

Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere Sustainable Drain Management Project

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Sustainable Drain Management Project



Partners – WET, ECan, SDC, Ngai Tahu & Lincoln University plus local farmers

Funders – MfE, MAF/MPI, Canterbury Community Trust, SDC, ECan and others

Working with landowners and managers to investigate, demonstrate, and enable options for improving management of the drainage networks that flow into Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere.



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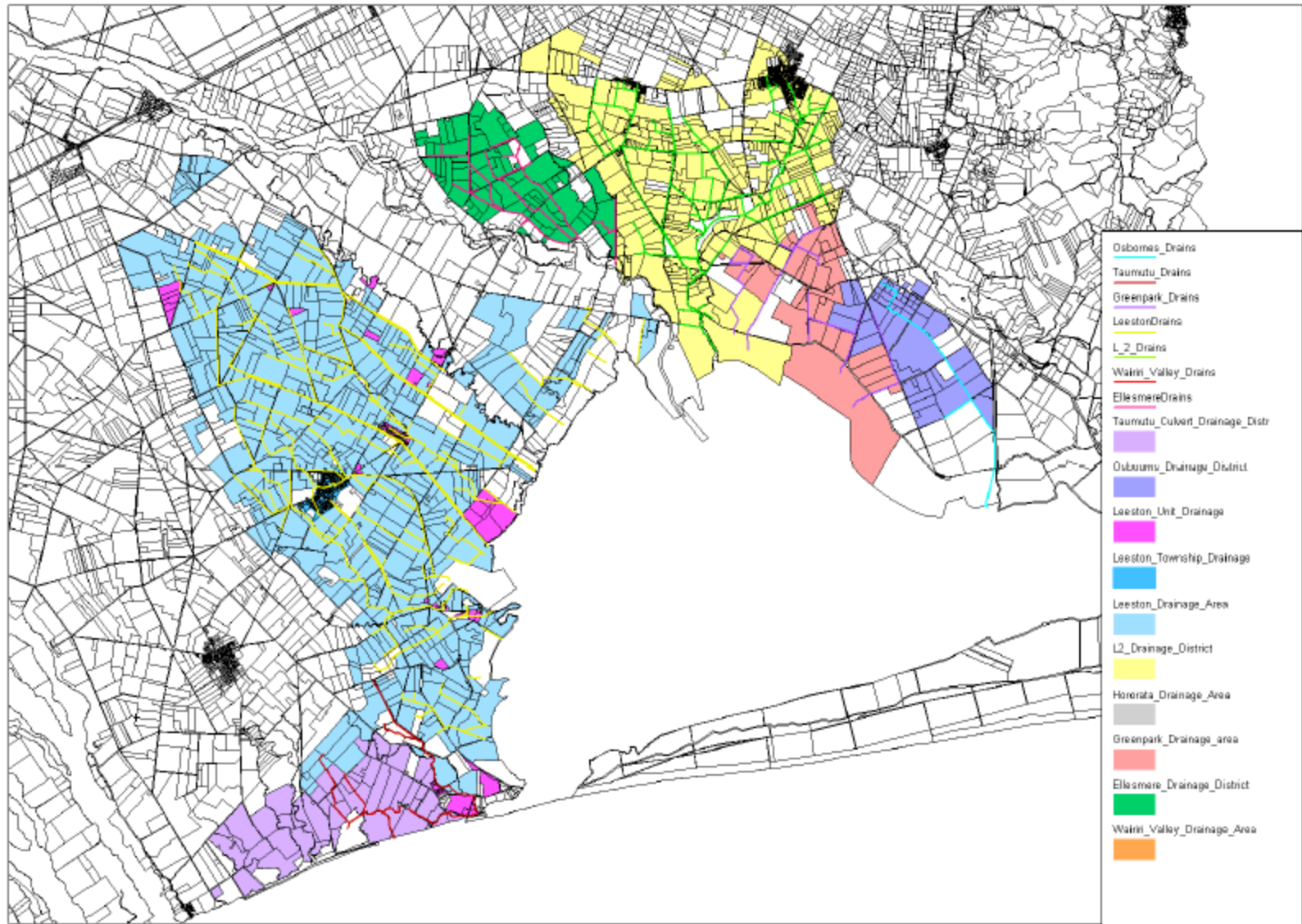
Educate - strong education and extension aspect – developing a set of key messages and taking them to the community (field trips, displays at local events, community meetings, videos, brochures).

Facilitate - building stronger relationships between partners, info gathering, research and monitoring.

Activate - restoration planning service, practical advice & support (eg, benefit and cost analysis), promoting demo sites & celebrating success. Events such as community planting days to involve the wider community.



Figure 11.1: Land Drainage Districts









Issues	Solutions
Water quality	Exclude stock, plant buffers and construct small wetland areas in the low points and gullies
Excessive weed growth and build-up of sediment	Careful cleaning Planting drain banks to create shade and intercept sediment
Habitat disturbance	Low impact cleaning by hand Identify and protect areas of high value Use a weed rake Carry out work in December and January (November – April if well away from the lake)
Loss of bank stability	Create a V shaped channel, plant banks
Willows	Remove, leaving stumps in place