

In This Edition

Working towards improved fish passage management in New Zealand

In the News

Professional Development Opportunities

Branch Events

Certified Environmental Practitioner

September Edition

By Craig Redmond

Welcome to the September edition of A Step Closer, your New Zealand EIANZ newsletter. This month we have an article from the National Fish Passage Advisory Group, news from the past month, professional development opportunities and branch events.

As mentioned this is your newsletter – so as members of EIANZ, we would like you to send through more content to share with members, no matter how big or how small. It is as easy as emailing nznewsletter.eianz@gmail.com

Over the next few months we will also be contacting members for feature profiles, so we look forward to finding more about our diverse membership base.

A new feature we want to run is photo of the month, so if you are out in the field and take a great snap, please send it through.

Feedback:

Email with your thoughts to nznewsletter.eianz@gmail.com and we will share them with members in our next Newsletter.

Working towards improved Fish Passage Management in New Zealand

By Sjaan Bowie

A lot of progress has been made on better national coordination of fish passage management in New Zealand this year.

This began with **Trevor James** (Tasman District Council), **Sjaan Bowie** (DOC), **Anna Burrows** (Greater Wellington Regional Council) and **Paul Franklin** (NIWA) organising a two day national workshop on fish passage management in November 2013. Over 90 experts attended, with engineers and scientists from over 56 different organisations represented, including Regional and District Councils, DOC, NIWA, NZ Transport Agency, Kiwirail, Mahurangi Technical Institute, iwi and ecological and engineering consultancies.

The workshop focussed on providing updates, sharing experience and having discussions on fish passage management systems, the latest research, design standards and gaps in knowledge. Proceedings of the workshop were produced (Franklin et al, 2014) and these contain summaries of the papers presentation and documentation of key discussions. Some of the key themes that emerged from the workshop were:

- A need to improve access to resources providing guidance on managing fish passage;
- The requirement for research to fill gaps in our knowledge about fish and their ability to pass different structures;
- The importance of installing fish passage solutions that meet best-practice designs; and
- The need for greater collaboration between ecologists and engineers to find effective solutions for enhancing fish passage at instream structures.

To help achieve these aims NIWA and DOC have recently agreed to work together to collate and develop national resources to support fish passage management in New Zealand. As part of this project, we have launched a new [fish passage website](#) with the aim of improving access to the most up-to-date information on what you can do to help our freshwater fish in New Zealand. You can also find copies of the [presentations and proceedings](#) from the 2013 Fish Passage Workshop.

We have also established the national fish passage advisory group, which is a core group of ecologists, engineers and environmental advisors that represent the key parties involved in fish passage management in New Zealand. The group aims to provide expert technical support, develop tools and national guidance to help enhance, maintain and improve the key constraints to fish passage¹ and connectivity² of waterways.

The role of the [Advisory Group](#) will include leading the development of national tools and systems, providing better national coordination, increasing accessibility to guidance and tools, coordinating an interdisciplinary

¹ Providing connectivity between all habitats necessary to complete freshwater fish and other instream organisms' lifecycles (e.g. aquatic invertebrates, shrimp).

Scope covers all management of passage e.g. structures of all sizes, physio-chemical and hydrological.

² Connectivity, covers all freshwater fish and other organisms e.g. shrimps, aquatic inverts that need migration, connectivity and passage

approach to the management of fish passage, actively identifying and seeking collaborative opportunities to advance research and management, liaising with, and fostering support from industry bodies, professional organisations and special interest groups, and promoting development and influencing legislation and policy.

This year also saw the first [World Fish Migration Day](#) on 24th May 2014. [World Fish Migration Day](#) (WFMD) was a one day global initiative with local events worldwide, to create awareness and understanding of the importance of open rivers and migratory fish and their needs. More than 270 events were held in 52 countries, with five events around New Zealand, and Christchurch had the privilege of officially opening the global event.



Family fun day at Nature Play in Christchurch (Taryn Wilks)

Sjaan Bowie, Dave West, Helen McCaughan and Alan McDonald (DOC Christchurch) got together with **Mike Hickford** (Canterbury University), **Taryn Wilks** (Pattle Delamore Partners Limited), **Lan Pham** (Working Waters Trust), **Alex James** (EOS Ecology) and Environment Canterbury, Waihora Ellesmere Trust, ATS Environmental and CERA , to create a hands-on family event at [Nature Play Park](#). Joseph Hullen (Ngai Tahu and Canterbury Conservation Board) officially opened the event for the world, and Associate Minister for Conservation Nicky Wagner visited in the afternoon.

The day was a real success; packed with plenty of fun activities including videos, live fish displays, information stations, games, colouring in, lolly scrambles, practical demonstrations, guest speakers and a treasure hunt. A key highlight was “Kokopu Dave” (**Dave West**) leading a practical demonstration of inanga whitebait trying to negotiate a makeshift fish pass.



Checking out the native fish found in the Local Avon River (Sjaan Bowie)



DOCs great new fish passage banner (Taryn phone)



Kokopu Dave showing kids how inanga (whitebait) can use a fish pass to get over barriers (Sjaan Bowie)

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In the News

So in case you missed it, here are some snippets of environmental news since the last newsletter.

Politics

[Farmers look forward to resource law reform](#)

[Climate minister didn't expect National voters at debate](#)

[\\$100m plan aims to buy farmland near waterways](#)

Local Government

[Bob Jones joins fight over iwi's tick for works](#)

[Metro rail won't fix congestion - expert](#)

[Official mayoral car contradicts Brown's green plan](#)

[NZTA to fight for Basin Reserve flyover decision](#)

Conservation/Ecology

[Canterbury professor lands new DOC role](#)

[Perpetually single takahe is retired](#)

[New species of kaka discovered - a bit late](#)

[Anglers get warning over 1080](#)

Water

[Christchurch rivers still 'open sewers'](#)

[Study links estuary sediment to sheep](#)

[Water health may reach tipping point - scientist](#)

[Pollution and falling fish stocks damage Gulf](#)

Air quality

[Couple raises stink over sewage mist](#)

Heritage

[Reprieve on cards for city landmark](#)

Climate Change/International

[U.N. Women chief: Climate change impacts fall hardest on women](#)

[World risks spending \\$250 billion just to monitor U.N. development goals](#)

[U.N. climate summit falls short for marchers, world's poorest](#)

[BP facing billions in fines for 2010 US spill](#)

[Obama expands Pacific marine reserve](#)

[Surf, sand and solar power - the future of Samoa](#)

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Professional Development Opportunities

The following Professional Development Opportunities are available and as always, all EIANZ events are available on the calendar of our home page <http://www.eianz.org/>

EIANZ Conference 2014 – Living on the Edge



Living on the edge- environmental management has many edges; borders of ecological communities, divisions in the landscape created by development, and sharpness of thought, language and argument about environmental outcomes and good practice.

See Tasmania in the spring time, come and explore 21st century challenges in environmental policy and practice. The conference will showcase new knowledge and skills that will ensure that you can practice at the leading edge of shaping a resilient and sustainable environment. Reserve the date now – plan to present a paper or poster about your research or practice. Let's ensure as a chapter, New Zealand is well represented.

Registration here - <http://www.eianz.org/conference/registration>

Where: **Hobart, Australia**

When: **30 and 31 October 2014**

Venue: **Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart, Tasmania**

New Zealand Symposium 2015 – Save the Date - 27 March 2015

We are pleased to announce that the 2015 New Zealand EIANZ Symposium will be held in Wellington on Friday 27 March 2015. Topics at this stage are;

- Implementing the NPS on Freshwater Management - how to make it work
- Local Government Reform – strengthening councils’ capacity for environmental management

Look out for more information about this great local EIANZ event – it would be fantastic if all the membership can make it along to the capital and play their part in making this the most successful symposium to date.

The New Zealand Coastal Society Annual Conference



Join the New Zealand Coastal Society for their 22nd Annual Conference in Raglan.

Where: **Raglan, Waikato**

When: **November 18-21 2014**

Webpage for more information: <http://coastalsociety.org.nz/conference2014/>

Sustainability for Leaders – 21st and 23rd of October 2014 – Christchurch

The Natural Step New Zealand is offering a Sustainability for Leaders training course this October in Christchurch. If you are interested in learning to implement the strategic planning processes the Natural Step offers or perhaps in becoming a TNSNZ accredited Associate then this internationally recognised training event does both. Book now while tickets last.

Good leadership is about getting the simple principles right and applying them consistently. The trick is to have the right principles in play. In this practical and interactive course, based on a “learn, do, review” approach, participants will learn to implement the Natural Step’s planning system and principles that will help future-proof their organisations for the shift towards a more sustainable and successful economy and human society.

By attending this training will develop skills in:

- Articulating the value proposition and business case for sustainability

- Strategically analysing sustainability situations using a scientifically-based framework
- Changing the way you think about sustainability to see the systemic issues and opportunities
- Conducting a Sustainability Value Assessment of your business, community, or organisation
- Strategize how to mobilise colleagues, address objections and get buy-in to advance sustainability in your business, community or organisation
- Explain the ecological and social science basis of sustainability and the framework for strategic sustainable development

This course is ideally suited for:

- Leaders/senior managers and decision-makers
- Staff in strategy development roles
- Procurement managers and staff
- Sustainability and environmental managers and staff
- Anyone with an interest in understanding sustainability
- Those interested in becoming accredited TNSNZ Associates

For more details click here

Course fee: \$750+GST

[Click here to register for Christchurch](#)

Canterbury Branch Event

Canterbury Green Drinks

The Christchurch EIANZ branch had a successful evening hosting 'Green Drinks' in August for the first of our regular monthly catch ups. Jeska McNicol sparked a lot of conversation about the combined environmental footprint of all of our SME's.

The details of our next Christchurch EIANZ branch drinks and catch up are as follows:

Wednesday, 3rd September, from 5:30pm, @ Bean Scene Café and Cargo Bar, Lincoln Road, Addington (Cargo Bar will be open for drinks and food prior to this for early birds).

Speaker: Ned Norton, Water Resource Management Consultant @ NN Consulting, "Changing times for freshwater: the NPS (National Policy Statement), NOF (National Objectives Framework) and collaboration"

All members welcome! And please feel free to bring friends and colleagues.

The first Wednesday of every month, the Canterbury EIANZ branch members (and guests) will meet for drinks and a speaker at Bean Scene Café, from 530pm.

Dates for 2014 are:

Wednesday 1st October - Lynda Murchison, North Canterbury President, Federated Farmers “Sustainable Agriculture”

Wednesday 5th November - Richard Howard, Soil and Groundwater Consultant @ Separate Phase Ltd, Topic TBC

Wednesday 3rd December – TBC

With the support of members we will continue these into the new year. Let us know what you think.

If you have any questions, or have a great idea for a future speaker, get in touch with your local branch by [email](#).

Canterbury Water – Play your part in local water management



We need your knowledge, passion, experience, and ability to work collaboratively to help deliver benefits from Canterbury's water resource to your community.

Eight of Canterbury's ten water management zone committees are now calling for expressions of interest for new community members.

The Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) is an innovative and bold way of managing our fresh water now and in the future.

It will help to ensure safe drinking water supplies, sustainable farming practices and clean rivers and streams, as well as enhancing recreational opportunities and protecting environment and cultural values.

The following committees are seeking new members:

- Kaikoura
- Waimakariri
- Hurunui – Waiau
- Ashburton
- Selwyn – Waihora
- Orari – Opihi – Pareora
- Christchurch – West Melton
- Lower Waitaki – South Coastal Canterbury

The membership refreshment process enables two community members each year to be replaced or reappointed; ensuring new perspectives will be represented on the committees while still ensuring continuity.

If you would like more information or to fill out an expression of interest form please visit www.ecan.govt.nz/canterburywater or phone Environment Canterbury Customer Services on 0800 324 636.

Expressions of interest are due prior to 20 October 2014.

Certified Environmental Practitioner

Certified through a process of peer and Board assessment, Certification can provide a greater level of assurance to the community, employers, clients and professional associates of the credentials and peer recognition of an environmental professional.

Maintaining high quality professional outputs of practitioners not only has positive environmental and social results, but may offer economic gains by enhancing sector competitiveness.

The CEnvP Scheme was established in 2004 as an initiative of EIANZ. It is Australasia's first certification scheme for general environmental practice, and one of the first in the world.

There are currently over 540 CEnvPs across Australia and New Zealand (as at June 2014).

We encourage suitably qualified practitioners to participate in this important initiative for the environment profession.

For more information about certification criteria and the application process, please visit www.CEnvP.org/apply

New Zealand: 03 741 3102

info@cenvp.org

Call for Articles and Ideas

We will be putting out this newsletter quarterly and need interesting and informative articles every time!

Have you...

- Finished an interesting project?
- Attended a training course you found valuable?
- Have some photos that you just have to share?
- Got some ideas for other things you would like to see in this newsletter?

If so, we would love to add your two cents to the newsletter.

If you would like to share, please do send any suggestions, articles, photos to [Craig Redmond](mailto:Craig.Redmond).

The next newsletter will be out at the end of August, so please send any submissions through by 24 October 2014.

Have your details changed?

It is important for us to keep your details up to date. If you have recently moved house or job, changed your phone number or email address please let us know by sending an email to newzealand@eianz.org to ensure that your details are up to date.

Key Institute and Chapter Information

NZ Chapter Executive Committee

President: [Joh Taylor](#)

Vice President: [Ian Boothroyd](#)

Councillor: [Di Buchan](#)

Secretary: [Taryn Pearce](#)

Treasurer: [Chris Bailey](#)

Regional Branch Coordinators

Auckland: [Kathryn McDonald](#)

Bay of Plenty: [Sharon De Luca](#)

Wellington / Central: [Leonie Waayer](#)

Canterbury: [Pene Ferguson](#)

Committee Members:

[Stacey Swanson](#) (Students and Early Careers Portfolio)

[Steph Brown](#) (CEnvP) Coordinator

[Geoff Meadows](#)

Other Key Roles

Membership Secretary: [Eric Scott](#)

Newsletter Editor: [Craig Redmond](#)

Contact for general enquiries: newzealand@eianz.org

EIANZ Website: www.eianz.org and www.eianz.org.nz

Find out about events at: www.eianz.org/eventsplus/category/new-zealand

Join us at: www.eianz.org/membership/category/new-zealand

Watch us at: www.youtube.com/nzeianz

Follow us at: www.twitter.com/nzeianz

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