



## Our Vision

To engage our Communities to protect and enhance water quality now and for future generations

## The Plan

### Testing Water in Stream

- More testing sites (28 sites identified)
- This will allow for better comparison of water quality leaving farms

### Discharge (Farmer Testing)

- Increase testing opportunities
- Have an easy system

### In Stream Health

- MCI (macro Invertebrate Index)
- Fish numbers etc.

### Good Management Practices

- Sediment
  - Quantify amounts leaving farms
  - Phosphate issues
  - Non-farm animal effects
- E Coli
  - Native bush area levels
  - Effect of tiles (clean discharges)
  - Ducks / humans etc.
- Nitrogen
  - Application timing and amounts
  - Alternatives to synthetic nitrogens
  - Catch crops
- Winter cropping issues
- Use of mini wetlands, sediment traps etc.



### Reduce Regulation

- More permitted activities
  - Sediment traps
  - Constructed wetlands
- Clarify rules and their interpretation
- Produce simple flow charts

### Community Involvement

- Work with schools to improve understanding of what is in our water
- Introduction of benefits of Riparian Planting
- Identify significant community recreation sites

### Awareness

- Get the message out to the whole community
- Use all forms of media to tell our story

## Our Values

Sustainable businesses across the whole region thriving beside a healthy and diverse ecosystem for the enjoyment of the whole community

Owning any issues and accepting the responsibility to make changes

A collaborative approach that provides solutions and celebrates successes

Diverse habitats and healthy water ecology

Communities enjoying water for all recreational activities

## Goals of Catchment Groups

- To establish sub catchment groups
- Farmers encouraging farmers
- Share and encourage best practice by all
- Communicate simple messages
- Improve water quality across all tributaries
- Regulation changes that allow activities that help improve water quality.
- Measure and celebrate progress
- Tell our story
- Community recognition of efforts made

## Member Discharge Testing - Pick up and drop off points



- **Waitahuna**  
Waitahuna School car park by the second door to the swimming pool
- **Lawrence**  
Tuapeka Transport, behind the office building in the yard
- **Tapanui**  
M90 Farm Solutions, behind the Toy Library, main street Tapanui. Bottles will be in the fridge at the rear.
- **Clydevale (Tuapeka) Lower Pomahaka**  
Clutha Vets, Clydevale besides gate into the backyard.  
(Note: this site has changed)
- **Clinton (Waiwera South, Kaihiku)**  
The Clinton Express
- **Owaka**  
Owaka Motors, at the rear on the northern side
- **Balclutha (Lower Clutha, Lake Tuakitoto)**  
Farmlands, Balclutha. Bottles will be in the fridge at the Southern end. Ask inside if in doubt.
- **Milton**  
Clutha Vets, Milton on the drive by the rear entrance



## Upcoming Discharge Testing Days

- 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019
- 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019



**Note:** these dates are weather and river flow dependent.

## Start Up

In August 2018 funding was received from Sustainable Farming Fund, ORC, Clutha Community Trust and Shand Thompson Ltd to instigate a new catchment group network in the Southern Otago area.

- We have had a round of 5 farmer meetings in the area presenting water quality data and setting out the aims of the project
- We have held a meeting with all the stakeholders in the river working together to develop our Vision, Values and Goals for the project
- We have had another round of 6 farmer meetings to initiate the formation of catchment based committees.
- We have identified 28 sites to test in stream water quality across the area to provide information to members of water quality values and movements.
- There is a discharge testing service to provide farmers information on water quality leaving their property.

## Build Momentum

- Continue with water testing to build information
- Development of a data base of farmers in each area so information can be shared
- Individual catchment areas to instigate field days etc. to look at local initiatives and disseminate information to farmers
- Work with schools and community groups to monitor the health of the waterways and to look at riparian planting options.
- Provide information via print and social media to promote our vision
- Increase membership to give real strength to the projects outcomes and ability to negotiate with regulatory authorities. Taking ownership as farmers.

## Future direction

- Identify opportunities for future funding
- Identify and develop new best farm practices to improve water quality in our areas
- Develop and research new ideas to promote our clean green image
- Tell our story as we go
- To maintain our reputation as environmentally focused producers of protein



## Join Now

This project will only succeed if there is a majority of farmers that want to invest in water quality information, share innovative ideas or instigate new ideas to protect and enhance water quality now and for future generations.

In Otago, the farmers have been given the opportunity to make a difference rather than a regulatory consenting process.

Agriculture as an industry does not have a choice but to move with the times.

## Subscription

Annual Subscription will be valid from 1 July to 30 June

Annual Subscription Fee: \$280 + GST (per farmer)





## We Are Live!

Otago South River Care now has a website which is a part of Clutha Development.

- About Us
- What We Do
- Get Involved

Check it out at:

[www.cluthanz.com/otago-south-river-care/](http://www.cluthanz.com/otago-south-river-care/)

If you have any website feedback, please email [info@cluthanz.com](mailto:info@cluthanz.com)



## Get in Touch

Lloyd McCall  
Project Manager

[lloyd@m90fs.co.nz](mailto:lloyd@m90fs.co.nz)  
027 248 9090

Shelley Phillips - Administration  
Manager, Clutha Development

[shelley@cluthanz.com](mailto:shelley@cluthanz.com)  
027 418 1133



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## Our Partners



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