

# **Hurunui South Branch - Micro Hydro Project Launch**

## ***Objectives***

The main purpose of the launch day is to celebrate and publicise the combined efforts of MainPower, DOC and EECA that have provided a New Zealand made renewable energy solution to assist in the operation of DOC activities.

Todd Mead (MP): This project represents a substantial investment for MainPower and the company is interested in publicising this effort to increase the awareness of distributed generation.

Wayne King (DOC): DOC would like to publicise;

- Conservation work in the area
- Cooperation between DOC and industry
- Benefits of a reliable energy source to conservation work

Philip Mladenov (EECA): EECA would like to publicise;

- EECA contribution to the project
- Cooperation between DOC and industry
- Applications of micro-hydro generation

## ***Contact Information***

For all enquires, suggestions or concerns about the launch event planned for Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January, please contact Matthew Cutler-Welsh at MainPower.

### **Matthew Cutler-Welsh**

Generation Division, MainPower

Phone: (03) 311 8333

Email: [matthew.cutler-welsh@mainpower.co.nz](mailto:matthew.cutler-welsh@mainpower.co.nz)

Fax: (03) 311 8331

Mobile (Friday 20<sup>th</sup> only): 0274 544 820

## ***Planning***

**The following information is correct as of: 17/01/2006 2:53 p.m.**

## Itinerary

January 20<sup>th</sup>

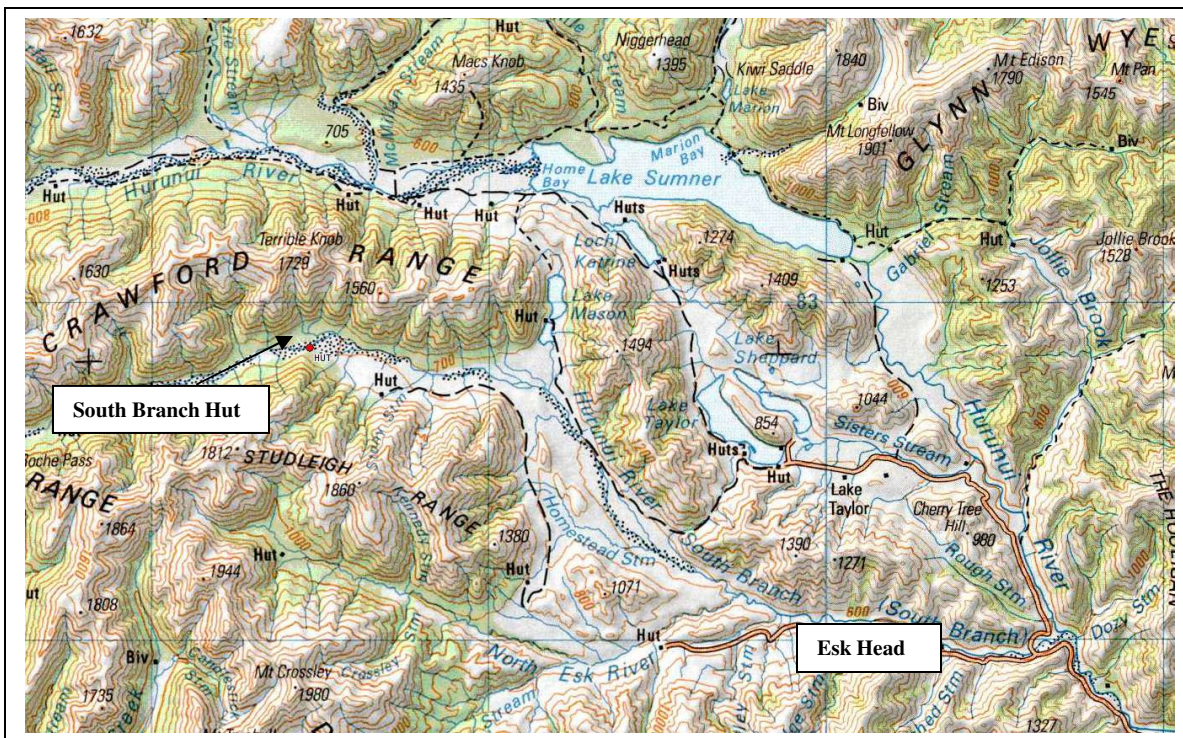
	Time	Activity	Responsibility
Travel (in)	7:15	<b>Christchurch (various locations):</b> Attendees to be picked up from Esk Head, leave Christchurch by car.	M. Cutler-Welsh Mike Cuddihy David Higgins
	9:30	<b>Christchurch Helicopter base (Pound Rd.):</b> Helicopter departs	Todd Mead
	10:00 – 10:15 (15 min window for navigation)	<b>Hut:</b> Helicopter arrives at hut and leaves for pick up at Esk Head.	Peter Boocock / Wayne King
	10:15 – 11:15	<b>Hut:</b> Intro to site and staff + safety briefing. Morning tea available. Tour around hut while awaiting shuttles. DoC staff on hand to discuss work in area	Wayne King
	10:15	<b>Esk Head:</b> Driving attendees arrive at Esk Head. Morning tea available.	M. Cutler-Welsh
	10:30	<b>Esk Head:</b> Helicopter pick up (first shuttle)	M. Cutler-Welsh
	10:45 – 11:15	<b>Hut:</b> First shuttle arrives. Intro to site and staff + safety briefing.	Wayne King / Todd Mead
	11:00	<b>Esk Head:</b> Helicopter pick up (second shuttle)	M. Cutler-Welsh
	11:15	<b>Hut:</b> Second shuttle arrives. Intro to site and staff + safety briefing.	Wayne King / Todd Mead
Main Event (all at hut)	11:30 – 12 :00	Blessing from Ngai Tahu	David Higgins
		Welcome	Todd Mead
		Intro to micro-hydro	Philip Mladenov
		Address from Associate Minister of Conservation	Hon Mahara Okeroa
	12:00 – 12:30	Lunch at hut Questions/discussion Interviews	M. Cutler-Welsh
	12:30	Farewells and thanks	Gill Cox
Travel (out)	12:45 – 1:45	Walk to intake and return to hut (optional)	Wayne King / Peter Boocock
	1:30 (or earlier)	First helicopter flight out (to Esk Head)	M. Cutler-Welsh
	2:00	Second helicopter flight out to (Esk Head)	Wayne King
	2:30	Helicopter departs hut for Christchurch Airport	Todd Mead
	3:00	Helicopter arrives in Christchurch	
	5:00	Driving attendees Head expected back in Christchurch	

## ***Attendees***

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Transport</b>
<b>MainPower</b>		
Gill Cox	Chairman	Christchurch
Todd Mead	Generation Division Manager	Christchurch
(Andrew Thompson)	Business Development	(Esk Head)
Peter Boocock	Technician	hut
Neal Boocock	Technician	hut
John Otten	Technician	hut
Matthew Cutler-Welsh	Generation	(Esk Head)
<b>Consultant</b>		
Titus Smith	Reily Consultants	Esk Head
<b>MPs</b>		
Hon Mahara Okaroa	Associate Minister of Conservation	Esk Head
Colin King	Kaikura MP	Esk Head
<b>Land Ownders</b>		
Helen Heddell	Farm Manager (remote)	Christchurch
(Lindsey Lloyd)	Owner rep (lawyer)	(Esk Head)
<b>Materials</b>		
Michael Lawley	Director, EcoInnovation	Esk Head
<b>EECA</b>		
Philip Mladenov		Esk Head
<b>DOC</b>		
Wayne King	DOC area manager	
Mike Cuddihy	Conservator	Esk Head
Kingsley Timpson	Waimakariri Area Manager	Esk Head
	Field Staff	hut
	Field Staff	hut
	Field Staff	hut
	Field Staff	hut
	Field Staff	hut
	Field Staff	hut
	Field Staff	hut
Jaq Van Hal	Parakeet Staff	Esk Head
<b>Ngai Tahu</b>		
David Higgins	DOC Representative	Esk Head
<b>Media</b>		
	TV3	Christchurch
	TV3	Christchurch
	+1	Christchurch
	+1	Esk Head

## ***Hut Location (NZMG L33 2434750E 5828650N)***

The hut is located on the true right of the Hurunui South Branch River approximately 3km upstream of the confluence with Stony Stream and 10 km directly south west of Lake Sumner.





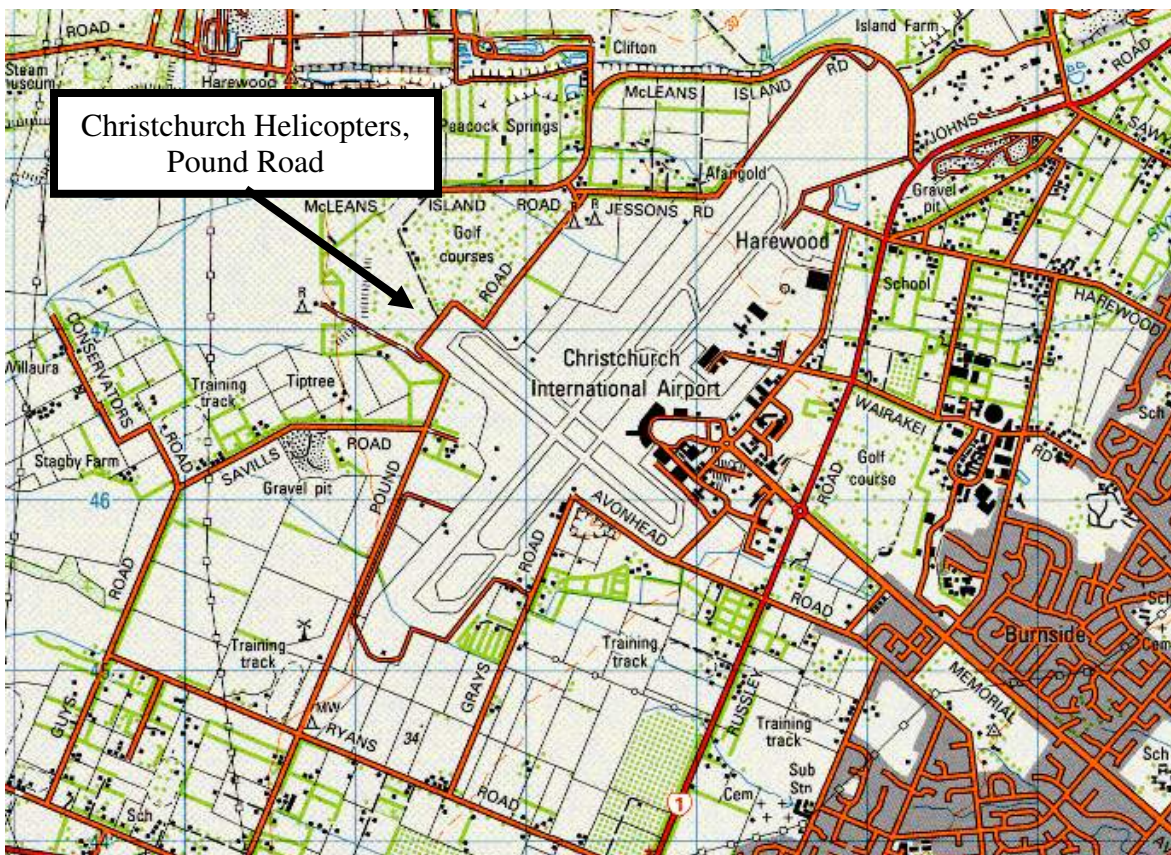
## Transport

### Getting to Esk Head (NZMG M33 2453340E 5819720N)

- From Christchurch, head north on SH 1
- Following signs to Waikari, turn left onto SH 7 at Waipara (10 km north of Amberely)
- Turn left at Waikari (approximately 13 km from Waipara) and follow signs to Hawarden (approximately 8 km from Waikari)
- Continue north out of Hawarden on Horsley Down Road, which veers west after 5 km and becomes Lake Sumner Road
- Cross the Waitohi River and continue along Lake Sumner Road, (unsealed).
- After approximately 20 km of unsealed road, turn left along the South Branch of the Hurunui. Do not cross the large bridge that continues north along the main branch.
- Esk Head Station is about 4 km up the South Branch turn off.

### Getting to Christchurch Helicopters

- From Russley Road, drive north around McLeans Island Rd to the far side of Christchurch International Airport airfield. Christchurch Helicopters base is located on Pound Road close to where the runway juts out.



## ***Press Release***

### ***Kiwi helped by Kiwi power***

Government and private industry met today at a remote location in the Hurunui high country to celebrate the opening of the first micro-hydro generator built at a Department of Conservation (DOC) hut.

MainPower's installation of the Kiwi-made micro-hydro generator will help DOC staff protect and research the Great Spotted Kiwi and the critically endangered Orange-fronted parakeet (kakariki). The research hut provides accommodation for DOC staff working on the Hurunui Mainland Island project. This project aims to protect and restore a habitat in the same way as on predator-free off-shore islands.

MainPower, DOC and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) collaborated to set up the micro-hydro system, which was made by Kiwi Company EcoInnovation.

The micro-hydro system will provide lighting, and power for communication equipment, computers and other appliances at the hut.

Associate Minister of Conservation, Hon Mahara Okeroa, says this project highlights how government and industry can work in partnership to produce energy in a sustainable way, benefiting the environment.

MainPower's Generation Development Manager, Todd Mead, says MainPower hopes to see a higher uptake of renewable, distributed power generation in the region.

"This installation demonstrates that clean, renewable energy is a viable option for homeowners and businesses.

"MainPower is committed to informing the community on these types of developments, and hopes to encourage more micro-hydro projects," says Mr Mead.

Heather Staley, Chief Executive of EECA, says micro-hydro is often a more suitable option for farmers than wind power or photovoltaics (solar electric panels).

"This project highlights the potential for the use of cost-effective alternatives to electricity from the grid, or diesel generation," says Ms Staley.

Micro-hydro generation is also suitable for some lifestyle blocks that have streams and waterways.

For further information, please contact:

MainPower: Todd Mead, Generation Development Manager, 024 555 161

DOC: Gnome Hanna-Brown, Public Relations, 03 371 3761

EECA: Anna Warren, Marketing and Communications Advisor, 04 470 2229

EcoInnovation: Michael Lawley, Director, 06 752 2765

[www.eeca.govt.nz](http://www.eeca.govt.nz)

---

EECA is implementing the Government's National Energy Efficiency and Conservation strategy and working to improve New Zealanders' energy choices.