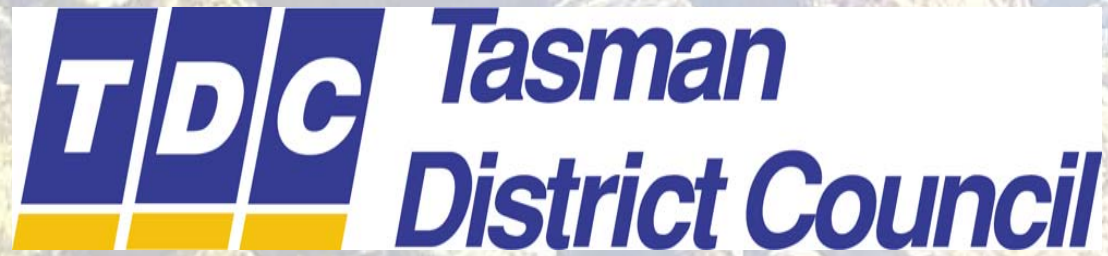


**Council perspective of the
value of research on ICM.**





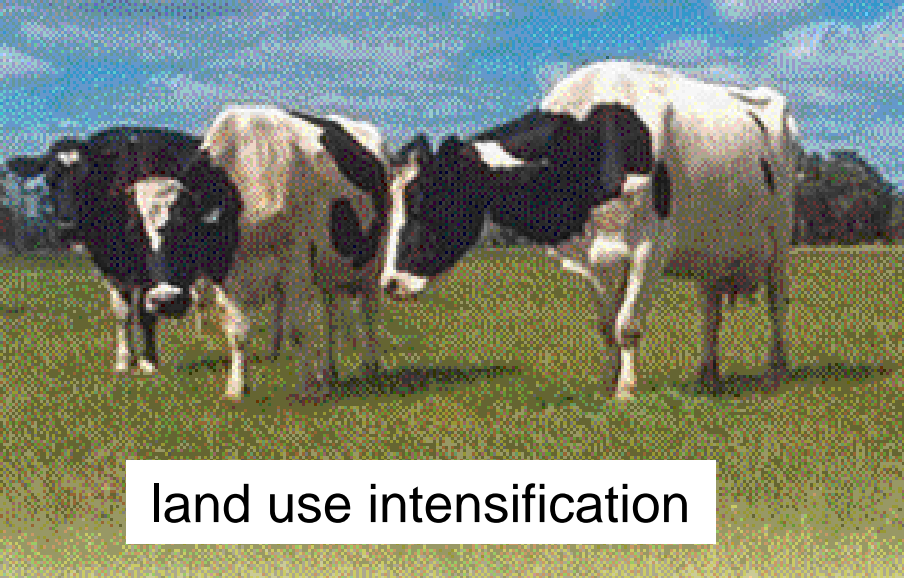
Rob Smith

Environmental Information Manager



The Tasman District

- unitary council
- 45,800 people
- a land area of 9,786 km² – 58% Conservation land
- 5 river catchments
- 6 Iwi groups
- fruit, farming, fishing and forestry
- 3 National Parks



land use intensification



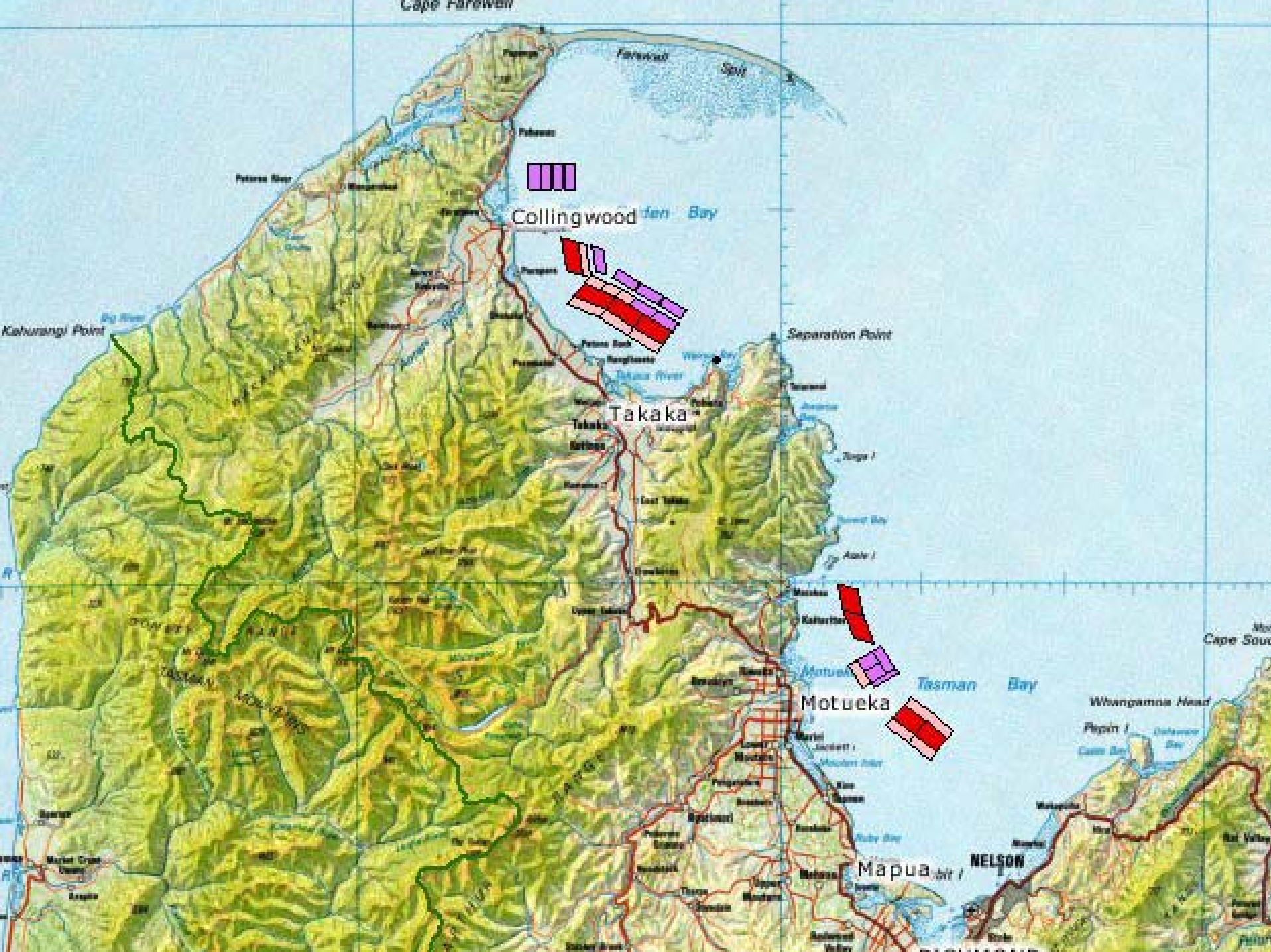
cows in creeks



standoff pads

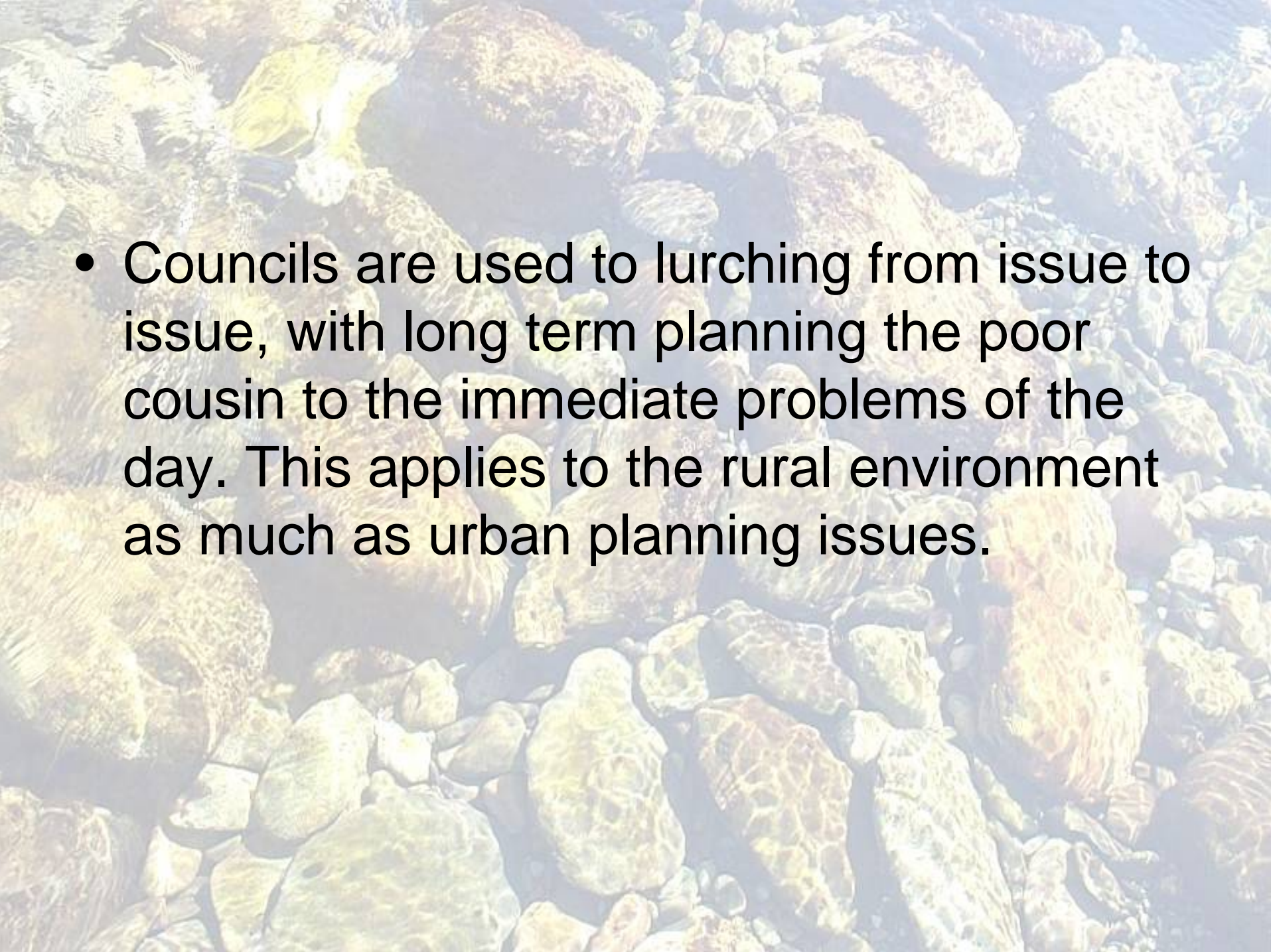


drain management



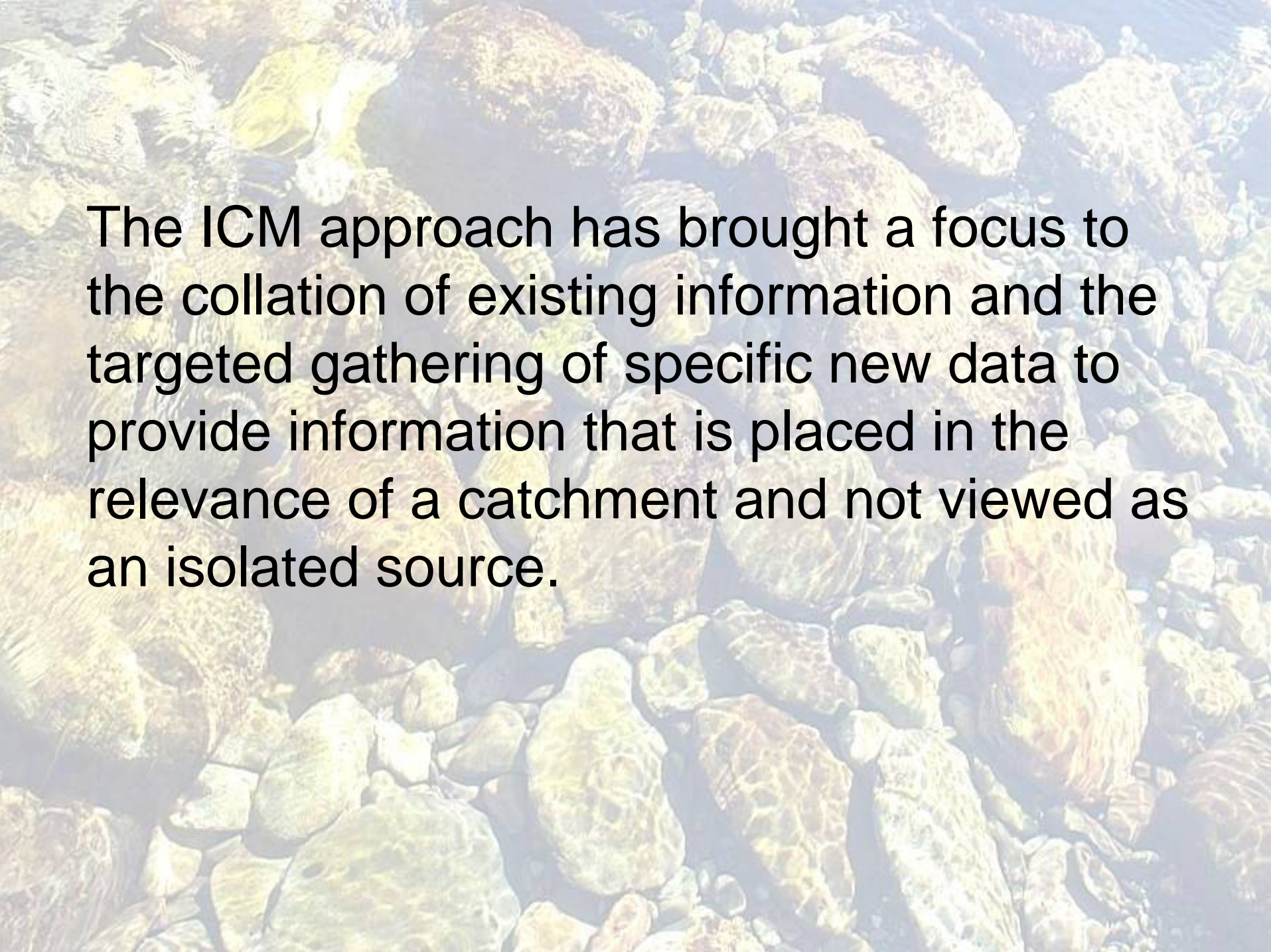




- 
- Councils are used to lurching from issue to issue, with long term planning the poor cousin to the immediate problems of the day. This applies to the rural environment as much as urban planning issues.

So what is so special about the ICM that makes it appealing to the Tasman District Council?



The background of the slide is a photograph of a riverbed. It shows numerous smooth, rounded rocks of various sizes and colors, including shades of brown, tan, and grey. The water is clear and shallow, reflecting the light and the rocks beneath. The overall scene is a natural, outdoor setting.

The ICM approach has brought a focus to the collation of existing information and the targeted gathering of specific new data to provide information that is placed in the relevance of a catchment and not viewed as an isolated source.

The ICM has:

- promoted catchment and district relevant research
- led to a re-evaluation of existing commercial resources e.g. gravel and aquifer associations
- enhanced the integration of biotic and abiotic work streams e.g. gravel and wetlands
- re-enforced connections between land use and water quality, both coastal and freshwater
- provided access to an extensive network of scientists and resources normally not available to Council
- has provided a benefit of having scientists at arm's length to motivate, critique, assist....
- provided objectivity to regulators, (sometimes external objectivity is what is needed to get forward movement within councils)

Culverts



Bridges

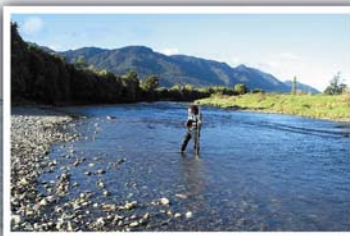


Riparian



State of Surface Water Quality in Tasman District

June 2005



What has Council brought to the
ICM?



Council has brought:

- the community and researchers together
- real life issues that are facing the local population
- an awareness of the convoluted nature of relationships within the community and the need to engage for meaningful change
- an appreciation of the resource limitations of local councils



Interested in the ICM approach?

Keeping things simple

- do a few key things well
- ensure that your plan will meet your objectives and expectations
- don't over commit yourself
- do grab opportunities
- if it ain't broke – celebrate it





Thank you