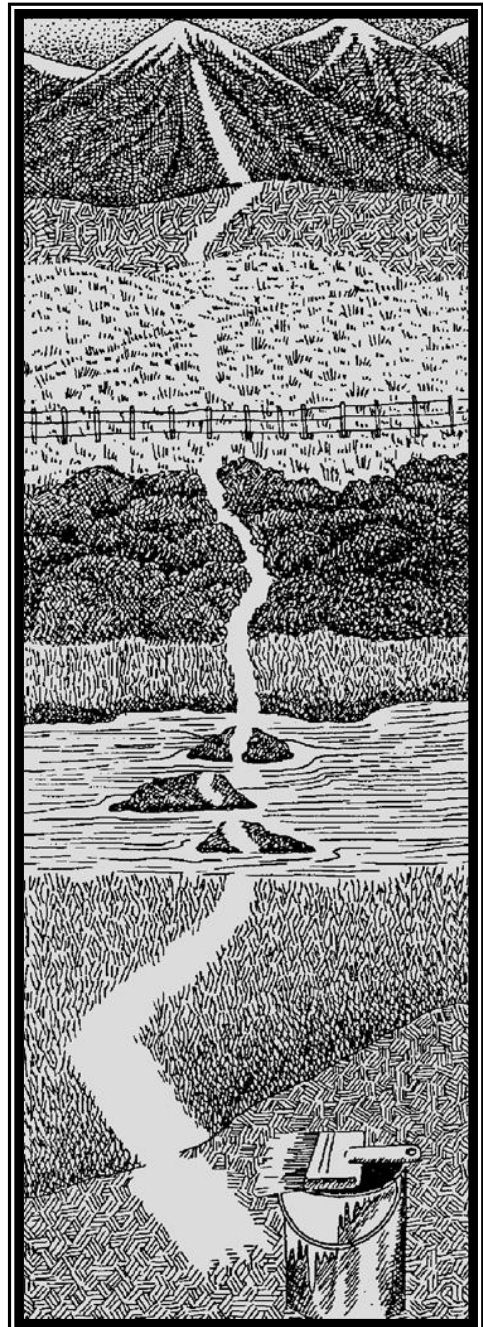


18

Cross Boundary Issues



18.1 Introduction

An activity which makes use of Otago's water resources can create an adverse effect on adjacent areas outside the immediate vicinity of the activity. Where that impact occurs on the water resource, the provisions of this Regional Plan: Water will apply to ensure an integrated and coordinated approach is taken.

However, some activities associated with the discharge of contaminants, the taking of water, the use of the beds and margins of a water body, the use or development of a wetland or the use of groundwater have the potential to create adverse effects on land areas. These adverse effects include the possible loss of the natural character of an area or the acceleration of naturally occurring erosion.

In a similar way, the effects of activities occurring outside of the water resource can adversely affect the water resource, particularly in terms of water quality and quantity. Land use activities can, amongst other things, result in increased sedimentation, nutrient runoff and a reduction in flows.

Where the adverse effects of an activity occur in an area under the management of another agency, administrative processes are required to ensure that the cross-boundary nature of the effect is considered, and where necessary taken into account by the agency responsible for the management of that resource. Establishing processes between local authorities in order to deal with those cross-boundary issues is required.

It is important that the cross-boundary issues are identified, agreed to and are dealt with in an efficient and effective manner in order that any adverse effects of those issues are avoided, remedied or mitigated.

18.2 Methods

In order to deal with cross-boundary issues as they arise, the Otago Regional Council will use the following methods:

- 18.2.1 To liaise with adjacent regional councils over issues of concern related to the management of the water resource.**
- 18.2.2 To promote and encourage the development of protocols with adjacent territorial local authorities and regional councils for resolving cross-boundary issues.**
- 18.2.3 To consult with all agencies having responsibilities for the sustainable management of aspects of Otago's environment.**
- 18.2.4 To promote and encourage joint working groups, joint council committees and other joint approaches between appropriate territorial local authorities and regional councils to consider cross-boundary issues.**
- 18.2.5 To combine with appropriate territorial local authorities and regional councils in jointly processing resource consent applications that cross administrative boundaries.**

Explanation and principal reasons for adopting

Processes to resolve cross-boundary issues will be based on consultation and communication between Otago's local authorities and with adjacent local authorities. Various approaches employing joint groups, committees or other means can be used to facilitate the consideration and decision-making between different authorities over issues that cross their boundaries.

