over the five-year project additional areas will be added.

A dedicated, trained team from Kūmānu Environmental (a division of Nelmac) is carrying out the work.

One key focus of this project is to support private landowners by assessing any in-stream structures (such as culverts) and completing remediation when required and within the scope of the project funding.

Go to [www.tasman.govt.nz/fish-passage-project-updates](http://www.tasman.govt.nz/fish-passage-project-updates) for more information.

You can also express your interest to be informed of information sessions, related events or to get in touch in regards to their property when work begins in your area.

## 2022 Future Development Strategy and Growth Plan Change

Tasman District Council and Nelson City Council are currently working on a joint 2022 Future Development Strategy (FDS).

The FDS is a strategic plan that covers residential and business potential sites within the Nelson and Tasman regions over the next 30 years.

The strategy looks at how and where Council can create more capacity for development (for housing and business) and identifies the infrastructure required to support it.

The FDS does not rezone the land, but it informs Councils' Resource Management Plans. Before the FDS is adopted by both Councils it will go through a Special Consultative Procedure, where the public can make a submission on the strategy.

This consultation period will run from 14 March 2022 to 14 April 2022. Hearings are scheduled for April and May and following deliberations, the FDS may be adopted by both councils in July 2022.

To ensure any business or residential growth occurs in a way that best benefits those who live here now and in the next 30 years to come, it is important that we engage with our community.

As we are at Red on the Covid Protection Framework and to keep everyone safe, in-person community consultation events will not take place. Instead, we have planned a comprehensive online consultation programme.

For details on when online consultation opportunities will take place, go to [tasman.govt.nz/fds](https://tasman.govt.nz/fds).

## Growth plan changes

We are also working on a plan change to rezone land for housing in Murchison, Brightwater, Wakefield and to enable higher densities on residentially zoned land in Māpua and Motueka.

A plan change is normally the next step in the process following the adoption of the FDS.

However, in this case the FDS and the plan change to rezone land are working concurrently to enable Tasman to meet its growing demand for housing.

The plan change will also go through a formal process of notification, submissions, hearings and decision making.

The pre-notification consultation for the plan change will run during the same period as the FDS consultation, from 14 March 2022 through to 14 April 2022.

During this time, we would like to hear from you and get your feedback on the proposed plan change areas and proposed rules.

Visit our website for more information, [tasman.govt.nz](https://tasman.govt.nz), search 'growth plan changes'.

## Input is sought on a new Tasman Wastewater Bylaw

It is essential that we can manage and control the type and volume of discharges to our wastewater system.

The unpredictable nature of trade waste can have a significant impact on the operation of the system and treatment processes.

A wastewater bylaw sets out the trade waste registration/permit application process and establishes the statutory authority for the recovery of fees and charges.

The bylaw also sets out the requirements around wastewater system infrastructure that applies to all wastewater connections.

In reviewing the previous bylaw, our staff have addressed issues associated with the management of trade waste and wastewater that have arisen since the last review in 2015.

These include providing further guidance on what discharges are permitted or require a permit. It ensures it matches the regulations of Nelson City Council and the Nelson Regional Sewerage Business Unit and it provides further guidance on pressure sewer systems and swimming pool discharges.

The draft Wastewater Bylaw is open for feedback until Monday 7 March 2022.

## Walking and Cycling strategy feedback open

Our draft Walking and Cycling Strategy aims to improve key issues in every town across Tasman District, and we want you to talk to us about it.

It focuses on safety, accessibility, liveability, climate change and traffic congestion. The strategy suggests changes to parking, alterations to speed limits, the installation of cycle lanes and paths, and the development of slow speed neighbourhoods.

Find out more on our website or pick up a copy of the draft strategy from your nearest service centre or library – then make a submission.

Find more information on how to have your say at [tasman.govt.nz/feedback](https://tasman.govt.nz/feedback).

Feedback closes on Monday 7 March 2022.

## \$100,000 for Covid affected community groups in Tasman

We've created a new way to assist local groups who have been financially impacted by Covid-19, thanks to a surplus in our Community Grants Fund.

Council has a surplus in our grants fund that can be used to directly assist community organisations in Tasman who have suffered a monetary loss due to Covid-19.

Funding is also available for groups who assist vulnerable people and have needed to increase their service because of Covid-19.

Applicants must be not for profit, charity or voluntary organisations who work across our District.

It is intended that grants will assist in covering the costs of things like salaries, wages, and volunteer expenses. Costs that are essential to service delivery, administration and office expenses can also be covered, as well as accommodation expenses, including rent, leases, maintenance, insurances and utilities.

Requests for assistance will need to be made via the official application form on our website and are open year-round.

A typical allocation for each group is expected to be around \$5,000. Applications are now open. Full details about criteria and eligibility can be found on our website, [tasman.govt.nz/grants](https://tasman.govt.nz/grants).

## Join your local Youth Council

The Tasman Youth Council is looking for new members for 2022. This is an excellent opportunity for young people who are passionate about their local community and want to make a positive difference in our region.

The role is also a great opportunity for anyone who is interested in politics and wants to learn how decisions are made and what role the community plays in these decisions.

Youth Councillors participate in conferences and hui, as well as organise projects that are important for young people. They advocate for youth issues and ideas and support infrastructure projects such as skate parks, street art, reserves, youth hubs and more.

Anyone between 12 and 24 years old living in Tasman is welcome to join. There are four Youth Councils around the District – Golden Bay, Motueka, Murchison and Waimea.

Sign up online at [tasmanyouthhub.co.nz/join](https://tasmanyouthhub.co.nz/join).

## Tell us how you'd like to see Council news and information communicated

We're always looking for ways to improve our communication channels. Help us by filling in a survey and you'll go in the draw to win one of five \$50 Prezzy Cards.

Return your completed survey to any Council service centre or library, or pop it in the post addressed to: Communication channels survey 2022, Tasman District Council, Freepost 172255, Private Bag 4, Richmond 7050.

You can also complete it online at [tasman.govt.nz/feedback](https://tasman.govt.nz/feedback). The survey closes on 28 February 2022. If you'd like to go in the prize draw, please provide your name and email address and/or phone number. This survey is for residents of Tasman District only.