

2014 ACTION PLAN



The Cashmere Stream Care Group was initiated in 2006 as part of Environment Canterbury's Living Streams Programme. Our Committee has a broad range of experience, knowledge and expertise ranging from aquatic ecology to historical knowledge of the stream and its catchment. We meet regularly, and anyone is welcome to attend our meetings.

This Action Plan is a living document which includes the full range of work we'd like to cover at some point. At the start of each year we'll aim to develop and communicate an annual work programme, identifying aspects we believe can be completed/contributed to within that year.

OUR MISSION:
"To protect and enhance
the health of the Cashmere
Stream and its catchment"

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GOAL 1:

Protect and enhance Cashmere Stream and its catchment.



Photo © Shelley McMurtrie

Objective 1: Maintain & improve the diversity & abundance of native instream fauna.

- Actions:**
- Reconnect the stream with its floodplain through stream bank re-contouring.
 - Stream channel maintenance has regard for instream values.
 - Remove deposited sediment from stream channels.
 - Improve stream meander & instream habitat to increase the range of habitats for insects & fish.
 - Ensure key native fauna (e.g., koura, kakahi, cleanwater insects) are able to thrive.
 - Reintroduction of native fauna to increase diversity & distribution of native aquatic communities.

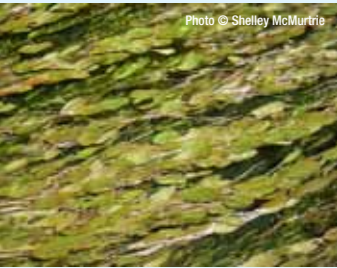


Photo © Shelley McMurtrie

Objective 2: The diversity & abundance of native instream flora is maintained & improved.

- Actions:**
- Identify, protect & enhance remnant native terrestrial vegetation.
 - Advocate the value of diverse macrophytes as in stream habitat for aquatic fauna.
 - Reduce the dominance of exotic macrophytes.
 - Develop a demonstration reach showing the potential for stream restoration. Include information panels about the site.

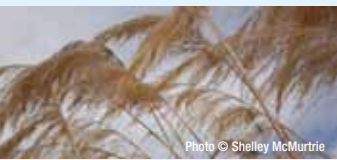


Photo © Shelley McMurtrie

Objective 3: Wetlands, springs & riparian vegetation are maintained & improved.

- Actions:**
- Protect & enhance spring habitats.
 - Identify, protect & enhance remnant native riparian vegetation & wetlands.



Photo © Dave West

Objective 4: Reduce sediment inputs & improve water clarity of the stream.

- Actions:**
- Identify key areas within the catchment that are sources of sediment to Cashmere Stream.
 - Maintain & improve vegetation coverage in the catchment to reduce verland runoff of sediment.
 - Maintain & improve riparian vegetation to prevent localised stream sources of sediment.
 - Encourage & support land owners to exclude heavy stock from accessing the stream & its tributaries.
 - Identify hydrological pinch points for flooding in Cashmere Stream & opportunities for greater retention of flood flows in the catchment.
 - Establish wetlands in the lower reaches of key tributaries to trap catchment-derived sediment.
 - Identify key sources & activities that do or could contribute sediment directly or indirectly into Cashmere Stream.
 - Actively advocate & work with regulatory authorities & developers to improve sediment control practices during land development.
 - Identify critical sites to monitor water clarity, undertake this monitoring on a regular basis & utilise data in an effective manner.
 - Create a public repository for images that highlight practices that affect Cashmere Stream.



Photo © Shelley McMurtrie

Objective 5: Keep Cashmere Stream riparian zone free of plant pests.

- Actions:**
- Improve local awareness of plant pests in the catchment, how to control them & suitable replacements to plant.
 - Undertake plant pest surveys & monitoring.

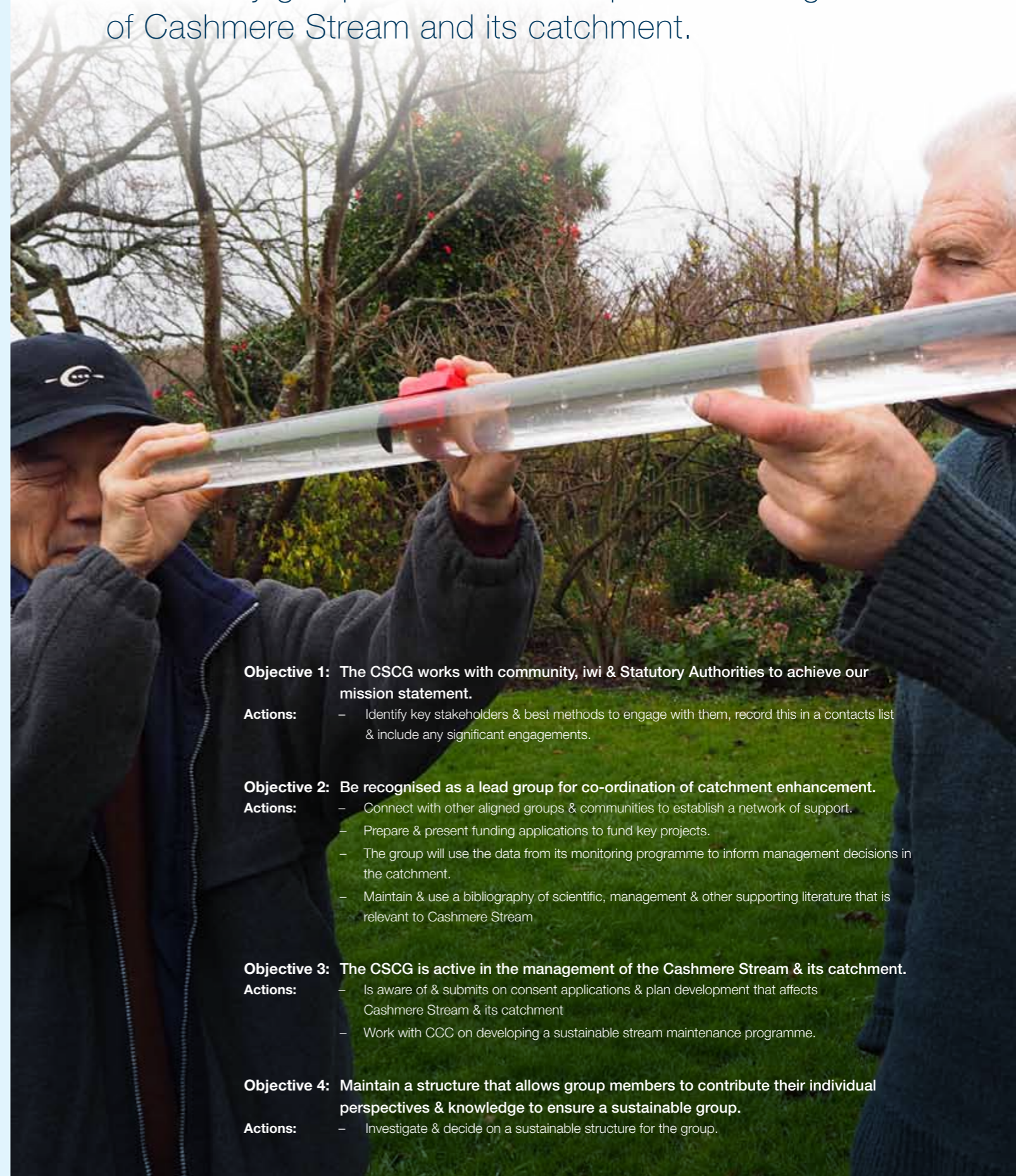


Objective 6: Keep Cashmere Stream free of aquatic pests.

- Actions:**
- Undertake aquatic pest surveys & monitoring.

GOAL 2:

Maintain a credible, representative and active community group that results in improved management of Cashmere Stream and its catchment.



Objective 1: The CSCG works with community, iwi & Statutory Authorities to achieve our mission statement.

- Actions:**
- Identify key stakeholders & best methods to engage with them, record this in a contacts list & include any significant engagements.

Objective 2: Be recognised as a lead group for co-ordination of catchment enhancement.

- Actions:**
- Connect with other aligned groups & communities to establish a network of support.
 - Prepare & present funding applications to fund key projects.
 - The group will use the data from its monitoring programme to inform management decisions in the catchment.
 - Maintain & use a bibliography of scientific, management & other supporting literature that is relevant to Cashmere Stream

Objective 3: The CSCG is active in the management of the Cashmere Stream & its catchment.

- Actions:**
- Is aware of & submits on consent applications & plan development that affects Cashmere Stream & its catchment
 - Work with CCC on developing a sustainable stream maintenance programme.

Objective 4: Maintain a structure that allows group members to contribute their individual perspectives & knowledge to ensure a sustainable group.

- Actions:**
- Investigate & decide on a sustainable structure for the group.

GOAL 3:

The natural and cultural values of Cashmere Stream and catchment are recognised and embraced by the community.



Objective 1:

Improve the level & quality of peoples interaction with the Cashmere Stream.

Actions:

- Investigate location & opportunities for connecting walkways in the catchment.
- Public lands are considered as a whole with opportunities to improve connections between land parcels.
- Submissions are made on land developments that impact on stream access.
- Group members will endeavour to take action on local bad practice in their neighbourhoods.



Objective 2:

Opportunities & richness of mahinga kai are improved.

Actions:

- Mahinga kai protection & rehabilitation opportunities are considered & included in all Cashmere Stream Care Group projects.



Objective 3:

People are more aware & informed of the Cashmere Stream's natural values.

Actions:

- Annual community stream days are arranged & resourced.
- Key pressures (i.e., deposited sediment) are identified & understood by the community.
- Newsletters & other mediums are used to communicate with the wider community .
- Document & celebrate the group's achievements.
- Engage with local schools & organisations to get them involved in stream initiatives where appropriate.



Objective 4:

Educate the community that flooding is a natural & essential part of a healthy stream & that development should not encroach on the natural flood area.

Actions:

- Collate the science around why flooding is a natural & essential part of a stream, make this available to the wider community.
- Identify & communicate areas of Cashmere Stream designed to allow flooding.



REFERENCES

- The following documents are key resources used by the group to inform the development action plan:
- McMurtrie, S & James, A (2013) Cashmere Stream – Reducing the Pressures to Improve the State.
See at www.cleanwaterways.org.nz/pdf/cashmere-stream.pdf
- McMurtrie, S & James, A (2009) Sources of Sediment Input into Cashmere Stream.
See at www.cleanwaterways.org.nz/pdf/sources-of-sediment-input-into-cashmere-stream-january-2010.pdf