



North Otago Sustainable Land Management
Collectively enhancing North Otago's Land, Water and Community Resources

Activity Report

Period 1/8/18 to 30/4/19

Rob McTague
5/17/2019

Proudly partnering with...



The following document outlines Key NOSLaM Activity for the period 1/8/18 to 30/4/19.

The following report outlines Key NOSLaM Activity for the period
1/8/2018 to 30/4/19

Chairman's Report – Peter Mitchell

As you will read in the reports below there has been a lot of action over the last 9 months. I have just returned today from an excellent one-and-a-half-hour workshop held in the Weston hall where there were 64 farmers (staff and owners) present. The topic was wintering cows to a high standard... a topic targeting the winter grazing season about to start for 2019.

Comprising of 4 x 20 minute presentations covering compliance obligations, animal welfare, nutrient management and soil management, I have no doubt everyone learnt something. I have been Farming for 30 years and I learnt that I need to keep developing my sediment loss mitigation practices and for a healthy soil I need to check that I have at least 10 worms in every spade full!!!

As an arable farmer I was pleased I went along, but what I was more pleased about was that this workshop was the first one to be instigated by one of Noslam's pod group members – a new farmer stepping up and taking a lead.

Working alongside our co-ordinator, it was well organised and coordinated with a high level of engagement. It was so encouraging to see so many new faces in the room, many of whom were our local farm hands who came with the farm / land owners.

I have always said one of the most important things we do as NOSLaM is provide a platform that will get farmers engaged to help make a positive difference on their farm and on the wider environment. I have no doubt that today's workshop helped achieve exactly that.

Secretary /Treasurers Report – Jane Smith

It has been an extremely action packed start to the year – with our continued focus on the operational activities based around our POD group model. The launch of the Waiareka Phosphorous project (funded by NOIC) and major riparian projects (such as Cants Road and Kakanui) have meant an ever increasing portfolio of activity, yet a very efficient use of our funding partner's contributions with all projects taking the format of dual funding between NOSLaM and community groups and entities. This has benefits far greater than fiscal savings – collaboration, community engagement and stakeholder ownership in shaping the future of NOSLaM.

With a ramping up of activity, our budget is aligning well, given the considerable (yet prudent) underspend in the 17/18 financial year. Investment in communications will be increasing further within our budget over the next 3 -6 months (communication with both our farmer members and our wider network of community groups and stakeholders). We are delighted with the NOSLaM website and we continue to focus on social media communication alongside our tried and true postal newsletter model to the wider community.

Thank you again to our funding partners, NOIC, ORC, WDC and McKenzie & Co for their continued support, mentoring and encouragement.

Co-ordinator Activity

Administration

- General admin tasks
- RMPP Facilitator Training (Christchurch 2 Days)
- Arranging and prepare Pod Water Quality meetings
- Arrange and Prepare Strategy Meetings
- Website developed and launched

- Facebook page launched
- Admin work in the preparation of and off the back of the activity listed below

Pod Group Activity

- Individual farmer meeting Rhys Hamilton and Fonterra
- Meet with Callum and Dylan re irrigation training options and ideas
- Develop spreadsheet template for graphing individual farmer water results.
- Case study meetings with 3 farms in the Waiareka Catchment initiated by DairyNZ and followed through with Fonterra. (Geoff O'Neil, Phil Wilson, Megan Rowlands)
- Battersby Pod created.
- Meet with Phil Wilson, Hanna Stalker and Justin Kitto to look at options to remove ponding areas on Phils farm.
- Farmer meeting at Enfield to introduce Phosphorous Study Project.
- Meet with Callum Kingan and Nick Webster about next steps for Battersby Pod members
- Meet with Tui Turnwald and Jeff Thompson to discuss next steps for Friston. Stopped water sampling for the time being.
- Graphed individual Friston sampling site results and sent to committee to decide next steps.
- Fielday at Phil Wilsons on the back of his case study work.

Stakeholder Activity

- Meet with Craig Simpson and Nicola Holmes to discuss Enviro Folder
- Initial meeting with Cynthia Winkworth about Phosphorous Project
- Speak at Waitaki Tramping Club Meeting
- Meet Chrissy Williams and Shane Lodge(Oceania)
- AGM
- Meet with Nicola Holmes to discuss newsletter content
- Meet Rob Miller (Tourism Waitaki contact)
- Scope Phosphorous Study Project with Dr Sarah Mager
- Meet with Bill Chou and Suzanne Butler WDC re help for Phosphorous Study help
- Meet Sandra Taylor with Pete and film B+LNZ video
- Meet with Jen at Waitaki Irrigators
- Cants Road / A2O Cycle Trail planting completed at the Taylors property with Duntroon School, Oamaru Rotary Club and local Rural Women's Club.
- Met with Plant and Food Research looking at alternative land use options for Kakanui Nitrogen sensitive area. Visited John and Snow Newlands farm to look at their Dog Treat operation using cherries.

Water Quality Monitoring

- Battersby road water quality meeting.
- Follow up Battersby and Friston Pod meetings
- Ongoing communication of water test results from Rachel Ozanne (ORC) as they come available.

Projects

- Friston Stream water quality testing program continued to March 2019. Results from individual sample sites evaluated. Next steps being planned.
- Phosphorous Research Project initiated. Questionnaire designed to help gather farm size, sector type, irrigation information, forestry information, plus other information. All farmers/ landowners involved contacted by phone. Sampling has been undertaken.
- Meet with Simone and Steven McCone / James McNalley / Max Crow to discuss and initiate wetland planting at the corner of Kakanui Maheno Road and Wainakarua Road on the McCones property. 1000 plants to be planted 30/5/19 involving Kakanui School, Maheno School, Kakanui Garden Club, Kakanui Ratepayers Group, Kakanui Rural Fire Brigade, Wainakarua Lions Club.

Breakdown of Coordinator Hours To Date

Period	Admin	Stakeholder	Pod
1	153.9	33.3	24.4
2	46.0	27.5	26.0
3	74.6	23.8	74.3
4	69.5	26.6	85.9
5	58.9	18.2	50.4
6	97.8	7.4	38.7
7	46.4	66.2	93.1
TOTAL	547.1	203	392.8
PERCENTAGE	47.87%	17.76%	34.37%