

MEDIA RELEASE FROM UPPER CLUTHA LAKES TRUST:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WANAKA WATER GROUPS MERGE

Two Wanaka community groups working on local water quality, the Lake Wanaka Trust & the Upper Clutha Water Group, have announced their merger effective April 16, 2018. The merged organisation will be known as the Upper Clutha Lakes Trust. See website www.uppercluthalakestrust.org

Lake Wanaka Trust Chairman Russell McGeorge commented “the two groups share similar objectives and goals relating to the water quality and health of the lakes and rivers in the Upper Clutha, have members in common, and the Upper Clutha Water Group has been an organisational member of the Lake Wanaka Trust almost from the establishment of the Trust.”

“When the Upper Clutha Water Group was successful in gaining \$385,000 Ministry for the Environment funding from its Freshwater Improvement Fund, in association with the Otago Regional Council, the Te Kāhano Aotearoa Trust and Catchments Otago”, says UCWG Chair, Mandy Bell, “it was realised that a more formal legal structure was desirable. We approached the Lake Wanaka Trust with the idea of merging the two organisations under the structure of the Trust.”

“This approach was welcomed by the Trust” says McGeorge, “and successful discussions have resulted in agreement to merge, with the Trust changing its name to reflect a broader Upper Clutha scope of activities. Mandy Bell has been appointed as an additional Trustee.”

“The trustees of the Upper Clutha Lakes Trust see the merger as a positive move to consolidate the number of groups working on all aspects of water quality, and will strengthen the community’s voice in relation to the maintenance of the Upper Clutha’s water quality for future generations.”

ENDS

For questions contact either

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