

## **NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL**

# **Agenda**

For meeting to be held in the Council Chamber, Northland Regional Council,  
36 Water Street, Whāngārei, on Wednesday 6 November 2013,  
commencing at 10 am

**Recommendations contained in the council agenda are NOT council decisions.  
Please refer to council minutes for resolutions.**

### **OPEN MEETING**

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	There are no presentations	

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<p><b>ACC</b> - Accident Compensation Corporation</p> <p><b>AHB</b> - Animal Health Board</p> <p><b>ALGIM</b> - Association of Local Government Information Management</p> <p><b>AMA</b> - Aquaculture Management Area</p> <p><b>BOI</b> - Bay of Islands</p> <p><b>BOPRC</b> - Bay of Plenty Regional Council</p> <p><b>CAPEX</b> - Capital Expenditure (budget to purchase assets)</p> <p><b>CBEC</b> - Community, Business and Environment Centre</p> <p><b>CDEM</b> - Civil Defence Emergency Management</p> <p><b>CEG</b> - Co-ordinating Executive Group – Northland Civil Defence management team</p> <p><b>CEO</b> - Chief Executive Officer</p> <p><b>CIMS</b> - Co-ordinated Incident Management System (emergency management structure)</p> <p><b>CMA</b> - Coastal Marine Area</p> <p><b>CPCA</b> - Community Pest Control Areas</p> <p><b>CRI</b> - Crown Research Institute</p> <p><b>DHB</b> - District Health Board</p> <p><b>DOC</b> - Department of Conservation</p> <p><b>DOL</b> - Department of Labour</p> <p><b>DPMC</b> - Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet</p> <p><b>ECA</b> - Environmental Curriculum Award</p> <p><b>ECAN</b> - Environment Canterbury</p> <p><b>EE</b> - Environmental Education</p> <p><b>EECA</b> - Energy Efficiency Conservation Authority</p> <p><b>EEZ</b> - Exclusive Economic Zone</p> <p><b>EF</b> - Environment Fund</p> <p><b>EMA</b> - Employers and Manufacturers Association</p> <p><b>EMC</b> - Environmental Management Committee</p> <p><b>EOC</b> - Emergency Operations Centre</p> <p><b>EPA</b> - Environmental Protection Authority</p> <p><b>FDE</b> - Farm Dairy Effluent</p> <p><b>FNDC</b> - Far North District Council</p> <p><b>FNHL</b> - Far North Holdings Limited</p> <p><b>FPP</b> - First Past the Post – voting system for NRC elections</p> <p><b>GE</b> - Genetic Engineering</p> <p><b>GIS</b> - Geographic Information System</p> <p><b>GMO</b> - Genetically Modified Organism</p> <p><b>HASNO</b> - Hazardous Substances &amp; New Organisms Act</p> <p><b>HBRC</b> - Hawke's Bay Regional Council</p> <p><b>HEMP</b> - Hapū Environmental Management Plan</p> <p><b>Horizons</b> - Brand name of Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council</p> <p><b>HR</b> - Human Resources</p> <p><b>IEMP</b> - Iwi Environmental Management Plan</p> <p><b>IPPC</b> - Invited Private Plan Change: a process to allow Aquaculture Management Areas to be established</p> <p><b>IRIS</b> - Integrated Regional Information System: new computer system being developed collaboratively with other Regional Councils</p> <p><b>KDC</b> - Kaipara District Council</p> <p><b>KPI</b> - Key Performance Indicator</p> <p><b>LATE</b> - Local Authority Trading Enterprise</p> <p><b>LGA</b> - Local Government Act 2002</p> <p><b>LGNZ</b> - Local Government New Zealand</p> <p><b>LGOIMA</b> - Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987</p> <p><b>LGOL</b> - Local Government Online</p> <p><b>LTP</b> - Long Term Plan</p> <p><b>LTFS</b> - Long Term Financial Strategy</p> <p><b>MCDEM</b> - Ministry of Civil Defence &amp; Emergency Mgmt</p> <p><b>MFE</b> - Ministry for the Environment</p> <p><b>MHWS</b> - Mean High Water Springs</p> <p><b>MNZ</b> - Maritime New Zealand</p> <p><b>MOH</b> - Ministry of Health</p> <p><b>MOT</b> - Ministry of Transport</p>	<p><b>MPI</b> – Ministry of Primary Industries</p> <p><b>MSD</b> - Ministry of Social Development</p> <p><b>NCMC</b> - National Crisis Management Centre</p> <p><b>NES</b> – National Environmental Standards</p> <p><b>NDHB</b> - Northland District Health Board</p> <p><b>NZRC</b> - New Zealand Refining Company (Marsden Point)</p> <p><b>NGO</b> - Non-Governmental Organisation</p> <p><b>NIF</b> - Northland Intersectoral Forum</p> <p><b>NIWA</b> - National Institute of Water and Atmosphere</p> <p><b>NORTEG</b> - Northland Technical Advisory Group</p> <p><b>NPC</b> - Northland Port Corporation</p> <p><b>NZCPS</b> - New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement</p> <p><b>NZTA</b> - New Zealand Transport Agency</p> <p><b>NZQA</b> - New Zealand Qualifications Authority</p> <p><b>NZWWA</b> - New Zealand Water and Wastes Association</p> <p><b>OFI</b> - Opportunity for Improvement</p> <p><b>ORC</b> - Otago Regional Council</p> <p><b>OSH</b> - Occupational Safety &amp; Health (now Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment)</p> <p><b>PDF</b> - Portable Document Format</p> <p><b>PPE</b> - Personal Protective Equipment</p> <p><b>RAP</b> - Response Action Plan</p> <p><b>RAQP</b> - Regional Air Quality Plan</p> <p><b>RCP</b> - Regional Coastal Plan</p> <p><b>RFI</b> - Request for Information</p> <p><b>RFP</b> - Request for Proposal</p> <p><b>RTC</b> - Regional Transport Committee</p> <p><b>RLTS</b> - Regional Land Transport Strategy</p> <p><b>RMA</b> - Resource Management Act 1991</p> <p><b>RMG</b> - Resource Managers Group (Regional Councils)</p> <p><b>RMZ</b> - Riparian Management Zone</p> <p><b>ROI</b> - Return on Investment</p> <p><b>RPMS</b> - Regional Pest Management Strategy</p> <p><b>RPS</b> - Regional Policy Statement</p> <p><b>RSG</b> - Regional Sector Group</p> <p><b>RTO</b> - Regional Tourism Organisation</p> <p><b>RWASP</b> - Regional Water and Soil Plan</p> <p><b>SCAR</b> - SmartStream Council Activity Reporting</p> <p><b>SITREP</b> - Situation Report</p> <p><b>SMF</b> - Sustainable Management Fund</p> <p><b>SOE</b> - State of Environment (or) State Owned Enterprise</p> <p><b>SOLGM</b> - Society of Local Government Managers</p> <p><b>SPARC</b> - Sport &amp; Recreation New Zealand</p> <p><b>SRC</b> - Southland Regional Council (Environment Southland)</p> <p><b>STV</b> - Single Transferable Vote</p> <p><b>SWAG</b> - Surface Water Allocation Group</p> <p><b>SWPA</b> - Sustainable Water Programme of Action</p> <p><b>TA</b> - Territorial Authority: City &amp; District Councils</p> <p><b>TAC</b> - Technical Advisory Group</p> <p><b>Tier 1</b> - Site level plan or response for an oil spill</p> <p><b>Tier 2</b> - Regional level plan or response to an oil spill</p> <p><b>Tier 3</b> - National level plan or response to an oil spill</p> <p><b>TLA</b> - Territorial Local Authority – City &amp; District Councils</p> <p><b>TMP</b> - Treasury Management Plan</p> <p><b>TOR</b> - Terms of Reference</p> <p><b>TPK</b> - Te Puni Kōkiri (Ministry of Maori Development)</p> <p><b>TRAION</b> - Te Rūnanga a Iwi o Ngāpuhi</p> <p><b>TRC</b> - Taranaki Regional Council</p> <p><b>TROTR</b> - Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa</p> <p><b>TUANZ</b> - Telecommunications Users Association of NZ</p> <p><b>WCRC</b> - West Coast Regional Council</p> <p><b>WDC</b> - Whangarei District Council</p> <p><b>WHHIF</b> - Whangarei Harbour Health Improvement Fund</p> <p><b>WRC</b> - Waikato Regional Council</p> <p><b>WWTP</b> - Wastewater Treatment Plant</p>
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**ISSUE: Chief Executive's Report to Council****ID:** A587350**To:** Council Meeting, 6 November 2013**From:** Malcolm Nicolson, Chief Executive Officer**Date:** 4 October 2013

**Summary:** The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of recent council organisation activity. It concludes with the recommendation that the report be received.

<b>Report Type:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal operations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
<b>Purpose:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public service	<input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory function
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislative function	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
<b>Significance:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low

**4.1. CROSS DISCIPLINARY PROJECTS****Local government reform and reorganisation**

At the time of writing, we await announcement from the Local Government Commission on its preferred option for local government structure in Northland. Previous indications have been that the announcement would occur after the election and before the end of the calendar year. The new council has several opportunities to review material of the past year and to consider its stance before making a submission to the Commission, assuming the status quo is not its preferred option. Page 8 of the Briefing to Incoming Councillors provides an overview of this topic.

**Waiora Northland Water**

Background information on the Waiora Northland Water programme is provided on pages 20-22 of the Briefing to Incoming Councillors.

Please see the [September EMC agenda](#)<sup>1</sup> for a previous update. Since that time the following has occurred:

- Catchment meetings have occurred in Mangere, Doubtless Bay and an inaugural meeting for the Whāngārei Harbour Catchment Group.
  - There will be a field trip for the Mangere Catchment Group members on 7 November commencing at 5.30pm. If council has chosen its representative on the Catchment Group by that date, they may wish to attend the field trip. A workshop for the group is also scheduled for 27 November 2013.
  - There are further workshops scheduled this month: a joint workshop for all three catchment groups about collaborative group working (14 November, 6pm) and Doubtless Bay is meeting 20 November at 9am.

<sup>1</sup> [www.nrc.govt.nz/Resource-Library-Summary/Agendas-and-minutes/Environmental-Management-Committee/Environmental-Management-Committee-Agenda---24-September-2013/](http://www.nrc.govt.nz/Resource-Library-Summary/Agendas-and-minutes/Environmental-Management-Committee/Environmental-Management-Committee-Agenda---24-September-2013/)

- Staff liaison with external agencies, including:
  - Taharoa Domain Governance Committee (TDGC), Kaipara District Council and council are working together on the review the Taharoa Domain Reserve Management Plan (now eleven years old). Council will be invited to nominate a councillor to be on the Steering Group for the review of the Reserve Management Plan. A catchment group for Kai Iwi Lakes is also being explored and staff expect to present an agenda item for council (or relevant committee) consideration covering both the catchment group and the review early in 2014.
  - Dairy NZ regarding scoping a proposed council/Dairy NZ Good Management Practice guide for Dairy farms in Northland, similar to the [menus of practices to improve water quality](#)<sup>2</sup> developed in the Waikato.
  - RMA Northland Forestry Development Group meeting, in which the council's proposal to undertake a water quality monitoring programme to assess the effects of forestry harvesting in Northland's river catchments was discussed.

Further information about the project is also available on the [NRC Waioara Northland Water website](#)<sup>3</sup> pages. Information about uses of the Environmental Fund for Waioara Northland Water initiatives appears in this report on page 11.

## **4.2. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

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### **Plan Change 4 (Aquaculture) to the Regional Coastal Plan**

This plan change sets out the new way aquaculture will be managed in Northland. It includes policies and rules for managing existing aquaculture and directing how and where new aquaculture is located. The plan change has a long history, which started back in 2001 when the government began its reform of aquaculture legislation. Background information about the plan change is provided on pages 24-25 of the Briefing for Incoming Councillors.

Currently the plan change is working its way through the Environment Court process. In March this year an Environment Court hearing was held on the main aspects of the plan change. On 24 September 2013 the Court released an interim report. The report makes a number of findings on new areas where aquaculture will be prohibited (all of which are consistent with the evidence council presented to the Court) and included a list of matters the Court wanted further comment on from the parties. Council filed its response to the Court on 22 October 2013. We now await the final decision. Council will need to establish its position and representation for negotiating the remaining appeal matters.

### **Moorings and Marinas Strategy**

Council approved the development of the Moorings and Marinas Strategy at its deliberations on the Long Term Plan 2012-2022. The role of the strategy is to set out how Council will provide for the future demand of moorings and marinas. Page 25 of the Briefing for Incoming Councillors provides an overview of the strategy.

The draft strategy was approved to be released for public feedback by a committee of the previous council in August 2013, but they decided to postpone the notification of the draft strategy until after the council elections. It is accepted good practice in local

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<sup>2</sup> [www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/menus](http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/menus)

<sup>3</sup> [www.nrc.govt.nz/waioara](http://www.nrc.govt.nz/waioara)

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government to avoid the conduct of consultation processes over the period of transition from one triennium to another.

The draft strategy will be presented to council at a workshop on 6 November 2013, with the aim to notify the draft strategy for public feedback immediately afterwards.

**Developing a new Regional Policy Statement (RPS)**

Council adopted the Hearing Commissioners' recommendations at its September 2013 meeting. Submitters were notified of the decisions and the period for lodging appeals to the Environment Court finishes on 15 November. At the time of writing no appeals have been lodged. The development of the new RPS over recent years is detailed on pages 22-23 of the Briefing for Incoming Councillors.

**Other resource management issues****Land use and subdivision applications**

During September 2013, 7 non-notified resource consent applications were received from the district councils. No comments were made on any of the applications.

**Consents****Project Oyster Shell**

Pages 34-36 of the Briefing for Incoming Councillors provide an overview of this project. A variation to the funding deed with Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) has been agreed. The variation will enable the release of the bulk of the remaining agreed funding promised by MPI for a contribution (as a local share) to Project Oyster Shell.

The funding was provided to clean up marine farms under forfeiture proceedings to an appropriate standard to enable them to be transferred to the council for administration. The variation will also extend the expiry date for the funding deed to enable the remaining MPI farm (Lease 42) to be cleaned up.

MPI have indicated that they are prepared to provide additional funding to Project Oyster Shell to contribute towards additional costs associated with the removal and disposal of the chrysotile on the MPI administered marine farms (Leases 64 and 42). MPI have also indicated that they are open to discussions to help fund chrysotile removal and disposal associated with the two additional marine farm consents within the Waikare inlet that are also contaminated (former Leases 124 & 345).

**Consents in Process**

During September 2013, a total of 35 decisions were issued. A copy of these decisions is circulated under separate cover. These decisions comprised:

- 2 Moorings
- 10 Coastal Permits
- 1 Air Discharge Permits
- 5 Land Discharge Permits
- 0 Water Discharge Permits
- 11 Land Use Consents
- 4 Water Permits
- 2 Bore Consents

The processing timeframes for the above consents ranged from:

- 1654 to 1 calendar days, with the median time being 34 days;
- 1097 to 1 working days, with the median time being 24 days.

21 Applications were received in September 2013.

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Of the 97 applications in progress at the end of September 2013:

- 52 were received more than 12 months ago (most awaiting further information);
- 6 were received between 6 and 12 months ago (most awaiting further information);
- 39 less than 6 months.

**Appointment of Hearing Commissioners**

No commissioners were appointed in September 2013.

**Consents Decisions and Progress on Notified Applications in Process, Objections and Appeals**

The current level of notified application processing activities at the end of September 2013 is (by number):

▪ Applications Publicly/Limited Notified During Previous Month	2
▪ Progress on Applications Previously Notified	8
▪ Hearings and Decisions	3
▪ Appeals/Objections	7

A more detailed summary of the above activities can be found in **Attachment 1**.

**Shared Service**

A service has been set up between the Northland Regional Council (NRC) and the Kaipara District Council (KDC) that enables the KDC to obtain technical assessments (peer reviews) from qualified NRC staff of the ecological information provided in the consent applications that it is processing. The KDC does not have any appropriately qualified staff to make those assessments.

The KDC will be invoiced the costs of providing the peer reviews, which the KDC will subsequently recover from the consent applicants. The future work load of providing this service is not expected to be high and the service means that the KDC will be able to obtain ecological assessments promptly. Another advantage of the service is that it will enable the NRC to identify whether or not development proposals in the Kaipara District also require land use consents from us.

**Monitoring****Compliance monitoring**

A summary of the results of compliance monitoring for the period 1 September – 30 September 2013 is provided in the Environmental Monitoring Report (see **Attachment 2**).

**Air discharges**

Eleven compliance assessments for air discharge consents including industrial site visits were made during September, with ten assessments confirming that the consent holders were complying with the conditions of their resource consents and the remaining one assessment revealing consent non-compliance. The non-compliant consent holder was asked to shut down its operation and do the maintenance work needed to comply with its consent conditions.

Watercare Services Limited of Auckland has been selected to undertake stack emission test monitoring for the next two years. It is expected to start the monitoring from mid-November 2013.



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Seventeen air quality related environmental incidents were received during September, 11 of which related to burning and smoke nuisance.

Ambient air monitoring results for PM<sub>10</sub>, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide at Robert Street, Whāngārei, showed compliance with the National Environmental Standard for Air Quality (NES) during August 2013. Monitoring results for PM<sub>10</sub> at the Bream Bay College, Ruakaka, also showed compliance with the NES during August 2013.

**Coastal**

A total of 56 consented activities were monitored during September, 47 of which were found to be fully compliant and nine non-compliant. However, no significant non-compliance was recorded. The consented activities included stormwater discharges, the Refining NZ discharge, dredging operations and coastal construction works.

The Bay of Islands, Whāngārei, and Kaipara Harbour water quality sampling runs were undertaken during September. The results showed only very low concentrations of faecal indicator bacteria, generally low concentrations of nutrients in the Bay of Islands, and higher levels of nutrients in the Kaipara and Whāngārei harbours. In all harbours the higher levels of nutrients were in their upper reaches, nearer to the freshwater inputs.

**Hazardous Substances**

The following five hazardous substances incidents were reported during September:

- Suspected cyanide packets on roadside
- Petrol/oil in stream
- Oil discharge to wetland
- Paint dumped in creek
- Oil spill on metal yard

Five enquiries regarding contaminated land were received and responded to during the month.

**Land use monitoring**

A total of 11 consented activities were monitored during September, eight of which were found to be fully compliant and three non-compliant. However, there were no significantly non-compliant activities.

**Water quality and discharge monitoring**

A total of 64 consented activities were monitored during September, 44 (69%) of which were found to be fully compliant, 19 (30%) were non-compliant and the remaining one (1%) was significantly non-compliant. The significant non-compliance related to the discharge from the FNDC Paihia wastewater treatment plant which had ammonia levels in excess of its consent limit. The discharge is subject to an existing abatement notice which requires the FNDC to comply with the consent for the discharge by 31 December 2013.

**Farm Dairy Effluent (FDE) Monitoring**

To date about 29% of the 1,009 planned annual FDE inspections have been completed and reported on. The results for consented and permitted activity farms are tabled over page. At this stage, the compliance rates for consented farms look very similar to last year. However, the percentage of significant non-compliant farms has risen for the non-consented farms.

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**Consented FDE discharges**

A total of 174 consented farms have been visited and reported on. This is about 24% of the total consented farms to be visited.

Full Compliance		Non-Compliance		Significant Non-Compliance	
This Year	Last year	This Year	Last Year	This Year	Last Year
98	177	36	68	40	66
56%	57%	21%	22%	23%	21%

**Non Consented FDE discharges**

A total of 106 non-consented farms have been visited and reported on. This is about 39% of the total non-consented farms to be visited.

Full Compliance		Non-Compliance		Significant Non-Compliance	
This Year	Last year	This Year	Last Year	This Year	Last Year
47	68	23	22	36	37
44%	54%	22%	17%	34%	29%

Summary tables have been added to the Environmental Monitoring Report (see **Attachment 2**) for the main reasons for significant non-compliance.

**Environmental incidents**

A summary of environmental incidents for the period 1 September – 30 September 2013 is provided in the Environmental Monitoring Report (see **Attachment 2**).

**Enforcement*****Abatement Notices***

There were twenty-five abatement notices issued during September. These were for:

- FDE (21)
- Occupation of CMA (1)
- Earthworks (1)
- Industrial discharge (1)
- Air discharge (1)

***Infringement Notices***

There were twenty-eight infringement notices issued during September. These were all for FDE discharges, as detailed below:

- Discharges from feed/standoff pads (7)
- Non-compliance with an abatement notice (7)
- Discharges from irrigators (6)
- Discharges from storage ponds (4)
- Discharge from silage area (1)
- Discharge via stormwater diversion (1)
- Discharge from wintering barn (1)
- Discharge from race (1)

***Formal Warning Letters***

There were no formal warning letters issued during the period. (Warning letters are not a specific enforcement mechanism under the Resource Management Act 1991, but councils use them to formally record a breach of consent conditions or the RMA which is not considered significant enough to warrant an abatement or infringement notice, or prosecution.)

***Other Enforcement******FDE prosecutions***

Sentencing of Craig Roberts, of Waipū, for offences which occurred in 2011 took place on 19 September 2013. Mr Roberts was fined a total of \$157,074.50, including costs of \$19,324.50. However, Mr Roberts has appealed the fine to the High Court. This is not likely to be heard until 2014.

***Haruru Falls land and water contamination***

Sentencing of G & J Vuletich and their company was completed on 20 September 2013. They were fined a total of \$11,000. The Vuletich's have appealed the fine to the High Court. This is not likely to be heard until 2014.

***Waitangi River illegal diversion and earthworks***

The council has applied for an enforcement order, against two parties, to recover costs for the remedial work to the Waitangi River, which the Court is going to determine on the papers (that is, there will be no hearing). Council's submissions have been lodged with the Court.

***Kaimaumu Swamp vegetation clearance and earthworks***

Charges were laid in 2011 against three parties who were involved in the vegetation clearance and drainage operation. An interim enforcement order was granted and subsequently amended in relation to the works. Further charges were laid for breaches of the enforcement order. The accused originally elected trial by jury but now face a "Judge alone" trial set down to commence on 31 March 2014, with four weeks being allocated for the hearing. The defendants have requested a sentence indication hearing which is scheduled to take place on 13 November 2013.

NRC also commenced committal proceedings. These proceedings are running concurrently with the prosecution procedures. All evidence has been filed with the court. No court date has been allocated to the committal proceedings.

***Manganui River, Okahu (wetland clearance, earthworks and river diversion)***

Charges were laid against a dairy farmer and his company in Okahu for vegetation clearance in several wetlands, earthworks in the riparian management zone, diversion of a watercourse and deposition of soil. The charges relate to offences which occurred between April 2011 and October 2012. On 27 August 2013 the accused entered guilty pleas to seven charges, with the remaining charges being withdrawn. The matter has been adjourned to 26 November 2013 for a disputed facts hearing and/or sentencing.

***Houhora Service Station (land and water contamination)***

This long-standing contaminated site matter is now before the Court to determine whether an agreement was reached at the last mediation hearing. Houhora Service Station has alleged that no agreement was reached, whereas all other parties involved in this matter believe an agreement was reached.

**Biosecurity****Community Pest Control Areas (CPCAs)**

Staff assisted contractors in the Whatoro-Opanake CPCA with track preparation for a new predator trapping line to protect resident kiwi in a forest remnant managed by Hancock Forest Management (NZ) Ltd.

This CPCA is located near the Trounson Kauri Park Mainland Island and has been created by the community to protect kiwi and other flora and fauna. Community effort to control pests has so far included trapping seven stoats, five weasels and 26 rats.

**Warawara**

Control of animal pests within and around the outskirts of Warawara kauri forest are progressing and the Department of Conservation (DOC) is considering funding of possum control during 2014 over the major portion of the DOC managed kauri area. Control of possums over more than 4000 hectares was last undertaken by DOC sixteen years ago and there has been no sustained follow up so it is predicted possum population in the forest will be very high. The Northland Regional Council would support pest control around the margins of Warawara forest and work with the Tindall Foundation and the local community to ensure a sustained programme is put in place.

**Community Sponsorship and Training**

Paparoa Primary School held their annual fundraising event "Possum Purge" from 6-8 September 2013. NRC provided sponsorship in the form of five stoat traps, with proceeds from the possum fur used for projects at the Paparoa Primary School. Prior to the event, staff gave a presentation to Paparoa Primary school students on possum control and integrated pest management.

**Biosecurity Environment Fund Projects**

Thirty-one projects were approved in the August round of the Biosecurity Environment Fund, including six projects from the Kaipara area. Pest control materials have been ordered for the projects.

**Enquiries**

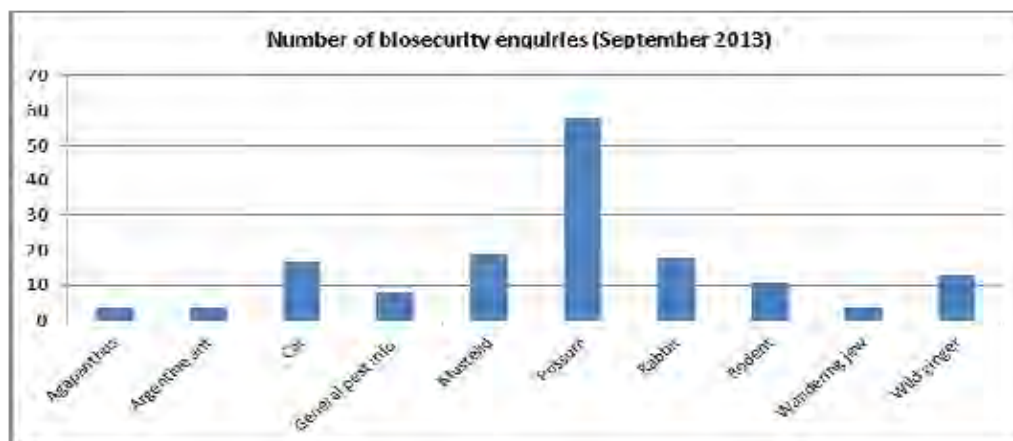
Biosecurity officers logged 200 enquiries in the IRIS database during September. Enquiries were logged for more than 17 different animal species, and 22 different plants/fungi.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Total</b>
Animal	141
Freshwater	3
Marine	2
Plant	48
Public awareness/Education	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>

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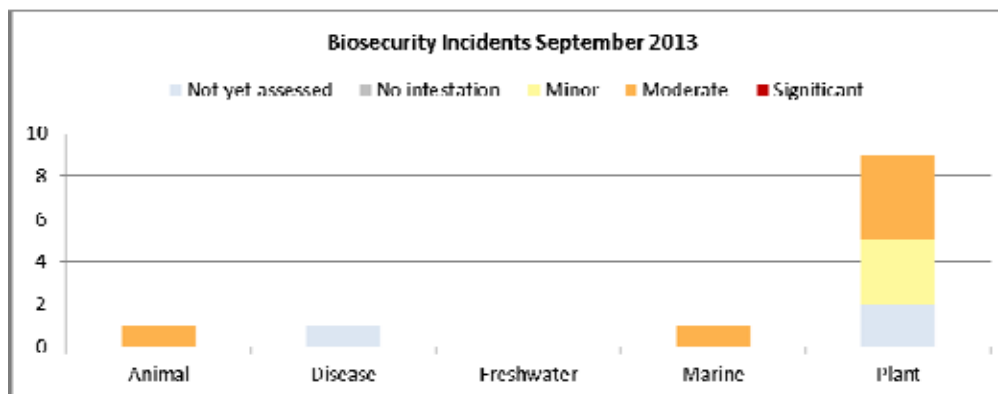
The ten species most common for enquiries during September are shown below and there is consistently high demand for information and products to control possum, rabbit and rodent pests, as well as advice on control of wild ginger.

**Biosecurity Incidents**

Biosecurity incidents include:

- Potential breaches of Regional Pest Management Strategy (RPMS) rules;
- Potential new incursions of RPMS exclusion or eradication species; and
- Potential incursions of pest species not currently known in Northland, and not in the RPMS, but which may pose significant risk to Northland.

During September the Biosecurity team logged 12 incidents in the IRIS database, three of which involved multiple weed species.



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**Table 1: Moderate and Significant Biosecurity Incidents (September 2013)**

Request date	IRIS ID	Species	Description	Significance	Notes
04/09/2013	REQ.571254	Akebia	Pest plant Akebia found at residential property Tara Road, Mangawhai	Moderate	Eradicated
10/09/2013	REQ.571310	Pearl oyster	Specimens of a possible pearl oyster (Crassostrea spp) Collected for ID from Marsden Cove Marina. This species had been identified from a boat hull in Tutukaka and NIWA expressed concern regarding the possible spread of this species to Reotahi marine reserve on last (winter ) Whāngārei Port Surveillance	Moderate	This species was confirmed by MPI taxonomists as not the invasive pearl oyster but a strange variant of Pacific oyster.
13/09/2013	REQ.571436	Gorse	Gorse boundary control of neighbours properties - Magnolia Ave, Whāngārei	Moderate	Pending, owner will control own gorse first. Will continue when work achieved.
19/09/2013	REQ.571380	Mile-a-minute	Discovered Mile-a-minute while looking at a Lantana site. Two small areas on trellis in front of house, Albert St Mangawhai	Moderate	Site to be treated during October
20/09/2013	REQ.571433	Yellow flag iris	Large infestation of yellow flag iris near letter box, Otaika valley Rd, Whāngārei	Moderate	Pending eradication- contact with property owner expected early October.
27/09/2013	REQ.571480	Pig	Feral pigs causing environmental damage to plantings on lifestyle block in Waipū caves area.	Moderate	Staff have set up a trail camera to gain a greater understanding of the pig numbers and their access points prior to assisting landowner with control.

**Ochna in Whāngārei**

Whāngārei sites of eradication plant Ochna, an invasive weed which produces large quantities of bird dispersed seed, have almost been completed with 230 sites visited and entered into IRIS. Approximately 36 more sites are to be visited and/or treated and entered into IRIS. Some of the sites have been in hedges that have been treated and the original hedge plants encouraged to regrow in place of the Ochna. While this plant produces prolific seed, the seed remains viable for less than a year. The treatment now used is successful and individual plants can be treated without affecting surrounding garden vegetation. It is anticipated that less than half of the sites controlled this year will require control at the follow-up visit.

**Sharp rush control in Onerahi**

The Chief Executive wrote to the Whāngārei District Council (WDC) in August 2013 advising them to undertake control of sharp rush on their land at Onerahi. Sharp rush is an invasive coastal weed which has needle like tips and spreads to cover pasture and sandy coastal margins and is subject to rules in our Regional Pest Management Plan. The WDC agreed to undertake the work and instructed the lessee of the land to undertake spraying of the weed by the end of September- if this was not completed they advised they would be undertaking control themselves. No control has been undertaken and staff are requesting advice from the WDC as to the lack of action.

**Marine pests**

Discussions with the designers of a floating pontoon device which can be used to contain a vessel up to 16m in length have been on-going and it is likely a final design will be confirmed during November with the aim of testing the pontoon during December. This device will be used to contain vessels which may be transporting fanworm as the floating pontoon prevents seawater exchange and will prevent eggs or larvae from escaping while the hull is being treated. In association with council staff a commercial dive firm has also begun testing a form of mat which can be used underwater to smother areas of fanworm which have infested the seafloor and rocky substrates.

**Land Management****Environment Fund**

The Environment Fund provides an incentive for undertaking sustainable land management / water quality improvement actions and is allocated over a number of funding streams:

- Water quality
- Biodiversity
- Soil conservation
- CoastCare
- Exceptional projects (worthy projects aligning with general theme that don't fit elsewhere)

Council approved up to \$400,000 of additional funding for this year's funding allocation; funding streams were reviewed and several new funding streams were introduced to meet demand created by the council's Waiora Northland Water Programme:

- Water quality improvement and biodiversity
- Top wetlands
- NPS priority catchments, lakes and community groups
- Soil conservation
- Coastcare

There have been two funding approval rounds so far this financial year; July round using the original funding streams and the October round using the new ones.

**Table 1: Round 1 (July) Approved projects using original funding streams**

<b>Funding Stream</b>	<b>Far North Projects</b>	<b>Whāngārei Projects</b>	<b>Kaipara Projects</b>	<b>Total \$</b>
Water quality	31	46	9	\$272,391
Biodiversity	4	4	0	\$37,048
Soil Conservation		1		\$34,421
CoastCare	20	8	1	\$71,396
<b>Project Totals</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>\$415,257</b>

\$32,000 under the soil conservation funding stream was for the supply of poplar and willow material and is yet to be reconciled across districts.

**Table 2: Round 2 (October) Approved projects using updated funding streams**

<b>Funding Stream</b>	<b>Far North Projects</b>	<b>Whāngārei Projects</b>	<b>Total \$</b>
Water quality/biodiversity	5	7	\$35,271
Priority catchment/lakes/community	3		\$10,700
<b>Project Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>\$45,971</b>

The average project cost so far this financial year is \$3,088. Approvals for Round 3 are likely in mid-November.

#### **CoastCare**

CoastCare site visits were made to Tauranga Bay, Long Beach, Tapeka, Sandy Bay, Matapouri, Whangaumu – Wellingtons Bay, Rarawa, Hukatere and Taipa to inspect sites pre and post work, update on group activities and plan dune restoration activities for 2014.

A planting day was held at Sandy Bay with local residents and beach users. Spinifex and pingao were planted on an eroded area of dune, and temporary fencing put up to guide people away from the planted area and allow the dune to recover.

An event was held at Rarawa beach with Te Kao School, organised by members of the Friends of Rarawa CoastCare group. Some of the students assisted group members in measuring trees planted in the winter, while others completed a scavenger hunt to learn more about the Rarawa beach environment. Weeding and beach cleaning were also undertaken.

An inter-agency meeting was held for the Safe Beach Driving programme, with representatives from Northland Regional Council, Northland Police, Department of Conservation, Whāngārei District Council, Kaipara District Council, and Road Safe Northland. It was agreed that beach information events should again be held over the summer, and other organised events attended to promote safe beach driving messages.

A presentation was given on recent research into the impacts of vehicles on shellfish beds. It was agreed that messages related to minimising disturbance to shellfish should be included in Safe Beach Driving advertising and signage.

An inter-agency CoastCare meeting was held with representatives from NRC, DOC, WDC and KDC to update relevant agency staff on CoastCare activities around the region.



### Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group (IKHMG)

The IKHMG organised two soil ecology workshops that were held on flagship farms. The first was held at Muriwai Valley farm at Kaipara Flats, the second at Aoroa Farm near Dargaville. The days were facilitated by Nicole Masters from Integrity Soils. Both days were well attended with a good turnout of farmers and lots of positive feedback from those attending. The days focused on the benefits of maintaining good soil health through creating conditions that allow soil biota to thrive.

### Poplar and Willow Nursery, Flyger Road



Most of the planted poplar and willow cuttings are well underway with some shoots on the poplars up to 20cms in vertical growth. The willows, especially the *matsudana* clones have been even more prolific, having been in the ground longer and being more vigorous in nature.

The nursery had its first mow at the completion of the planting. Some long pasture remains on the edge of the polythene that will require a mix of mechanical/ chemical and manual removal. Weather conditions through the past month have been problematic restricting the undertaking of these tasks, but these are now well underway.

### Poplar and Willow Supply

Supply for the 2013 season is in the final stages; all of the material obtained has been distributed or collected. Planting and maintenance agreements are now beginning to come back in as people complete their planting and turn their attention to the paper work.

Once again the season has had its fair share of problems, delays in receiving cut material from suppliers and primarily the estimates for numbers of poles coming in well short once again. This year also saw a fair number of recipients back out at the

last minute, citing inability to collect, properties being sold and changing hands, or simply farmers being too busy to be able to commit the time required to plant.

By having a local supply in 2015, we will be able to have material ready earlier (early–mid June), which should not conflict with activities in the rural calendar (such as calving).

Being able to use the nursery site as a collection depot has proved successful, even for a few recipients from the Kaipara and Far North districts. Some material was delivered to recipients by Kaitia staff collecting from the nursery. Collection of material will be the default method for acquiring material for 2014 and beyond unless other arrangements are made prior with landowners.

#### **Allocation of 2013 Soil Conservation material as at 27/09/2013**

<b>3m Poplars (various)</b>	<b>'Kinuyanagi' 1m Willows stakes</b>	<b>3m Matsudana Tree willows</b>	<b>1.7 Dynex Sleeves</b>
1580	3270	190	400

#### **Farm Water Quality Improvement Plans (FWQIPs)**

FWQIPs currently in progress are being monitored closely to ensure staff commitments can be met. The majority of FWQIP's are produced by 3 FTE whose roles are to work with landowners and stakeholders in facilitating water quality improvement. Staff are reviewing the current structure of the FWQIP's to ensure that the plans can be produced as efficiently as possible, whilst still adding value, but also ensuring that staff have sufficient time to engage with landowners and stakeholders. The following tables show FWQIP progress at 30 June 2013 and at 29 October 2013. The modest increase in the number of plans completed/in progress between June and October reflects the site visits and Environment Fund 2013/14 agreements workload, which has been the immediate priority for staff before completing or progressing further plans.

#### **Farm Water Quality Improvement Plans as at 30 June 2013**

<b>Status of FWQIP</b>	<b>Far North</b>	<b>Kaipara</b>	<b>Whāngārei</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Completed	42	5	32	79
In Progress	38	10	44	92
<b>Total FWQIP's</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>171</b>

#### **Farm Water Quality Improvement Plans as at 29 October 2013**

<b>Status</b>	<b>Far North</b>	<b>Kaipara</b>	<b>Whāngārei</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Completed	54	5	38	97
In Progress	33	14	54	101
<b>Totals</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>198</b>

#### **Biodiversity**

Biodiversity staff attended a three day wananga on the restoration of Lake Tangonge at Te Rarawa Marae. The workshop was an opportunity for members of the community and schools to learn about the project and to tap into experts from the local community and different agencies.

Two council presentations were given about the biodiversity of Tangonge Wetland both now and in its heyday before its drainage around 100 years ago. The

presentation included a description of former habitats using a variety of forensic tools to help establish these such as old maps, photos, descriptions, pollen records, soils and early plant collections.

Talks by other agencies and groups included Tuna project talks from NIWA, a talk on birds of the area from a local enthusiast, a school teacher and a talk on reconstructing the wetland from a civil engineer. A hikoi out to the old lake bed showed that the area is still wet in the winter with knee deep pools of open water in the lowest lying areas.

### **4.3. RIVER MANAGEMENT**

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#### **River and Flood Protection Schemes**

##### **Awanui**

The annual works programme is currently out for tender.

Work is progressing on the preliminary design for the proposed Awanui flood scheme improvements. A workshop to inform the liaison committee on the proposed configuration for the preliminary design has been tentatively scheduled for January 2014.

##### **Kaeo-Whangaroa Rivers**

The Kaeo flood scheme Stage 1 works are scheduled for commencement in early December. Land owner memorandum of agreements have been signed off, and easements for the works will now be registered over the land.

An Expression of Interest for gravel extraction from the Kaeo and Waitangi Rivers has been advertised, and several enquiries have been received from contractors.

Staff undertook site visits to the various Whangaroa Rivers with members of the liaison committee and local stakeholders and a summer works programme has been prepared.

##### **Kerikeri-Waipapa River**

The preliminary design of the Kerikeri River spillway and its flood mitigation results were presented to the liaison committee on 20 September. The committee has asked staff to undertake some design modifications and run the 50 year storm model to better assess the benefit of the spillway. A meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 2014 to present findings. Staff will continue to progress aspects of the proposed spillway that do not incur significant cost implications, such as landowner discussion.

Staff have also met with representatives of the Historic Places Trust to discuss options to mitigate flooding at the Stone Store.

The annual works programme was adopted by the committee and is currently out for tender.

##### **Waitangi River**

An Expression of Interest for targeted willow removal and gravel extraction from the Waitangi River was posted on GETS. NRC holds a resource consent for gravel extraction from the Haruru Falls area. FNDC contractors have obtained gravel samples for testing purposes.

New councillors may query why the council is involved in both a willow nursery and willow extraction. The reason is there are “good” and “bad” willows. The crack willows that are so prevalent in our waterways and countryside are seen as the ‘bad ones’. It’s important to give this some context. This was the best material available at the time (early 1900’s), and was used by landowners to control stream and river banks.

Unfortunately the characteristics of *Salix fragilis* mean that it is highly susceptible to damage. Broken twigs and branches can take root readily, enabling the species to colonise new areas as broken twigs fall into waterways and can be carried some distance downstream, often where they are least desired. The trees also have poor form, multiple leaders resulting in numerous heavy branching, and due to little or no management become large troublesome trees.

The ‘good willows’, a selection of which we are now growing in our Flyger Road nursery and promoting as soil conservation plants, have been specifically bred and selected by scientists and nurseryman so that they do not have the undesirable characteristics found in the old crack willows and similar varieties. There is now a suite of willows developed to tackle a range of different land and river management issues. Some of the ‘good’ characteristics include smaller, slower growing varieties, plants that don’t readily propagate from fragments easily, and varieties that are less susceptible to certain pests and diseases. Some varieties now have the added benefits outside of the primary use. Certain willows are an excellent fodder crop that can be used as feed when grass is scarce during dry periods. As willows have both male and female trees variety development has also be careful to only offer only one sex to avoid reproduction in the field.

When distributing the new varieties, the council impresses on land owners that these are now their trees and they are responsible for their on-going care and maintenance through the trees’ lives. We now require recipients of plant material to sign a planting and maintenance agreement to acknowledge this and to ensure ownership. We also advise on the correct siting and placement and the appropriate variety for the situation.

Councillors may also query the use of exotic over native species. This is because willows, and poplars for that matter, are quick to establish themselves, and to perform their intended function. It is their root systems which bind and hold soil in place quickly and effectively. There is not a single native tree with the similar rooting characteristics that willows or poplars possess.

#### **Kaihū River**

The Kaihū River annual maintenance works programme is currently out for tender.

#### **Whāngārei Urban Rivers**

Rust Avenue bridge replacement is underway.

An application for building consent for the Kotuku Street detention dam has been lodged.

The tender for the annual works programme is being drafted and will be advertised in late October.

### Flood Plain Mapping

The publication of flood maps on the NRC website GIS for Kaeo, Kerikeri-Waipapa, Waitangi and Whāngārei are scheduled for October and November respectively. All affected property owners will be notified of the flood maps by mail.

### Taumarere – Kawakawa River

Staff have sketched the preliminary design for a high-level spillway to mitigate flooding in the Otiria-Moerewa area to be tested by the river model. The spillway will divert overflow from the Otiria-Stream back into the Waiharakeke Stream and away from Moerewa.

### Minor Rivers – Scheme Maintenance Programmes

Staff are designing options for the minor river works programme and will tender this work in late-October after consultation with locals.

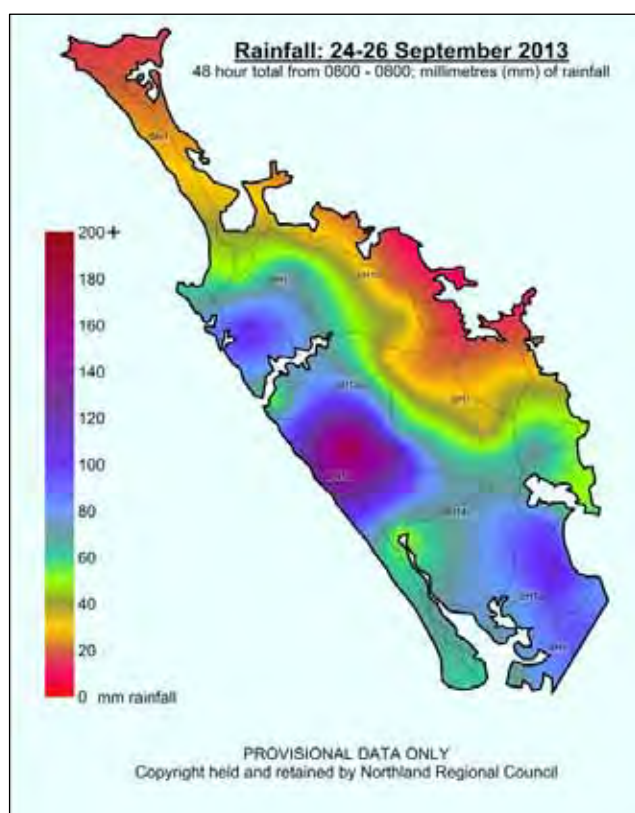
### Coastal Hazards

The tender for coastal erosion hazard assessment has now been let. The tender requires coastal erosion hazard zone assessments to be undertaken at 28 sites to determine hazard zones. Two coastal erosion hazard zones will be derived for each site, based on 50 year and 100 year timeframes. The coastal erosion hazard zones define the area of coast that may be subject to potential future coastal erosion hazard based on an assessment of a suite of variable including short-term and long-term changes in shoreline position, sea level rise, dune slope and the near shore seabed profile. The work is scheduled for completion in June 2014.

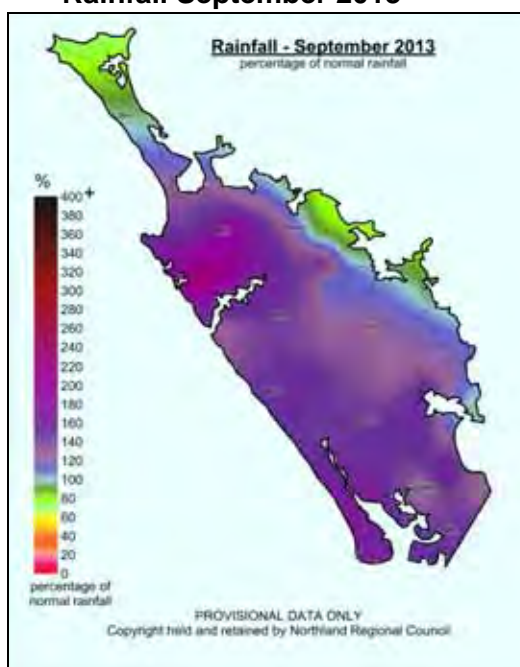
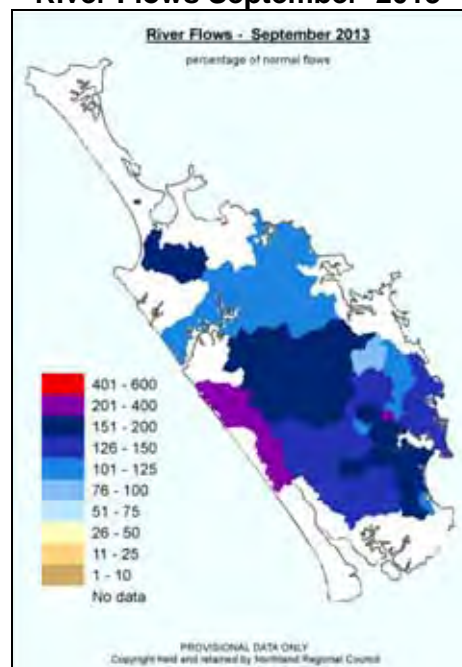
### Hydrology

#### Rainfall, Ground Water and River Flows

- September rainfall was average to below average in areas south of North Cape and eastern coastal areas from Kaeo to Bay of Islands, and above average elsewhere.
- The MetService issued two thunderstorm warnings and one severe weather warning during mid and late September.
- On 24 September heavy rain and severe gales resulted from a deep subtropical depression moving over the north and eastern North Island.
  - Heavy rain was recorded over one day (60mm to 80mm), mainly along the eastern coastal areas south of the Bay of Islands and the inland areas of South Kaipara
  - Severe wind gusts at Cape Reinga, 103.7 km/hr and Whāngārei, 63 km/hr
  - On 25 September this depression turned westerly producing sustained heavy rain and gale force winds along western areas of the region.



- Heavy rain was recorded in the Tutamoe/Waima Range and north Hokianga.
  - Over two days 179mm was recorded at Tutamoe causing the Kaihu River to rise over 3 meters and the Mangakahia River at Titoki to reach 10 metres above normal.
  - Flood warnings were issued for the lower river flat areas.
- Groundwater level monitoring indicates most sites across Northland are above average levels for this time of year with the exception of Tara and Mangawhai. The groundwater levels at these sites are low for this time of year however they continue to increase due to recent rainfall recharge.
  - River flows for September were above average.

**Rainfall September 2013****River Flows September 2013****Seasonal Outlook**

The seasonal outlook for Northland from October to December 2013 indicates that temperatures, rainfall totals, soil moisture and river flows are likely to be near average to above average.

The probabilities for Northland are shown in the following table.

	Temperature	Rainfall	Soil Moisture	River Flows
Above Average	45%	40%	40%	40%
Near Average	45%	40%	40%	40%
Below Average	10%	20%	20%	20%



#### 4.4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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The second issue of the electronic newsletter Northland Economic Quarterly (NEQ) was prepared and released on Tuesday 1 October (see **Attachment 3**). In addition to the regular quarterly updates on economic activity, employment and household welfare, the annual statistics section focuses on the level and trend in local government rates and debt, and the spotlight section looks at housing affordability in Northland.

If councillors wish to receive electronic notification when future issues become available online all they have to do is to sign up to the NRC subscription service ([www.nrc.govt.nz/subscriptions](http://www.nrc.govt.nz/subscriptions)) and then register to receive the Economic Quarterly. If they are already signed up to the subscription service, then they just need to log in and add the Economic Quarterly to their subscription preferences.

#### 4.5. HAZARD MANAGEMENT

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##### **Civil defence emergency management**

##### **MetService warnings and activations**

As detailed in the Hydrology section of this report on page 17, a number of weather watches and warnings were issued in September. These events were monitored by civil defence personnel and no activation was required by the Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) sector.

Social media, Facebook, continues to be utilised for the distribution of warnings. Over the past months all warnings have been added to the Civil Defence Northland Facebook page. The page now has 476 “likes” (up from 400 in early August).

##### **Community Resilience Resourcing**

As reported in September, additional resourcing to support Community Resilience projects, particularly the Vulnerable Groups and Community Response Plan reviews, was approved by the CDEM Group. As the administering authority for the group the NRC has now recruited a full time officer on a one year contract commencing 29 October. This additional resource is funded from the Ministry of CDEM National Resilience fund and the CDEM Group reserves.

The Vulnerable Groups project has progressed well with the project team having met on several occasions and the objectives and deliverables being defined. Progress is also being made on developing a new template for the Community Response Plans with the Mangawhai plan being used as a pilot.

##### **Lifelines Group**

As a follow up to the half day Emergency Management Information Systems (EMIS) training sessions the Northland Lifelines Group members held an exercise to test the EMIS, communication protocols and key Lifelines Utility liaison personnel. The half day exercise also involved limited participation from the Whāngārei, Far North and CDEM Group Emergency Operations Centres. The exercise focused on the response to a significant Kermadec trench tsunami event. Fourteen lifeline group member agencies participated in the exercise and a full debrief report of this exercise is yet to be finalised and received by the group. Initial indications are that the EMIS was a useful tool for across agency information sharing in real time. This is the first time nationally that such an exercise has been undertaken by lifelines utility providers and the first time that such agencies have had access to and used the EMIS.

The annual National Lifelines Utility forum is being hosted in Auckland in early November and representatives of the Northland group will again be in attendance.

**Welfare Advisory Group/Welfare Coordinating Group**

The Ministry of CDEM have released a draft of the proposed Welfare Section for inclusion into the National Plan. The welfare arrangements have been the subject of extensive reviews and a number of changes have been signalled including a change in name from Welfare Advisory Group to Welfare Coordinating Group (WCG), a proposed change in the chair of the new WCG and clarification on organisational roles and responsibilities.

The rebuild of the Welfare Registration component of the EMIS has now been completed and released. Three Northland staff attended training in Auckland and arrangements are being progressed for training within the region. It is considered that the new format for registration is much improved. Part of the module includes the ability for Welfare Centres to report on their status.

**Professional development**

A three-day Coordinated Incident Management Course (Level 4) is scheduled for 4, 5 and 6 November with 24 registrations confirmed. Recently there have been changes within the Tai Poutani Polytechnic who have provided this course to Northland over a number of years. As a result there have been a number of matters around the course delivery, content and funding which have required renegotiation over the past months. In particular Tai Poutani had made a number of changes to the course content which were seen as being inconsistent with previous courses and agreed protocols.

**Emergency Management Information System**

Recently the Wellington Region Emergency Management Office announced the appointment of a North Island EMIS Support Officer funded by the National Resilience fund. Northland has outlined its priority areas for EMIS training and we expect to make good use of the services of the resource in delivering various EMIS based courses. Our priority is to have a wider pool of Super Users in place who have a higher level of training.

Representatives from Northland, Auckland, Waikato and Bay of Plenty CDEM Groups attended a meeting with the American based EMIS developers. The purpose of the meeting was to review the EMIS and the manner in which it was being used or implemented at the group and local levels. A number of enhancements are due for release for user testing in mid-October, including an updated GIS mapping component.

**Tsunami readiness and response**

GNS have released the Review of Tsunami Hazard in New Zealand which was commissioned by the Ministry of CDEM. The report focuses on quantifying tsunami hazards. Due to recent events the report identifies that there is greater uncertainty that now exists regarding the maximum size of earthquakes on plate boundaries close to New Zealand which has led to an increase in the estimated hazard from tsunami triggered by local and regional sources. The implications for Northland are that there is a greater likely consequence for 1 in 2500 year events from all sources.

The Northland CDEM Group work programme for the coming year will include reviewed and updated inundation mapping for the Northland coastline with new maps being incorporated into Community Response Plans, Visitor Action Plans and into Lifelines Utility Group readiness and response arrangements and protocols. Funding is also been set aside to develop and deploy appropriate community signage (this project has been on hold awaiting the report outcomes).



As reported to the council at its 30 October 2013 meeting, the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management (MCDEM) intends to run a Tsunami Roadshow on Tuesday 3 December 2013 from 12.30 pm to 3.30 pm in the Northland Regional Council Chamber. MCDEM have agreed to provide a series of presentations on the following topics:

- Review of tsunami hazard in New Zealand (2013 Update): Dr William Power (GNS Science)
- The process for tsunami warning in New Zealand and new PTWC products: David Coetzee (MCDEM) and Dr Ken Gledhill (GNS Science)
- Siren standards for tsunami warning: Brendan Morris (Brendan Morris Consulting)
- Update on public alerting initiatives: David Coetzee (MCDEM).

Further information concerning these presentations is available for any councillors interested in attending.

#### **HF Radio Review**

For a number of years the Ministry of CDEM has relied on the HF national radio network as one of the means for communication with groups and local Emergency Operations Centres. A review is currently underway nationally to determine the ongoing viability of this network. Kaipara and Far North currently have HF radio systems. The NRC and Whāngārei have stopped using HF systems due to significant costs associated with maintenance and moving equipment between buildings.

### **4.6. TRANSPORT**

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#### **Regional transport management**

##### **Dust on Unsealed Roads**

Following the NORTEG (Northland Technical Advisory Group) workshop held on 30 August 2013, the various road controlling authorities (i.e. the three district councils and NZTA) have started gathering the information required for the draft Regional Dust from Unsealed Roads Mitigation Strategy.

At the outset of this process, it was anticipated that the Draft Strategy would be completed by October/November 2013. Due to existing work commitments, members of the working party indicated they would not be able to source and deliver the required information in time to meet this deadline. They requested that the Regional Transport Committee approve the extension of the deadline to December 2013/January 2014. A paper on this matter was tabled at the Regional Transport Committee meeting on 9 October 2013.

##### **“R” Funding**

A special workshop to report on the meeting with the Minister of Transport, the information the Minister requires from each approved road controlling authority and how the required information will be presented has been scheduled with the Regional Transport Committee following their meeting on 9 October 2013.

**Passenger transport administration**  
**Total Mobility (August and September 2013)**

	Total clients	Monthly Actual Expend	Monthly Budget Expend	Variance	Year/Date Actual Expend	Year/Date Budgeted Expend	Variance
<b>August 2013</b>	1008	\$13,835	\$16,666	-\$2,831	\$28,393	\$33,332	-\$4,939
<b>Sept 2013</b>	1013	\$13,132	\$16,666	-\$3,534	\$41,525	\$49,998	-\$8473

**City Link Whāngārei (August-September 2013) (including Gold Card, excluding GST)**

August 2013	Month Actual	Budget	Variance	August 2012
Passenger numbers	28,818	29,972	-1,154	29,101
Farebox revenue (GST excl)	\$57,219	\$64,083	-6,864	\$62,767

September 2013	Month Actual	Budget	Variance	September 2012
Passenger numbers	26,585	25,613	+972	25,408
Farebox revenue (GST excl)	\$53,119	\$60,356	-\$7,237	\$55,301

Reports show a steady couple of months of operation. The variance between budgeted revenue and actual revenue can be mostly attributed to the decision not to introduce the 1 July 2013 planned fare increase, as it was agreed that given the current economic environment, a fare increase would be held off for as long as possible. Staff will continue to monitor the operational results closely, to ensure costs stay within budget, and will re-evaluate later in the year.

**SuperGold Card Scheme (August 2013)**

Month Actual	Monthly Budget	Variance	Average 2011/12
4,836	4,613	+223	4,610

**SuperGold Card Scheme (September 2013)**

Month Actual	Monthly Budget	Variance	Average 2011/12
4,360	4,613	-253	4,610

**CityLink Whāngārei**

- In response to a number of complaints and concerns about passenger safety and security, the services of a local security company has been retained for Rose Street bus terminus for a set number of hours per day. This will continue for as long as required.
- The newly formatted timetables have now been printed and are available on board the fleet. Posters have been placed at Rose Street, and on the buses.
- Our first bus back advertising has taken place, advising that the new website is smartphone capable.
- The new website [www.citylinkWhangarei.co.nz](http://www.citylinkWhangarei.co.nz) is up and running. This is a dedicated CityLink website, and it will be the responsibility of the Transport

Team to ensure it remains updated and current. The new bus stop locator function (still being fine tuned) not only shows each individual stop along the route, it also advises the current time, and the next three scheduled pick up times from the selected bus stop.

- A GPS tracking unit trial has been arranged and is due to start in early November. It is hoped this will allow a localised real-time passenger transport information system.
- Another request to Whāngārei District Council for two bus stops on Port Road has been declined, citing reluctance to forgo car parking spaces. The reason for the request was to allow a trial amendment to the Onerahi service, in order to offer a service past Okara Park Shopping Centre and over Te Matau a Pohe to continue on to Onerahi.
- An approach was made to Ritchies and Snapper about the possibility of introducing electronic ticketing on CityLink. This would mirror the system currently available in Wellington, and is known as a tag-on, tag-off system, and would remove the paper-based ten-trip concession tickets. Once the new timetables and website are up and running, staff focus will return to this area.
- The possibility of offering WIFI on board the CityLink fleet is being investigated. Staff from Northland Inc and Northpower Fibre have been helpful in putting NRC staff in contact with TomiZone, the providers of WIFI currently available at Whāngārei Airport.

#### **Mangawhai Summer Service**

- All three funding partners have confirmed funding for the 2013/14 summer service. Areas of improvement noted from the 2012/13 service have been implemented, and staff will work with the operators, Leabourn Passenger Services Limited to being service promotion two weeks prior to the start date of 27 December 2013.

#### **BusAbout Kaitāia**

- A meeting was held in Kaitāia during October. The discussion centred around summer promotional ideas and how best to increase patronage. New staff employed by CBEC have some ideas to progress. A suggested draft survey was given to CBEC, and they have agreed to undertake the survey. NRC staff have again offered to provide assistance.

#### **Road safety update**

Nationally as at Thursday 30 September 2013 there were 187 road fatalities year to date. At the same time last year there were 210.

The year to date Northland road toll sits at 12 deaths. There have been six deaths in the Far North, three in the Whāngārei district and three in the Kaipara district. There were nine deaths for the same period last year for Northland.

The council continues to work closely with road safety partners across the region in various road safety action planning meetings, projects and events. A Labour Weekend campaign was planned for a combined effort supporting the Police in road safety promotion, including road safety messaging via radio advertisements, use of Variable Messaging (VMS electronic signs) along Northland state highway routes and Fatigue Stops being held for both northbound and southbound travellers. At the time of preparing this report, preliminary feedback on the weekend programme was very positive; further information will be reported next month.

## **Navigation, Safety And Maritime Operations**

### **Oil Spill Preparedness and Response**

There were no oil spill incidents reported during this period.

The Regional On Scene Commander (ROSC) and the maritime manager attended a regional council workshop held by Maritime New Zealand (MNZ). The workshop provided an update on latest developments within MNZ following the Rena oil spill response reviews, and provided a forum for sharing information on oil spill response between the regions.

The ROSC also met with the MNZ Marine Pollution Response Service (MPRS) manager to review assistance requirements of the national response team.

Site audits were carried out at three Tier 1 fixed fuelling facilities and corrective measures were recommended to the operators. Renewals of three Tier 1 plans for fixed fuel facilities, including the Refining NZ plan were approved by the ROSC during the month. All fixed sites are being targeted to ensure they have up-to-date Tier 1 plans.

### **Port and Harbour Safety**

The harbourmaster held a risk assessment meeting with North Tugz pilots reviewing tug use for tankers arriving and departing the refinery. Risk assessments are regularly reviewed as part of the harbour safety system. The six-weekly Whāngārei harbour safety meeting was held.

Four hot work permits were issued during this period.

A cloud-based file storage system is being trialled for Port and Harbour Safety documentation to allow easier updating and access of information by all parties.

This year's hydrographic survey results for Whāngārei harbour were discussed with individual commercial operations in the upper harbour. Dredging requirements for present and proposed development of operations were reviewed in detail. Dredging of the Hātea river channel continued during the month, with the costs being met by the Hātea river channel fund. The channel under the new road bridge was aligned to ensure safe passage.

The recently appointed Regional Compliance Manager for Maritime NZ visited and met with the harbourmaster and deputy harbourmaster to discuss improved communication and working relationship with NRC.

### **Maritime Incidents, Enforcement and Safety**

Staff dealt with eight maritime incidents during this period. A launch that broke free from its mooring and ran aground in the upper Whāngārei Harbour was recovered by the owner with the help of a local salvage operator. The vessel was moved to safe water without damage to the vessel and without any fuel leakage. The other incidents were relatively minor and were handled in accordance with maritime incident procedures.

A vessel which had sunk on its mooring at One Tree Point subsequently was not removed by the owner. The harbourmaster instructed the removal and disposal of the vessel at the owner's expense.

**Aids to Navigation**

A new light and battery were installed in the Perpendicular Point beacon at the entrance to the Houhora harbour. Trees that had been obstructing the light, were trimmed by arborists.

The refurbishment of aids to navigation in the Kerikeri Inlet continued this month with the installation of new top marks on W1, W3, W7, W9 beacons and the isolated danger mark in the Te Puna Inlet.

Lights were reported as extinguished on the H11 starboard buoy in the Hātea river Whāngārei, the Waitangi Sector light and No. 2 (The Sticks) port hand beacon in the Bay of Islands. New batteries were installed in H11 and No. 2, and 6 new lamps in the Waitangi Sector light. All lights are now operational.

**Moorings**

Following the meeting with mooring contractors last month, draft amendments to the mooring construction guidelines have been circulated for comment, and the contractors are now being supplied on a weekly basis with updated reports on moorings.

The system of approving mooring contractors is being reviewed, and a draft of a new licencing agreement between NRC and the mooring contractors is being compiled for legal review.

An issue identified with moorings that have Fergie buoys has prompted an audit of those moorings recently serviced and will be completed as time allows.

The records in IRIS regarding mooring licence conditions (in particular the length of vessel allowed) are being updated. Prior to this there were only around 300 out of 2700 swing moorings which had a maximum vessel length recorded. There are now 1624 that have max vessel lengths recorded, and the remainder should be completed by the end of the calendar year. This will enable more efficient control of the mooring licence conditions.

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**4.7. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION AND ENGAGEMENT****October 2013 elections**

The local body election was completed with the public notification of results on Monday, 21 October, which were reported to the council at its inaugural meeting on 30 October 2013. A programme of events over late October and early November is underway to brief new councillors on significant projects and issues.

During the council recess, the Chief Executive had full delegation to exercise the powers of council, if necessary (refer agenda item 7.3 of the council meeting held 17 September 2013). There were no urgent decisions required to be made under this delegation.

Councillors are reminded of the requirements of section 112A of the Local Electoral Act 2001 to complete their "Return of Electoral Donations and Expenses" no later than 13 December 2013. Copies of the form are available on request.

## 4.8. SUPPORT SERVICES

### Public Communications

#### Media and Publications

Northland's media was monitored for items of interest to the council. Media releases were sent to appropriate media concerning the following:

- Duckweed, dairying pollution research wins NRC award
- Kaipara district schools win \$3100 environmental awards
- Contractors sought to remove free river gravel
- Postal voting packs on the way
- Award-winning Proposed RPS adopted
- 18th annual NRC Youth Summit soon
- Monthly pest watch column in Whāngārei Leader: Jasmine
- Monthly land management column in Rural Advocate and Northern Farming Lifestyles: Striking a balance on feeding regimes

#### Publications completed during September:

- Regional Report (council's quarterly newsletter) Issue 29. The eight-page edition included a four-page elections special, along with a range of stories including civil defence resilience fund projects, impacts of beach traffic on toheroa, TB in Northland, and a Waiora Northland Water update..

Considerable work also went in to preparation of the Annual Report and Summary Annual Report, both of which are on track for publication in late October.

#### Online Channels

##### **Scam alert / Moorings for sale or rent listings**

Council was recently contacted by a mooring owner concerned he was being targeted by scammers attempting to take advantage of users of this mooring service using a well-known and common scam technique, which included a request to transfer money through a Western Union account.

An email was sent to mooring owners using this service and an alert posted on the moorings for sale or rent section of the website urging prospective mooring vendors/purchasers to remain vigilant for any suspicious emails.

##### **New search engine**

A new search engine went live on the website this month. This was required as the previous search engine hardware (Google Mini) failed.

##### **Website monthly usage – [www.nrc.govt.nz](http://www.nrc.govt.nz):**

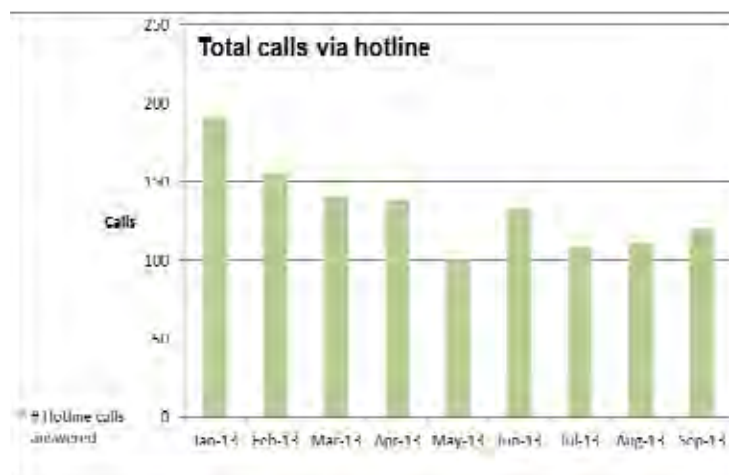
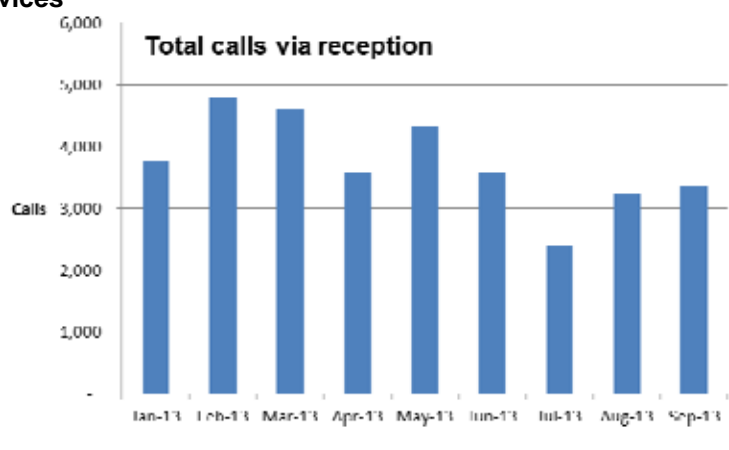
# Visits to the NRC website (compared to the same period last year):



Key Performance Indicators	Jun-13	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sept-13
<b>WEB</b>				
PDF documents downloaded (transactions)*	2,042	2,287	2,018	2,877
\$ Print value of documents downloaded)*	\$3,947	\$4,101	\$4,358	\$29,984
E-payments made	4	2	7	4
GIS Service - Number of unique visitors	336	319	309	308
GIS Service - Number of visits	863	596	522	520
# subscription customers (cumulative)	761	786	815	826
<b>SOCIAL MEDIA (cumulative)</b>				
# Twitter followers	548	557	572	585
# NRC Facebook fans	302	309	319	339
# CDEM Facebook fans	328	399	406	476
# CoastCare Facebook fans	93	98	101	105

\* Note: Increase in PDFs downloaded and print value of documents downloaded in September is due to the interest in the Hearing Commissioners Decisions on the RPS which were published on 13 September.

### Customer Services



NOTE: High January calls due primarily to:

- Waipū seaweed and algae smell
- Smoke nuisance related to fires
- Boats off moorings due to high winds/swell

**Events*****Ballance Farm Environment Awards (BFEA) Launch function***

As Regional Partner of the Northland BFEA, we were invited to attend the launch function on 5 September at Barge Park, Whāngārei. The purpose of the event was to learn more about the awards and to hear from previous winners about their experiences. As Regional Partner we had the opportunity to give a presentation about our involvement in the awards and how they have synergies with our Waioira Northland Water programme.

***Westpac Business Excellence Awards Sponsors evening***

A sponsors briefing evening was held on 25 September at the Northtec Apprentice Restaurant. The purpose of the evening was to inform sponsors about the awards process and to ensure sponsors understood the requirements for preparing videos and speeches for the formal awards dinner.

***Auckland on water boat show***

The Biosecurity team exhibited at the Auckland on water boat show on 26-29 September, sharing a stand with Ministry for Primary Industries. Staff handed out information and discussed the issue of marine pests and how people can take action to keep our waters protected from these pests. The Communication team assisted in developing new display and communication material.

**Environmental Education*****Northland Regional Council 2013 Environmental Curriculum Awards***

Twenty-three schools this year won Northland Regional Council 2013 Environmental Curriculum Awards (ECA), supporting the environmental education efforts of more than 2200 students around the region.

Award deliveries saw the council visit 23 Northland schools to go to special celebration assemblies attended by more than 4300 students. The delivery roadshow was completed in September.

The ECA-winning schools were spread throughout the region from Kaitiāia in the north to Ruāwai in the south. The 2013 award-winning schools can be seen on the Northland Regional Council website at [www.nrc.govt.nz/eca](http://www.nrc.govt.nz/eca)

The annual Northland Regional Council Environmental Curriculum Award sees \$20,000 available to schools to foster excellence in environmental education. This year's record 23 recipients received between \$200 and \$1700 each for their 25 projects. Eleven Whāngārei district schools won \$8500, eight Far North district schools won \$8400 and four Kaipara district schools won \$3100.

This year's ECA-recognised projects covered a wide range of enterprise from developing shadehouses to growing riparian plants, riparian fencing, kiwi habitat development at a key Northland and Auckland source area for young of the iconic New Zealand bird, biodiversity improvement, business development through schoolground/community chicken enterprise expansion and water-quality education.

***Northland Regional Council Youth Summit***

Forty-five students from 19 Northland schools applied during September to attend this year's 18<sup>th</sup> annual Northland Regional Council Youth Summit.

Students who won places at the event were notified during September - before the end of term three.



The students submitted a range of local catchment-based coastal marine issues to help sort through developing action plans at the Youth Summit. These included encouraging local landowners to fence waterways to keep cows out of Waipū River, improving the quality of farm runoff entering Whāngārei Harbour, stabilising Mitimiti paddock fencing to keep stock out of Moetangi Stream (Mitimiti), riparian planting to filter pollution from Ngataki Stream before it gets to Rarawa Beach, working with local community groups to improve stream health, riparian planting along Waiarohia Stream which flows into Whāngārei Harbour, increasing Hokianga Harbour's coastal marine access, investigating more eco-friendly boat hull cleaning alternatives to reduce the impact of marinas on Whāngārei Harbour and keeping cow waste and pests out of Kaipara Harbour waterways.

### **Enviroschools**

#### ***Enviroschools Project Possum – stage 2 held***

From 3 to 6 September, more than 30 community members and senior secondary students completed their Controlled Substances Licence (CSL) training at Trefoil Park near Kaikohe. The training enables those who qualify to lay possum-killing toxins like cyanide, thereby equipping them to kill possums in large numbers and potentially make a good income. Council Biosecurity staff was involved as trainers at the course.

This is the second year that stage two of the Project Possum initiative has taken place, increasing from one to two courses. It is also the first year that the course included the theory component for a firearms licence, which proved popular. This addition closed the loop of possum control methods for Project Possum – trapping, poisoning and shooting.

98% of participants rated the training as excellent, 77% would like a career in helping the environment and 72% would like to work in the possum fur industry. Feedback comments included: "great mix of theory and practical exercises" and "practical hands-on career path for many of our students."

#### ***Eight Enviroschools increase their status***

The Enviroschools Programme provides a structure and a set of tools for acknowledging progress and celebrating student-led action and learning. This framework, beginning with Bronze, then Silver, through to Green-Gold, is also a way to inspire and engage the wider community.

During September, the following in-school reflection sessions took place involving principals, teachers, board of trustee members, whānau and students:

- Comrie Park Kindergarten – Bronze
- Kokopu School – Bronze
- Okaihau Primary School - Bronze
- Oromahoe School - Silver
- Otaika School – Bronze
- Oturu School – Green-Gold
- Parua Bay School – Bronze
- Umawera School - Silver

The evidence presented at the reflection sessions proved that the Bronze enviroschools are committed to their sustainable journey and have taken initial steps to identify opportunities and lay foundations. The Silver enviroschools' action projects and community participants are growing in number, sustainable practices

are being maintained and they are extending the range and depth of learning and action. Oturu School, at the Green-Gold stage, feels like a living eco-system, Māori perspectives are enriching the journey, students have a strong connection to the environment and they know that they can effect change for a sustainable world. Ruakaka School will reflect at the Green-Gold level in November.

***Enviroschools presentation to the Whāngārei Rotary Club***

On 11 September, a presentation was made regarding the Enviroschools Programme in Northland. Rotary members were interested to hear about the breadth and depth of the programme, the links made between schools, communities and ecosystems and the practical hands-on learning and action.

***Enviroschools regional co-ordinator hui attended***

From 18 – 20 September, the biannual hui for Enviroschools regional co-ordinators from throughout New Zealand was held in Dunedin. Matters discussed included: draft strategy of the Enviroschools Programme, front runner projects - including the WaiRestoration Northland pilot, Māori perspectives, relationship with the Department of Conservation, Evaluation of the Enviroschools Programme, Te Aho Tū Roa update – Māori immersion sibling to the Enviroschools Programme, professional development and 2014 event calendar.

***Facilitation of Enviroschools communities***

In addition to the above actions, Enviroschools facilitators have worked in the following school communities during September: Bay of Islands Academy, Kamo Primary, Mangakāhia, Mangamuka, Northland College, Oromahoe, Oturu, Parua Bay, Riverview (Kerikeri), Ruakaka and Umawera.

**LGOIMA Requests**

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act requests during September:

Name	Parent
Bevan John Further correspondence regarding the NRC LGOIMA response dated 19 April 2012	CEO's office
Grammer Z LGOIMA request for copy of legal opinion whether NRC councillors can vote on issues they submitted on copy	CEO's office
Obushenkova O of Buddle Findlay Lawyers LGOIMA request for electronic copies of documentation on Coastal permit and transfer Northland Port Corporation Limited	Consents
Waddell M LGOIMA request for information held by the Consents and Hydrology departments relating to the Whatitiri aquifer, Poroti springs and including Mangakahia	Consents
Waddell M Further request relating to the LGOIMA request for information held by the Consents and Hydrology departments relating to the Whatitiri aquifer, Poroti springs and including Mangakahia	Consents
David Keys LGOIMA request how Hydrology report can be commissioned by Northland Inc with NRC to hear submissions Application APP.008120.01.01	CEO's office

## Human Resources

### Staff matters

#### ***Terminations:***

George Kruger, Consents/Monitoring Officer, finished his employment with the council on 6 September 2013. George left to accept a position with Fonterra as Sustainable Dairying Advisor.

Fleur King, General Manager – Community Relations, finished her employment with the council on 13 September 2013. Fleur left to take up the position of Media and Communication Manager with Tasmanian Government, Tasmanian Health Organisation in Australia. Kathryn Ross, General Manager – Planning and Policy has been appointed as Acting General Manager – Community Relations while a review of this position is undertaken.

#### ***Appointments:***

Kim Abbott, Civil Defence/Emergency Management Officer, is to have her part time, fixed term employment made permanent.

Dennis Pram, Systems Analyst, has had his fixed term employment extended until 28 March 2014.

Carol Nicolson, Environmental Monitoring Officer – SOE, had her fixed term, part time employment extended until 29 June 2014.

#### ***Vacancies:***

Applications for the position of Consents/Monitoring Officer closed on 26 September 2013. Interviews with short listed applicants were held on 9, 10 and 15 October 2013. A decision is expected shortly.

Applications for the position of Communications Officer (fixed term parental leave cover) closed on 3 October 2013. Interviews with short listed applicants were held on 11 and 18 October 2013. A decision is expected shortly.

An offer of employment has been made and accepted for Human Resources Advisor. Start date is 7 October 2013.

An interview was held on 30 September 2013 to appoint the fixed term funded position of Civil Defence/Emergency Management Officer – Community Resilience Projects. Start date will be 29 October 2013.

#### ***Employment Relations:***

The proposal to review the shipping allowances including the introduction of a new pilot allowance has now been approved and will be incorporated into all Employment Agreements. The standard shipping allowance has also been increased.

A graduation ceremony for the council cadets was held at Kaipara District Council on 2 September 2013. Cameron Bunton our cadet attended along with other council representatives.

**Staff establishment**

<b>Status</b>	<b>September 2013</b>	<b>September 2012</b>	<b>August 2013</b>
Full Time Permanent	132	125	134
Part Time (FTE)	10.8	11.8	10
Fixed Term (incl Part Time FTE)	5.9	7.4	6.5
Students/TFG and Temps	0	0	0
Vacancies	6	8	4
<b>TOTAL FTE</b>	<b>154.7</b>	<b>152.2</b>	<b>154.5</b>

**Training**

<b>Course</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Employees</b>
Defensive Driving	Whāngārei	09.09.13	C Bunton, C Dall, D Kervell
First Aid - Refresher	Whāngārei	11.09.13	C Surendran
Snorkelling Competency Assessment	Whāngārei	13.09.13	R Eyre, R Griffiths, M Schlesier, S White, N Van Tonder
First Aid – Comprehensive	Whāngārei	18-19.09.13	I Middleton
First Aid - Refresher	Whāngārei	25.09.13	K Pabirowski, R Ropiha, P Springford
Trailer Training	Whāngārei	26.09.13	D Evans, L Forester, D Johnson, B Griffin, J Karena-Lange, W Teal, D Kervell, R McGregor, A Semenoff, L Shaft

**Staff turnover**

Staff turnover as at the end of September 2013 for the past 12 months was 9.10%.

**Health and safety*****Accidents reported:***

1. Staff member rolled ankle on uneven ground. Applicable treatment received.
2. Staff bumping heads into concrete pillar in Records. A soft surface has been installed at appropriate height to prevent injuries.
3. Thumb stabbed with letter opener. Superficial, band-aid applied.
4. Acid spilt on fingers and clothing during water sampling. Minor chemical burns and some damage to jacket.

***Incidents reported:***

1. OOS reported due to excessive mouse use. Has seen doctor, physio, and the mouse has been replaced with a touch screen computer. Will continue to review this situation.

***Motor vehicle incidents:***

1. Rear window of ute broken while loading quad bike. A crash bar has been installed.
2. Door opened on show trailer while being towed north to an event. It was closed when noticed but on reaching destination the door fell off when being opened. Hinges had broken or expanded. All hinges were replaced with solid cast types to prevent reoccurrence.

***H&S issues, inspections and visits:***

Chemical storage at Dargaville is under review due to failure to comply with NZS8409:2004. This followed a report by Tech-Ops health and safety check. A new site for storage is being investigated.

The reception emergency response procedure has been implemented and updated. All staff involved have been advised of the new procedures and it is intended that a couple of drills will be arranged to ensure staff are trained and fully aware.

Trailer training has been completed for staff who use the larger trailers i.e. Polaris, boats and show. The training was carried out by the AMS Group, truck and trailer training specialists. General feedback from the training was good, but the female staff said they could have benefited from one on one practical training, in particular around the trailer braking system. This will be reviewed for future trailer training.

Defensive driver, 4WD and trailer training is ongoing as is first aid training (comprehensive and refresher courses).

An internal audit involving the health and safety committee is almost completed. This is a requirement for our ACC Workplace Safety Management Practices certification.

**Finance and IT****Fraud declaration**

Fraud is an intentional act by one or more individuals among management, those charged with governance, employees, or third parties, involving the use of deception to obtain an unjust or illegal advantage. I am not aware of any fraud nor am I investigating any incidence or suspected incidence of fraud at this time.

**Finance**

Item 6.1 of this agenda presents the Summary Council Cost of Services Statement and the Cost of Service Statements by Activity for the three months ended 25 September 2013.

**IRIS**

Staff are actively using the IRIS application as part of their day to day operations. The application continues to function as expected and staff knowledge and use of the application is steadily increasing with time.

A workshop was held to launch the remaining phase of the development project (Disconnected Devices) which will deliver the capability for staff to capture data in the field.

Waikato Regional Council went live with stage two (Monitoring) as planned during September, with the third stage (Requests) planned for completion later this year. Taranaki Regional Council and Environment Southland are the next councils scheduled to go-live with the IRIS application. Continuing the collaborative nature of the project, council staff are providing assistance to Southland with data migration and reporting on a cost recovery basis.

While Lisa Aubrey General Manager – Finance and IT is on maternity leave, Tony Phipps will act as the alternative director on the Regional Software Holdings Board should I not be able to attend for any reason.

**Infrastructure**

The new generator that will provide an emergency supply of electricity has been delivered. Once the necessary cabling has been completed and the unit commissioned, a full Disaster Recovery (DR) test will be conducted.

**Compliance with decision making processes:**

The activities detailed in this report are provided for in the council's 2012-2022 Long Term Plan, and as such are in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76 to 82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

**Recommendation:**

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That the Chief Executive Officer's report dated 4 October 2013 be received.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Consents decisions and progress on notified applications in process, objections and appeals.
2. Environmental Monitoring Report
3. Northland Economic Quarterly (NEQ)

## ATTACHMENT 1

## CONSENTS DECISIONS AND PROGRESS ON NOTIFIED APPLICATIONS IN PROCESS, OBJECTIONS AND APPEALS

The Consents/Monitoring Senior Programme Manager's report on resource consent decisions issued under delegated authority since 1 September 2013 is circulated to Councillors under separate cover.

Progress on notified applications, objections, and appeals is as set out in the following tables:

### NOTIFIED APPLICATIONS

#### Applications Publicly/Limited Notified During Previous Month

Applicant	Proposal	Notification Period	Comment
Far North District Council APP.036327.01.01	Browns Road bridge, south-east of Kaikohe, replacement	2 October – 31 October 2013	Limited notified to adjoining landowner.
Robinia Investments Limited APP.036304.01.01	Beach replenishment and groyne at Clendon Cove, Bay of Islands	25 September – 23 October 2013	Limited notified to the Department of Conservation, Historic Places Trust and Waikare Marae Committee.

#### Progress on Applications Previously Notified

Applicant	Proposal	Progress
Far North Holdings Limited APP.008385.30.01	Various consents associated with a proposed pile berth extension of the Ōpua Marina	Forty submissions received, 23 in opposition, 13 in support, three neutral and one partial support/oppose submission. Fifteen submitters wish to be heard at a hearing with six submitters not indicating whether they wish to be heard or not. Processing timeframes have been extended at the applicant's request.
Kaipara District Council APP.009888.01.01 ("Boar Hill") APP.009889.01.01 ("Cattlemount" and "Cattlemount Spring") APP.003815.01.03 (Brynderwyn Stream) APP.007582.01.02 (Piroa Stream)	To authorise existing water takes for the public water supply of Maungaturoto. In addition, new consents are also being sought for a proposed stream flow monitoring weir	<b>Boar Hill/Cattlemount:</b> Four submissions received on each set of applications, one in opposition, one in support and two neutral. Two submitters wish to be heard. <b>Brynderwyn/Piroa:</b> Five submissions received, one in opposition wishing to be heard, and four has been in support not wishing to be heard.  Agreement reached with the applicant on draft conditions. Discussion with submitters being undertaken in attempt to resolve issues with the aim of avoiding a formal hearing.

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<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Far North District Council APP.004007.01.03	East Coast Bays Wastewater Treatment Plant (Taipā) replacement discharge consents	Fifty-four submissions received, 24 wishing to be heard and 30 not wishing to be heard. Most of those oppose the current operation of WWTP. As a result of discussions between the applicant and Iwi, an alternative disposal option using the Turners and Growers orchard at Taipā was agreed upon and a discharge to land application made to council. This application was returned as it did not contain an adequate AEE. No further progress has been made with the application due to difficulties in discussing the alternative option with the land owners of the orchard. The applicant has recently allocated budget for an upgrade to the existing WWTP and is currently awaiting the results of an investigation into upgrade options. Once this has been received, the applicant will contact submitters to reopen discussions on a way forward with this application.
Li Liangren Family Trust APP.024253.01.01	Earthworks and stormwater consents for 118 lot subdivision at Tinopai	Six submissions received (one late) with five being in opposition and one neutral. Four submitters wish to be heard. Joint applications for subdivision with the Kaipara District Council (KDC) as lead authority. Hearing delayed pending receipt of further information sought by KDC. Hearing date delayed at request of applicant.
B C Taylor APP.015366.01.02	Use of a coastal structure (building) for accommodation and community hall at Whakapirau	Nine submissions received, two in support and seven in opposition. Six submitters wish to be heard. Application on hold under section 91 RMA pending applications to the KDC. The applicant has requested a time extension to enable arrangements between him and the KDC in respect of the land, including whether any change to the current designation is required. No further action on the application to the NRC was expected mid 2013. Being followed up with the applicant.



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<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Millpara Avocados Limited APP.014520.01.02 APP.014520.02.01	Increase in existing groundwater take for avocado irrigation purposes, Paparore, Far North	Twelve submissions received within time, with one submitter wishing to be heard. Nine are in opposition, one in support and two neutral. One further (late) submission in opposition received. With the approval of the applicant, the council has placed the application on hold to determine possible additional information requirements required to assess actual effects of take on other groundwater users that were raised in submissions. As a result of the council's assessment of possible options regarding additional information, the applicant has requested that the council proceed with processing the application to take water from its existing bore while leaving the other application to take water from a new bore on hold until the results of a reassessment of the Aupouri groundwater resource being undertaken by the council is complete. The council is in the process of discussing this proposal with submitters.
Whaingaroa Fisheries Company Limited APP.008120.01.01	Marine farm (fish and shellfish) at Owhanga Bay, Whangaroa Harbour	A total of 310 submissions received (two late) all in opposition, with 107 submitters wishing to be heard. Some have requested independent commissioners under section 100A to hear the proposal. Further information has been sought from the applicant under section 92, which is due by 4 November 2013.
New Zealand Refining Company Limited APP.008319.16.01	Proposed stormwater basin overflow spillway and discharge of treated stormwater	One submission received, not wishing to be heard and in support of the application. To be decided under delegated authority. Discussions with applicant to finalise conditions of consent prior to the council issuing consent.

**Hearings and Decisions**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Date of Hearing</b>	<b>Decision Issued/Comment</b>
Northland Regional Council APP.031159.01.01	Proposed construction and operation of a stormwater detention dam at Kotuku Street, Maunu	-	Decision by Independent Hearing Commissioner to grant consents was issued on 20 September 2013. No appeals received.
Northland Regional Council APP.029683.01.01	To maintain a navigation channel in the Waitangi River at Haruru Falls	31 July 2013	Decision by Independent Commissioner to grant consents was issued on 3 September 2013. No appeals received.
Far North District Council APP.003775.01.03	Discharges associated with the Ahipara Wastewater Treatment Plant	20 August 2013	Decision to grant consents issued on 18 September 2013. No appeals received.

**APPEALS/OBJECTIONS**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Poutō Farms Limited APP.021258.01.01	Flood protection works at Kaihū River	Objection to decision to return application documents as incomplete, but the applicant is still seeking stay of hearing, pending receipt of flood model data to enable completion of application detail.
Mangawhai Harbour Restoration Society APP.026844.01.01	Removal of 87 hectares of mangroves from Mangawhai Harbour and channel dredging	Appeal lodged by the applicant. Thirteen section 274 parties. Environment Court assisted mediation was held on 14 September 2011. There was no resolution and the appeal hearing commenced 30 April 2012. An interim decision has been issued by the Court declining the consent sought for dredging and indicating that consent might be forthcoming for three, possibly four, mangrove removal sites subject to satisfactory responses from the parties on conditions, mapping in one area and a jurisdictional question posed by the Court. The provision of these responses has recently occurred and the matter is back with the Court.
Maungatapere Water Company Limited APP.004607.01.03	Take water from Porotī Springs for Maungatapere water scheme	Appeal lodged by Whatitiri Maori Reserves Trust – only on term of consent.
		Appeal lodged by Lorraine Norris – only on term of consent.
		Environment Court hearing held on 13 and 14 June 2013. Environment Court upheld the council's decision to issue consent for a term of 35 years.
Whāngārei District Council APP.002960.01.03	Take water from Porotī Springs for municipal water supply	Appeal lodged by Whatitiri Maori Reserves Trust – only on term of consent.
		Appeal lodged by Lorraine Norris – only on term of consent.
		Environment Court hearing held on 13 and 14 June 2013. Environment Court upheld the council's decision to issue consent for a term of 35 years.
Westpac Mussels Distributors Limited APP.029371.01.01	94.05 ha marine farm (mussels, mussel spat catching, and oyster depuration and growing) west of Stephenson Island, near Whangaroa Harbour	Appeals lodged by Yachting New Zealand and Whangaroa Maritime Recreational Park Steering Group (WMRPSG). A number of section 274 parties have attached to the WMRPSG appeal. Environment Court hearing set for 9 December 2103.
J K Upperton APP.008867.01.02	Earthworks in the Riparian Management Zone relating to a construction of a proposed dwelling and access	Appeal lodged by A Hamilton relating to notification decision, significance of site to Maori and cultural values and effects on kai moana.

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<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Whāngārei District Council, Parks Division APP.030692.01.01	Proposed boatramp and reclamation at Pātaua North estuary	Appeal lodged by Te Waiariki Ngāti Korora, Ngāti Taka Pari Hapu.



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**ATTACHMENT 2****Environmental Monitoring for the period 1 – 30 September 2013****ABBREVIATIONS KEY**

<b>WDC</b>	Whāngārei District Council	<b>FNDC</b>	Far North District Council	<b>KDC</b>	Kaipara District Council	<b>DOC</b>	Department of Conservation
<b>NPC</b>	Northland Port Corporation	<b>NZRC</b>	NZ Refining Company	<b>NRC</b>	Northland Regional Council	<b>FNHL</b>	Far North Holdings Ltd
<b>CH</b>	Consent Holder	<b>STS</b>	Sewage Treatment System	<b>POD</b>	Point of Discharge	<b>PA</b>	Permitted Activity
<b>ESCP</b>	Erosion and Sediment Control Plan	<b>RAQP</b>	Regional Air Quality Plan	<b>RWSPN</b>	Regional Water and Soil Plan for Northland		
<b>RC</b>	Resource Consent	<b>CMA</b>	Coastal Marine Area	<b>RCPN</b>	Regional Coastal Plan for Northland		

**COASTAL ACTIVITIES** – No significant non-compliant events were recorded during the period 1 – 30 September 2013.

**LAND USE ACTIVITIES** – No significant non-compliant events were recorded during the period 1 – 30 September 2013.

**WATER TAKES** – No significant non-compliant events were recorded during the period 1 – 30 September 2013.

**DISCHARGES TO AIR**

Date	Consent Reference No.	Name	Description	Notes	Environmental Impact
06/09/2013	REG.008524.01	Far North Memorial Gardens – Air discharge	Discharge contaminants to air @ Wiroa Road, Kerikeri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A discharge of smoke and odour from the stack was in contravention of RC conditions.</li> <li>The CH has shut the cremator down and is undertaking extensive maintenance work.</li> </ul>	Moderate

**DISCHARGES TO WATER OR LAND**

Date	Consent Reference No.	Name	Description	Notes	Environmental Impact
11/09/2013	REG.001108.01	FNDC	Discharge treated municipal sewage – Paihia Sewage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The water sample results from the downstream site indicated elevated</li> </ul>	Moderate

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			Treatment System, Waitangi Forest	ammonia levels in non-compliance with the RC conditions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed upgrade to the system has not been undertaken.</li> </ul>	
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**FARM DAIRY EFFLUENT DISCHARGES – CONSENTED****Routine inspections of consented farms**

Date	Consent Reference No.	Name	Description	Notes	Environmental Impact
07/08/2013	REG.003985.01	Bayly P A	FDE 7527 @ Inksters Road, Towai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent from entry/exit race discharged to water.</li> </ul>	Significant
14/08/2013	REG.007256.01	Koropewa Farm Ltd	FDE 494 @ Waiare Road, Kerikeri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent from feed pad discharged to a wetland area.</li> </ul>	Unknown
19/08/2013	REG.009001.01	Schluter A J & E M	FDE 236 @ Pekerau Road, Pekerau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent from race at culvert discharged to water.</li> <li>Pond upgrade not completed.</li> </ul>	Unknown
19/08/2013	REG.012470.01	Pisco Farms Limited	FDE 232 @ Pekerau Road, Parapara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poor water quality and inadequate maintenance of ditches/ponds.</li> </ul>	Moderate
22/08/2013	REG.008811.01	Polglaze Dairy Park Ltd	FDE 146 @ Pukepoto Road, Pukepoto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade not completed.</li> <li>Unauthorised discharge from old ditch system.</li> </ul>	Unknown
22/08/2013	REG.009254.01	Neah Limited	FDE 597 @ Mansbridge Road, Broadwood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All effluent had been going down stormwater diversion from sump to river.</li> </ul>	Unknown
22/08/2013	REG.009298.01	Radich R	FDE 112 @ Quarry Road, Awanui	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Silage area can potentially discharge to drains.</li> </ul>	Moderate
22/08/2013	REG.009530.01	Wainui Farm Ltd	FDE 173 @ Wainui Junction, Ahipara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent discharged to water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
22/08/2013	REG.021656.01	Landcorp Farming Ltd	FDE 176 @ Sandhills Road, Kaitāia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Silage leachate from storage tank discharged to land.</li> </ul>	Unknown
23/08/2013	REG.008686.01	Ocean View Land Ltd	FDE 1601 @ Durham Road, Waipū	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent from feed pad and silage storage area discharged to land and was likely to enter water.</li> </ul>	Unknown

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23/08/2013	REG.011769.01	Southend Farms Ltd	FDE 1802 @ South Road, Waipū	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent discharged to water.</li> </ul>	Moderate
23/08/2013	REG.011825.01	Mrsich P & S	FDE 1803 @ South Road, Waipū	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent from race discharged to water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
26/08/2013	REG.008821.01	Swan C A & Tappenden E D R	FDE 625 @ Omahuta Road, Omahuta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent from standoff pad discharged to water.</li> </ul>	Significant
26/08/2013	REG.009976.01	Moss M J	FDE 616 @ Mangamuka Road, Kohukohu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent from sump overflowed in close proximity to stormwater drain.</li> </ul>	Significant
27/08/2013	REG.011744.01	Chidham Trust	FDE 4317 @ Tramline Road, Ruāwai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent discharged to land within 20 metres of water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
27/08/2013	REG.023375.01	Apopo Trust	FDE 651 @ Orira Road, Ōkaihau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent likely to discharge down stormwater drain.</li> </ul>	Unknown
28/08/2013	REG.009215.01	DKH Farming Trustee Co Ltd	FDE 541 @ Waiare Road, Ōkaihau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent discharged to land/water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
28/08/2013	REG.013152.01	Flood D P & C M Family Trust	FDE 702 @ Imms Road, Ōkaihau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent discharged to water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
29/08/2013	REG.008750.01	Hewlett G D	FDE 2758 @ Yovich Road, Mata	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effluent from pond one overflowed to water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
29/08/2013	REG.008928.01	Crowe N V & C V Family Trust	FDE 2761 @ Crowe Road, Mata	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ponding from irrigator.</li> <li>Overland flow to tanker track drain.</li> </ul>	Significant
29/08/2013	REG.008955.01	Cotton Farms Ltd	FDE 2611 @ Caves Road, Mangapai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent discharged to water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
30/08/2013	REG.009484.01	Groome A & J R	FDE 8152 @ Oturai Settlement Road, Oturai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent (from pit waste and entry/exit race) was likely to discharge to water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
30/08/2013	REG.014452.01	Hopkinson K J & R V	FDE 8170 @ Mt Wesley Coast Road, Mt Wesley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not all effluent from the feed pad goes to the pond.</li> <li>Effluent from the west of the feed pad discharged to a drain.</li> <li>Stormwater from the dairy roof could enter the ponds.</li> </ul>	Moderate

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04/09/2013	REG.011372.01	Luond K D & J M Trust	FDE 820 @ Ninihi Road, Kaikohe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent likely to enter water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
06/09/2013	REG.002513.01	Lion Heights Farms Ltd	FDE 462 @ Hauriri Road, Kaeo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent from feed pad discharged to a stormwater diversion pipe.</li> </ul>	Unknown
09/09/2013	REG.009491.01	Harrison R D	FDE 8813 @ Pouto Road, Rototuna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High risk of effluent discharge to land and to water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
09/09/2013	REG.010862.01	Griffiths M & L Family Trust	FDE 8808 @ Otara Road, Tikinui	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ponding around irrigator.</li> </ul>	Unknown
12/09/2013	REG.009309.01	Ngahura Mara Ltd	FDE 2114 @ Hoban Road, Whareora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent from feed pad discharged to water.</li> </ul>	Significant
12/09/2013	REG.009440.01	Lornie Enterprises Ltd	FDE 2141 @ Adams Road, Whareora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent discharged to water.</li> </ul>	Significant
13/09/2013	REG.009014.01	Guest W J & N M	FDE 8768 @ Poutō Road, Repia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent discharged to water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
13/09/2013	REG.010641.01	Upton Downs Ltd	FDE 8026 @ Coles Road, Te Maire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discharge of untreated effluent from a sump.</li> <li>Effluent discharged to water.</li> </ul>	Significant
13/09/2013	REG.012161.01	Guy Family Ltd	FDE 8775 @ Te Maire Road, Te Maire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rainwater from the roof at the dairy went to the ponds via the yard.</li> <li>The level in pond three was well down.</li> <li>The water at the downstream compliance site was grossly discoloured.</li> <li>Very poorly treated effluent had discharged to the receiving water.</li> </ul>	Significant
16/09/2013	REG.015766.01	Ambler M D	FDE 745 @ State Highway 12, Waimamaku	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effluent discharged to land.</li> </ul>	Unknown

**Reasons for Significant Non-Compliance:**

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Water quality test results outside consent limits	0	3	4	7
Untreated effluent discharged to water (e.g. feedpad; underpass; entry/exit race; stormwater bypass)	0	20	7	27
Excessive ponding; overland flow; discharge from irrigator into setback distances	0	3	2	5
Inadequate management (e.g. broken pipes, sump overflow)	0	2	0	2



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High risk of adverse environmental effects (but no discharge to water at time of inspection)	0	0	3	3
Required upgrade not completed by due date	0	2	0	2
Total	0	30	16	46

**FARM DAIRY EFFLUENT DISCHARGES – NON-CONSENTED****Routine inspections of permitted activity (non-consented) farms**

Date	Consent Reference No.	Name	Description	Notes	Environmental Impact
20/08/2013	REG.800011.01	Harvey Holdings Ltd	FDE 28 @ Lamb Road, Pukenui	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No contingency storage.</li> </ul>	Unknown
20/08/2013	REG.800012.01	Bryan N A	FDE 31 @ Far North Road, Houhora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent from irrigator and leaking hose caused grossly excessive ponding.</li> </ul>	Unknown
20/08/2013	REG.800024.01	Bainbridge A & J	FDE 55 @ Cox Road, Waiharara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent scraped from race discharged down a bank to water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
20/08/2013	REG.801375.01	Hudson M J	FDE 220 @ Mill Road, Awanui	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effluent discharge from irrigator was likely to enter water.</li> <li>Stormwater from the dairy roof could enter the ponds.</li> </ul>	Unknown
21/08/2013	REG.800098.01	Travers G J	FDE 369 @ Takahue Rd, Takahue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unauthorised discharge of untreated effluent to water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
22/08/2013	REG.800055.01	Parker J E M Estate	FDE 168 @ Sandhills Road, Ahipara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No effluent system.</li> <li>Effluent discharged from yard to pasture.</li> </ul>	Minor
23/08/2013	REG.800314.01	McLean L C M	FDE 1605 @ State Highway 1, Waipū	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excessive ponding and overland flow from irrigator.</li> </ul>	Unknown
23/08/2013	REG.800315.01	Couper K E J	FDE 1606 @ Ryan Road, Waipū	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effluent from feed pad area was not reticulated to the treatment system.</li> <li>Pond leaked to water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
23/08/2013	REG.804135.01	McAulay B I	FDE 1814 @ Cullen Road, Waipū Cove	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiple unauthorised discharges to land and to water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
23/08/2013	REG.804574.01	Whale D G & T M	FDE 9014 @ Cullen Road, Waipū	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not all effluent goes to treatment system and likely to discharge to water.</li> <li>Irrigation undertaken when conditions</li> </ul>	Moderate

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				were not suitable.	
28/08/2013	REG.850094.01	Small D & C	FDE 872 @ Te Pua Road, Kaikohe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discharge from pond one to wetland then under Te Pua Road.</li> </ul>	Unknown
30/08/2013	REG.800831.01	K E P Farms Limited	FDE 8057 @ Redhill Road, Oturere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent discharged to water.</li> </ul>	Significant
30/08/2013	REG.800834.01	K E P Farms Ltd	FDE 8062 @ Redhill Road, Redhill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ponds very close to overflowing.</li> </ul>	Unknown
30/08/2013	REG.800865.01	Kouros Partnership	FDE 8163 @ Mahuta Road, Mahuta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent discharged to land and was likely to reach water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
30/08/2013	REG.800871.01	Mahuta West Ltd	FDE 8171 @ Hillam Road, Mt Wesley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Large volume of effluent on entry/exit race.</li> <li>Inadequate management.</li> </ul>	Unknown
03/09/2013	REG.800213.01	Pinny M J	FDE 849 @ Knudsen Road, Kaikohe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inadequate management.</li> <li>Sump overflowed to land.</li> </ul>	Unknown
03/09/2013	REG.800218.01	Liefting A M	FDE 860 @ Orakau Road, Kaikohe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excessive ponding and overland flow from irrigator.</li> </ul>	Unknown
03/09/2013	REG.800868.01	McCollum Farm Ltd	FDE 8166 @ Mahuta Road, Mahuta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unauthorised discharge of untreated effluent to water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
04/09/2013	REG.802599.01	Pinny M J & C M	FDE 853 @ Picadilly Road, Kaikohe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excessive ponding from irrigator.</li> </ul>	Unknown
05/09/2013	REG.800223.01	Chappell L & McDonald J	FDE 901 @ State Highway 1, Pakaraka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discharge from irrigator to water.</li> <li>Excessive ponding from irrigator.</li> </ul>	Unknown
05/09/2013	REG.800239.01	Harvey J G & C M	FDE 994 @ Waitaheke Road, Ōhaeawai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excessive ponding around irrigators.</li> </ul>	Significant
05/09/2013	REG.801445.01	Rule N	FDE 897 @ Te Ahu Ahu Road, Waimate North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effluent from underpass discharged to water.</li> </ul>	Unknown
06/09/2013	REG.700048.01	Landcorp Kapiro	FDE 485 @ Stanners Road, Kapiro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excessive ponding and overland flow.</li> </ul>	Unknown
09/09/2013	REG.801068.01	Barfoote B S & E T	FDE 8815 @ Pouto Road, Tikiu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Untreated effluent from feed pad to water.</li> <li>Low point in pond two embankment.</li> </ul>	Unknown
09/09/2013	REG.801071.01	Pouto Topu A-Trust	FDE 8823 @ Opuna Road, Poutō	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effluent from irrigator discharged to drain.</li> </ul>	
09/09/2013	REG.801113.01	Taurua C R	FDE 8832 @ Pouto Road, Poutō	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pond two was close to overflowing.</li> </ul>	Unknown

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open hose in a paddock for irrigation purposes.</li> </ul>	
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Reason for Significant Non-Compliance:	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
Untreated effluent discharged to water (e.g. feedpad; underpass; entry/exit race; discharge via stormwater bypass)	1	9	6	16
Unauthorised discharge of treated effluent to water	0	5	2	7
Discharge from irrigator to water	0	0	2	2
Excessive ponding; overland flow; discharge from irrigator into setback distances	0	6	7	13
No (or inadequate) contingency storage	0	2	0	2
Inadequate management (e.g. broken or blocked pipes; sump overflow; irrigator/pump maintenance)	0	1	1	2
High risk of adverse environmental effects (but no discharge to water at time of inspection)	0	1	1	2
Total	1	24	19	44

**SOE MONITORING – AIR, LAKES AND WATER**

Classification	Date	Project	Notes
<b>Air Quality</b>	5/09/2013	Whāngārei Airshed - Ambient Air Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuous ambient air monitoring results for PM<sub>10</sub>, carbon monoxide and sulphur dioxide at the Robert Street site, Whāngārei, indicated compliance with the National Environmental Standard in August 2013.</li> </ul>
	13/09/2013	Marsden Point Airshed - Ambient Air Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuous ambient air monitoring results for PM<sub>10</sub> at the Bream Bay College site, Ruakaka, indicated compliance with the National Environmental Standard in August 2013.</li> </ul>
<b>Coastal - Water</b>	18/09/2013	Kaipara Harbour Water Quality Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly water quality sampling was conducted at nine sites in the Kaipara Harbour. Results pending.</li> </ul>
	19/09/2013	Whāngārei Harbour Water Quality - Harbour Boat Run	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine coastal water quality sampling was conducted at all 17 sites in Whāngārei Harbour. Results pending.</li> </ul>
	19/09/2013	Bay of Islands / Kerikeri Coastal Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine coastal water quality sampling was conducted at all 16 sites in the Bay of Islands. Results Pending.</li> </ul>

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<b>Groundwater</b>	3/09/2013	Oakura Aquifer Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine groundwater monitoring at Oakura.</li> </ul>
	4/09/2013	Ruāwai Aquifer Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine groundwater monitoring at Ruāwai.</li> </ul>
	16/09/2013	Mangawhai - Nitrate Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine groundwater monitoring at Mangawhai.</li> </ul>
	26/09/2013	Whatitiri - Nitrate Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine groundwater monitoring at Whatitiri.</li> </ul>
	26/09/2013	Maungakaramea - Nitrate Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine groundwater monitoring at Maungakaramea.</li> </ul>
<b>Regional Water Quality Monitoring Network (RWQMN)</b>	18/09/2013	Regional Water Quality Monitoring Network - Eastern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine monthly water quality monitoring of Waitangi, Waipapa, Kerikeri, Waiharakeke, Waiotu, Ngunguru, Hātea and Whakapara Rivers, and Mangahuru Stream.</li> </ul>
	18/09/2013	Regional Water Quality Monitoring Network - Northern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine monthly water quality monitoring of Mangamuka, Victoria, Awanui, Kaeo and Oruru Rivers.</li> </ul>
	18/09/2013	Regional Water Quality Monitoring Network - Western	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine monthly water quality monitoring of Kaihu, Waipoua, Waimamaku, Punakitere, Utakura, Mangakahia and Opouteke Rivers.</li> <li>Water clarity was poor at Punakitere River because of elevated sediment levels.</li> </ul>
	18/09/2013	Regional Water Quality Monitoring Network - Southern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine monthly water quality monitoring of the Ruakaka, Hakaru, Manganui, Waipao, Mangere, and Otaika Rivers, and two sites in the Waiarohia Stream.</li> </ul>

**ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS**

Date	Reference No.	Description	Notes	Environmental Impact
13/09/2013	REQ.571264	Fuel / oil in stream @ Springs Flat, Kamo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three possible industrial sites contributed to minor discharge of an oily slick in a nearby waterway.</li> <li>Further investigation is being undertaken by WDC.</li> </ul>	Moderate
16/09/2013	REQ.571313	Smoke nuisance @ Hātea Dr, Whāngārei	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site visit confirmed open burning of untreated wood at an industrial premise.</li> <li>Warning letter sent to the person responsible advising the rules on burning under the RAQP.</li> </ul>	Moderate
17/09/2013	REQ.571318	Sediment discharge @ SH10, Mangonui	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Erosion from poorly designed table drain resulted in discharge to the harbour.</li> <li>Armouring and piping required.</li> </ul>	Moderate

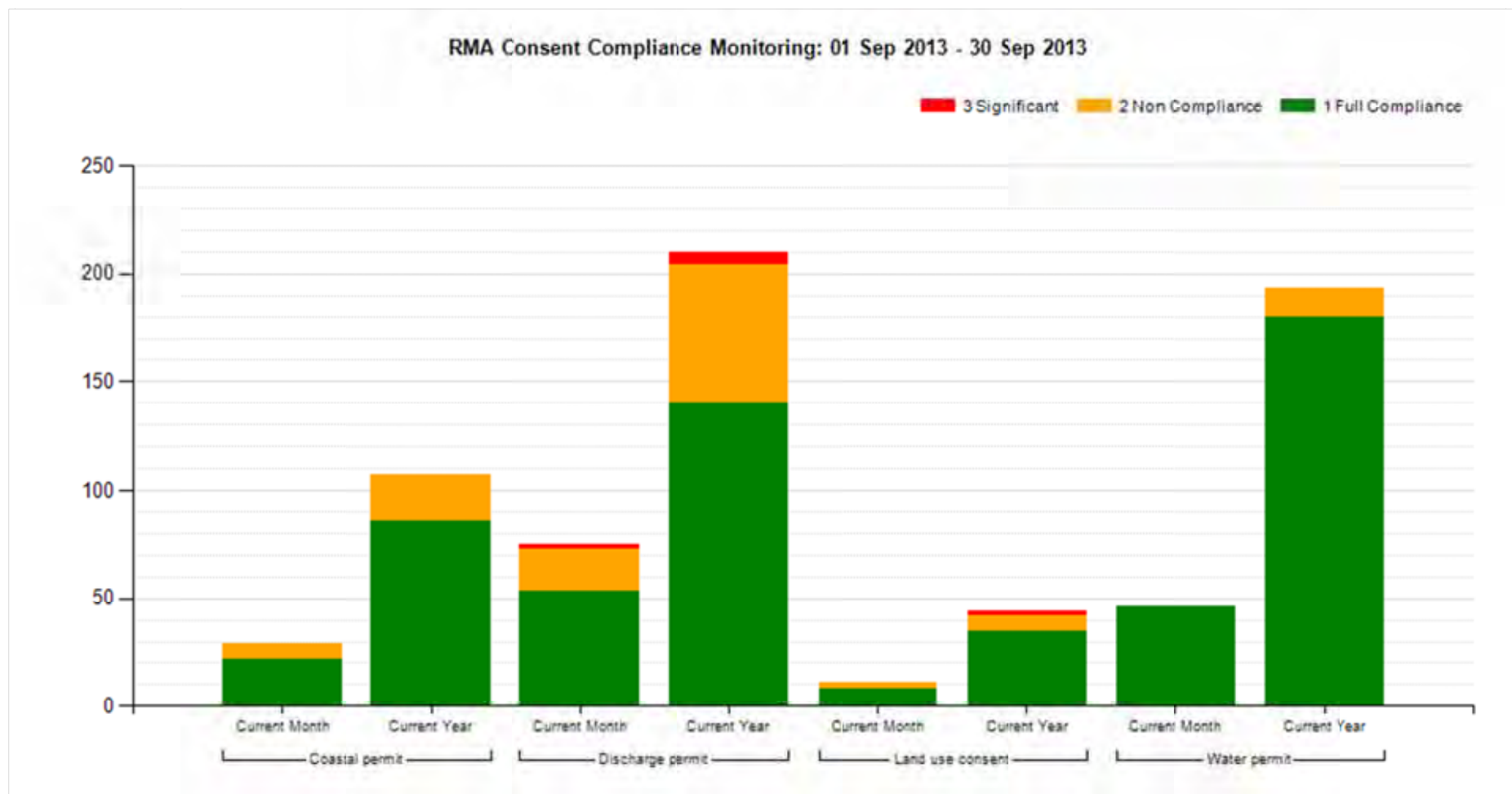
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26/09/2013	REQ.571451	Sewage overflow due to heavy rain event @ Opononi WWTP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to heavy rain events and power outage there was a discharge of treated sewage from the ponds and marsh system to the adjacent watercourse.</li> <li>• There was no discharge of untreated effluent as sucker trucks were utilised to keep stations from overflowing.</li> </ul>	Moderate
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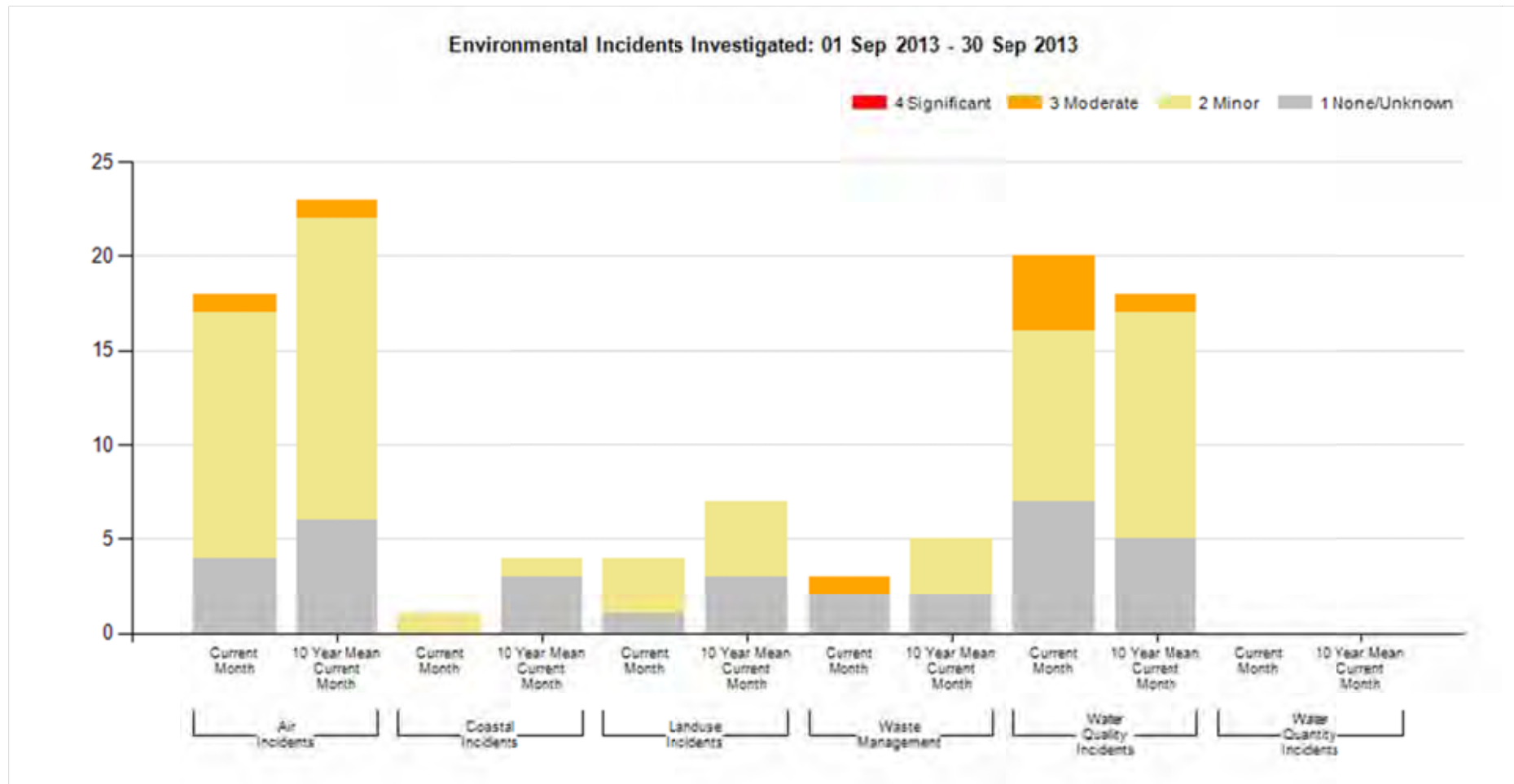
**MARITIME INCIDENTS**

Date	Reference No.	Area	Description	Notes
10/09/2013	REQ.571315	Bay of Islands Harbour	Moored vessel broken into.	• Mooring owner advised of incident.
10/09/2013	REQ.571317	Whāngārei Harbour	H11 light reported extinguished.	• New battery installed.
16/09/2013	REQ.571364	Bay of Islands Harbour	Large inflatable drifting down river.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vessel owner located.</li> <li>• Arranging for pick up by truck.</li> </ul>
16/09/2013	REQ.571372	Bay of Islands Harbour	Dinghy adrift, caught in trees.	• Requestor referred to Police regarding missing dinghy.
26/09/2013	REQ.571462	Bay of Islands Harbour	Waitangi sector light extinguished.	• Six new lamps installed.
26/09/2013	REQ.571458	Whāngārei Harbour	Log on beach.	• Log was retrieved by Northport.
28/09/2013	REQ.571483	Whāngārei Harbour	Vessel broke free from its mooring and ran aground.	• Vessel was refloated without damage and moved to another mooring by owner.
30/09/2013	REQ.571484	Bay of Islands Harbour	#2 The Sticks reported extinguished.	• New battery installed.



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**ITEM: 5.1**

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**ISSUE: Receipt of Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting – 8 October 2013****ID:** A591658**To:** Council Meeting, 6 November 2013**From:** Chris Taylor, Council Secretary**Date:** 24 October 2013

**Summary** The purpose of this report is to receive the minutes of the extraordinary council meeting held on 8 October 2013. It concludes with the recommendation that council receives the minutes.

<b>Report Type:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Normal operations	<input type="checkbox"/> Information	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
<b>Purpose:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public service	<input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory function
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislative function	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<b>Significance:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low

**Report:**

The minutes are **attached**.

**Legal compliance:**

Councils are required to keep minutes of proceedings in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002.

**Recommendation:**


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That the minutes of the extraordinary council meeting held on 8 October 2013 be received.

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## NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the council  
held in the council chamber, Northland Regional Council, 36 Water Street,  
Whāngārei, on Tuesday 8 October 2013,  
commencing at 1.00 pm

**Present:**

Chairman, Craig Brown  
Deputy Chairman, John Bain (left meeting at 2.34 pm)  
Councillors:  
Joe Carr (from 1.03 pm)  
Tony Davies-Colley  
Bronwyn Hunt  
Graeme Ramsey  
Bill Rossiter  
Ian Walker

**In Attendance:****Full Meeting**

Chief Executive Officer, Malcolm Nicolson  
General Manager – Finance and IT  
Growth and Infrastructure Manager  
Consents/Monitoring SPM  
Communications Officer  
Council Secretary

**Part Meeting**

Audit Director, Francis Caetano  
Northland Inc. Chief Executive Officer, David Wilson  
NZOIA Executive Officer, Tom Hollings

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 1.02 pm.

**Apologies (Item 1.0)**

There were no apologies.

**Declarations of Conflicts of Interest (Item 2.0)**

The Chairman invited members to make declarations item-by-item as the meeting progressed. There were no declarations of conflict at this point.

## **Tabled Items for the Extraordinary Council Meeting – 8 October 2013 (Item 2.0A)**

**ID: A587782**

**Report from Council Secretary Chris Taylor.**

### **Moved (Bain/Hunt)**

That as permitted under section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the tabled items:

- Item 5.3 – Council Leasehold Properties – Where to from here?; and
- Item 5.4 – Oyster Bond Alternative Proposal

be received.

**Carried**

## **Tabled Confidential Items for the Extraordinary Council Meeting – 8 October 2013 (Item 2.0B)**

**ID: A587990**

**Report from Council Secretary Chris Taylor.**

### **Moved (Bain/Hunt)**

That as permitted under section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, the tabled confidential items:

- Item 6.2 – Offer to Purchase Freehold of Leasehold Property; and
- Item 6.3 – Request to Purchase Freehold of Leasehold Property - Others

be received.

**Carried**

## **Council Adoption of the Annual Report (Item 3.0)**

**ID: A584180**

**Report from General Manager – Finance and IT Lisa Aubrey.**

### **Moved (Hunt/Rossiter)**

1. That the report "Council Adoption of the Annual Report" by Lisa Aubrey, General Manager Finance and IT, dated 1 October 2013, be received.
2. That the council's audited Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013 be adopted pursuant to section 98 of the Local Government Act 2002.
3. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to make minor editorial and presentation changes if required and any other changes that may be required by Audit New Zealand.

4. That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to approve the release of the Summary Annual Report 2012-2013.
5. That appreciation be extended to the auditors, Francis Caetano and Timneen Taljard, for the work undertaken to finalise the financial accounts contained within the Annual Report.

**Carried**

**Matters arising from Item 3.0:**

Audit Director, Francis Caetano, was in attendance to speak to the Annual Report and addressed the following key points:

- Appropriate disclosures had been included in the council's financial accounts detailing potential liabilities relating to the Oyster Project.
- A breach note had been included to acknowledge that Northland Inc. had missed the statutory deadline (30 September 2013) to finalise its financial accounts. This was considered preferable to ensure the accounts were correct.
- Concern was raised with regard to the rising level of doubtful debts; particularly in relation to the Far North. However, audit was comfortable that appropriate action had been taken by council.
- The investment fund had notably performed well following being transferred in-house.

Councillor Ramsey undertook to provide an appropriate description of the Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group for inclusion in the report.

It was requested that more clarity around personnel costs and staff numbers (full time and part time) be included in the report.

*NRC Chief Executive Officer, Malcolm Nicolson, took the opportunity to introduce the new Chief Executive Officer of Northland Inc., David Wilson. A brief discussion followed regarding David's aspirations for Northland Inc. to assist regional development.*

**Confirmation of Minutes – 1 October 2013 (Item 4.1)**

**ID: A586875**

**Report from Council Secretary Chris Taylor.**

**Moved (Rossiter/Ramsey)**

That the minutes of the extraordinary council meeting held on 1 October 2013 be confirmed.

**Carried**

*The meeting adjourned at 1.45 pm to allow councillors to read the tabled information relating to Items 5.3 and 5.4. The meeting reconvened at 1.48 pm.*

*Item 5.4 was addressed prior to Item 5.1 to allow for the attendance of NZOIA Executive Officer, Tom Hollings, and Aquaculture New Zealand CEO, Gary Hooper.*

### **Update on Joint Venture between KiwiRail and Council (Item 5.1)**

**ID: A584137**

**Report from General Manager – Finance and IT Lisa Aubrey.**

#### **Moved (Bain/Walker)**

1. That the report "Update on Joint Venture between KiwiRail and Council" by Lisa Aubrey, General Manager - Finance and IT, dated 3 October 2013, be received.
2. That council recognises opportunity cost of interest payable to KiwiRail of \$98,145 on the costs they have incurred in securing the rail designation.

**Carried**

### **Allocation of 2012-2013 Investment Revenue between the Community Investment Fund (CIF) and the Investment and Growth Reserve (I&G) (Item 5.2)**

**ID: A586765**

**Report from Finance Manager Simon Crabb.**

#### **Moved (Carr/Ramsey)**

1. That the report "Allocation of 2012-2013 Investment Revenue between the Community Investment Fund (CIF) and the Investment and Growth Reserve (I&G)" by Simon Crabb, Finance Manager, dated 2 October 2013, be received.
2. That council approves capitalising 2.4% of the Community Investment Fund balance of \$10,253,000 and transferring 20% of the budgeted \$6,710,685 investment income to the Investment and Growth Reserve.

*A division was called for; the result being Chairman Brown and Councillors Bain, Carr, Hunt, Ramsey and Rossiter voting in favour of the motion and Councillors Walker and Davies-Colley voting against the motion.*

**Carried**

#### **Matters arising from Item 5.2:**

It was confirmed that the option to capitalise 2.4% of the CIF and transfer 20% of the budgeted investment income to the I & G was in accordance with the council's Long Term Plan.

**Council Leasehold Properties – Where to from here? (Tabled Item 5.3)****ID: A587682****Report from General Manager – Finance and IT Lisa Aubrey.**

*Councillor Bain declared a conflict of interest with Item 5.3 (and the confidential items 6.2 and 6.3) due to his leasehold interests and left the council chamber for the remainder of the meeting.*

**Moved (Walker/Ramsey)**

1. That the paper "Council Leasehold Properties – Where to from here?" by Lisa Aubrey, General Manager - Finance and IT, dated 7 October 2013, be received.
2. That the Chief Executive Officer obtains valuation and other appropriate analysis on the properties identified by council as potentially being strategic.
3. That council staff invite leaseholders with properties subject to 21 year rent reviews that are not included in the properties identified by councillors as potentially being strategic to express their interest in pursuing the acquisition of their leasehold property.
4. That staff explore with the new council as a matter of priority, consulting on the sale of leasehold properties subject to five and seven year lease reviews, that are not deemed to be strategic by council, either as a separate consultative procedure, or as part of the 2014/2015 Annual Plan.

**Carried**

*Item 5.4 was addressed following Item 4.1 to allow for the attendance of NZOIA Executive Officer, Tom Hollings, and Aquaculture New Zealand CEO, Gary Hooper.*

**Oyster Bond Alternative Proposal (Tabled Item 5.4)****ID: A587894****Report from Consents/Monitoring Senior Programme Manager Colin Dall.****Moved (Walker/Hunt)**

1. That the report "Oyster Bond Alternative Proposal", from Colin Dall, Consents/Monitoring Senior Programme Manager, dated 7 October 2013, be received.
2. That the council authorise the Chief Executive Officer or Consents/Monitoring Senior Programme Manager to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the New Zealand Oyster Industry Association (NZOIA), subject to the NZOIA agreeing to Clauses 6.2.1 and 6.2.2 as proposed by the council representatives that worked on the MOU, by 11 October 2013.

**Carried****Matters arising from Item 5.4:**

NZOIA Executive Officer, Tom Hollings, and Aquaculture New Zealand CEO, Gary Hooper, undertook to circulate the proposal to all affected parties and confirm whether agreement had been reached prior to Friday 10 October 2013.

**ID: A587465**

Extraordinary Council Meeting  
8 October 2013

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**Business with the Public Excluded (Item 6.0)****ID: A587013****Report from Council Secretary Chris Taylor.****Moved (Brown/Walker)**

1. That the public be excluded from the proceedings of this meeting to consider confidential matters.
2. That the general subject of the matters to be considered whilst the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to this matter, and the specific grounds under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution, are as follows:

Item No.	Item Issue	Reason\Grounds
6.1	Confidential Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting - 1 October 2013	The reasons for excluding the public are as stated in the minutes of the open section of that meeting.
6.2 (tabled)	Request to Purchase Freehold of Leasehold Property	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to allow the council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations, including commercial and industrial negotiations (section 7(2)(i)).
6.3 (tabled)	Request to Purchase Freehold of Leasehold Property - Others	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to allow the council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations, including commercial and industrial negotiations (section 7(2)(i)).

**Carried****CONCLUSION**

The meeting concluded at 2.52 pm.

Confirmed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of October 2013
  
 .....  
 Chairman
Confirmed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 13.
  
 .....  
 Chief Executive



**ITEM: 6.1**

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**ISSUE: Financial Report to 25 September 2013****ID:** A587966**To:** Council Meeting, 6 November 2013**From:** Angela Hobden, Financial Accountant**Date:** 8 October 2013

**Summary** The purpose of this report is to present the **Summary Council Cost of Services Statement** and the **Cost of Service Statements by Activity** for the three months ended 25 September 2013 for councillors' information. It concludes with the recommendation that this report be received.

<b>Report Type:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Normal operations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Information	<input type="checkbox"/>	Decision
<b>Purpose:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public service	<input type="checkbox"/>	Regulatory function
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Legislative function	<input type="checkbox"/>	Annual\Long Term Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other
<b>Significance:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Low

**Report:****Overview**

This report presents the operating results for council for the three months ended 25 September 2013.

For the total council Financial Results refer to **Attachment A**, for the Financial Dashboard refer to **Attachment B**, and for the Balance Sheet refer to **Attachment C**.

**Operating results**

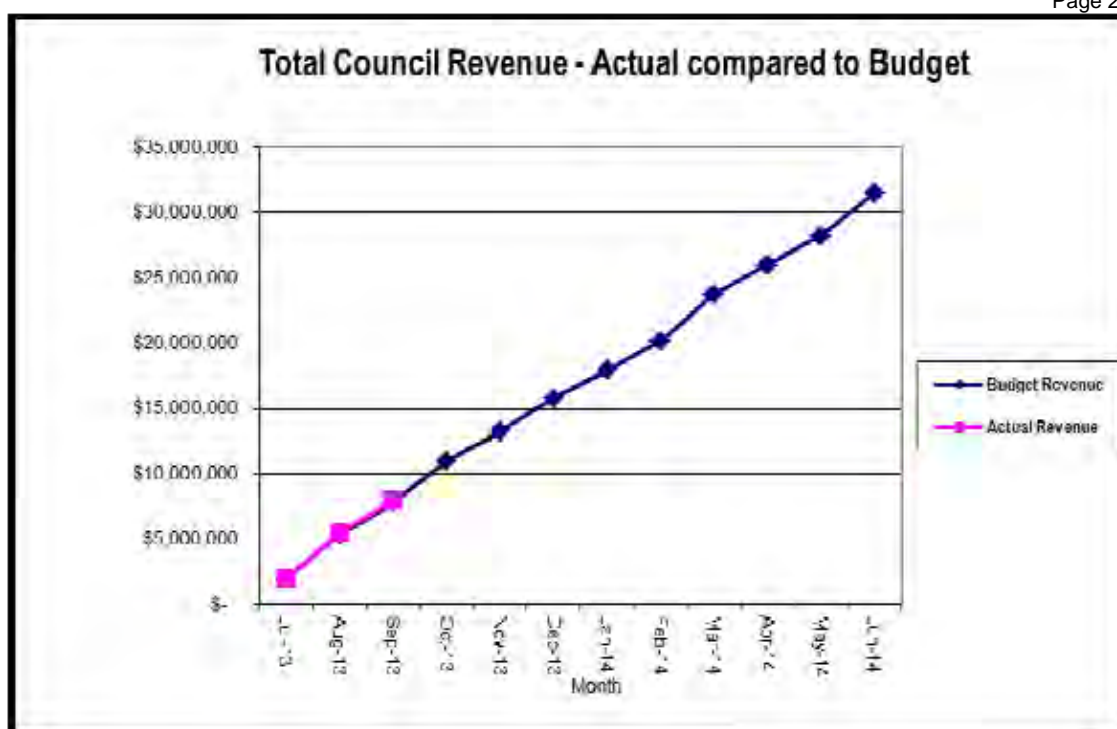
The Summary Cost of Services Statement for the year to date (YTD) shows a net operating surplus of \$1.803M against a budgeted net surplus of \$981K, resulting in an overall favourable variance for the year to date of \$823K. This variance arises from the total expenditure for the three months being behind budget by \$423K or 6%, and the total revenue being ahead of budget by \$299K or 4%, and the foreign exchange gain on Community Investment Fund investment ("other gains") of \$101K.

**Revenue**

Year to date revenue is \$8M which is \$299K or 4% above budget. This is illustrated by the following line graph:

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The material differences that make up the \$299K year to date favourable revenue variance are:

- **Grants and Subsidies – has a favourable variance / is greater than budget by YTD \$129K or 63%**
  - Largely driven by the recognition of subsidies for a Kaeo vulnerable property and from the Ministry of Primary Industries for the Oyster Shell Project. The subsidy from the Ministry of Primary Industries will be expended on the Oyster Shell project. (There is expenditure of the same amount to offset the subsidy for the Kaeo vulnerable property.)
  - Please note that some budgeted subsidies have not been received for Transport activities and Total Mobility but expenditure against those activities is also under budget. (For example Total Mobility is under budget by \$11.5k due to lower demand for this service to date, bus shelter maintenance is under budget by \$10K and rest stop operations is under budget by \$5K.)
- **Investment Interest Income – has an unfavourable variance / is less than budget by YTD \$34K or 10%**
  - As less interest has been received. We have achieved a weighted average return to date of 4.41%.
  - Please note that the investment results will improve over the coming months as during August and September council invested \$8M in cash in five year term deposits which provide a return ranging between 6.25% and 6.31%.
  - The Chief Executive has requested a detailed analysis as to why performance is below budget.

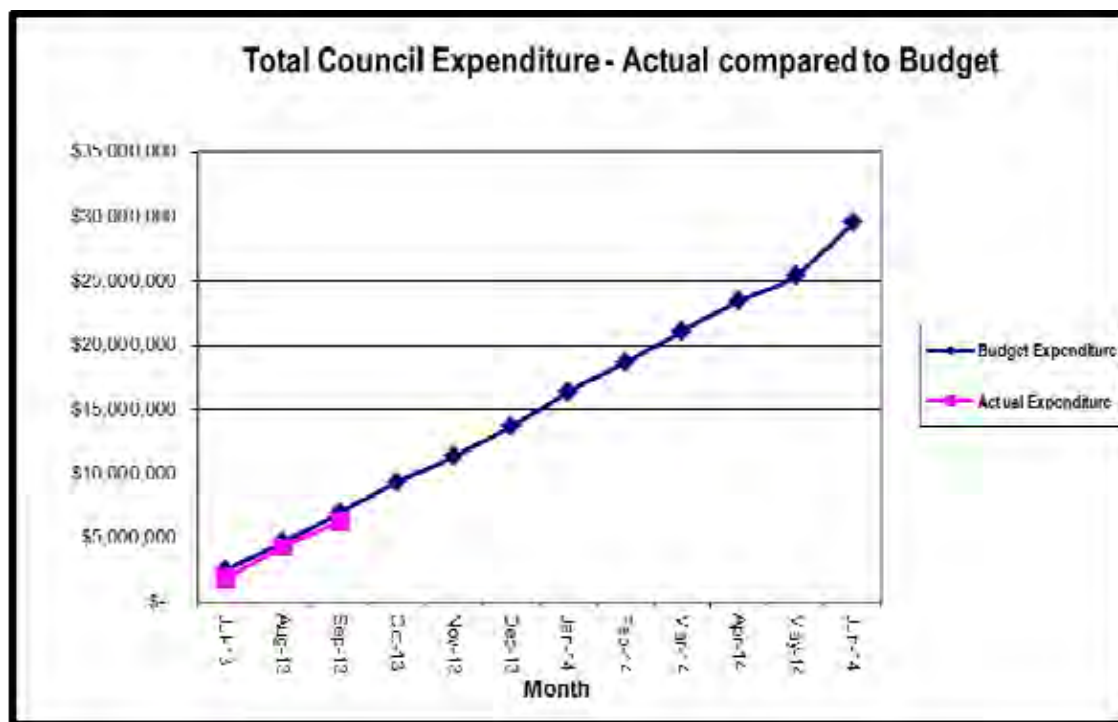
**ITEM: 6.1**

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- **Investment Property Income – has a favourable variance / is greater of budget by YTD \$83K or 10%** as a result of the arbitration process being finalised in early August and the determined rental assessments being applied.

**Expenditure**

Year to date expenditure is \$6.304M which is \$423K or 6% less than budget, as shown in the following line graph.



The material differences that make up the year to date favourable expenditure variance of \$423K are:

**Resource Management Group** has an under spend of \$250K or 7% for the year to date. This variance is split over a number of cost centres within the resource management activity as follows:

- **Consents Applications – has a favourable variance / is less than budget YTD by \$113K or 39%**  
Consultant expenditure is under spent by \$26K and legal fees are under spent by \$9.6K YTD. This is due to a lower level of consent applications being received than originally anticipated. The salaries expenditure YTD is lower than budget by \$62K due to a staff vacancy and internal secondment.
- **Land and Biodiversity – has a favourable variance / is less than budget YTD by \$65K or 11%**  
Expenditure is less than budget for the Environment Fund programme by \$83K YTD. This is partially offset by greater than budgeted expenditure on poplars of \$12K. Both of these expenditure items are expected to be on track by year end. Water quality improvements plans are ahead of schedule, due to an opportunity to do more in the early part of the year.

**ITEM: 6.1**

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- **State of the Environment Monitoring - has a favourable variance / is less than budget YTD by \$88K or 22%**  
Labour charges are less than budget by \$23K YTD due to a vacancy (0.5 full time equivalent position) which is currently being recruited for. Consultant expenditure is under spent by \$40K YTD and commercial testing is also \$16K under spent as it is difficult to estimate the timing of these costs.
- **Planning and Policy - variance YTD is not material**  
Within this activity there are several variances although the overall year to date variance is immaterial.

When setting the budget for the Regional Policy Statement (RPS) hearing, legal and appeal costs (the majority of which were originally budgeted to occur in the 2012/2013 financial year) council chose to budget at lower than the national average for a new RPS and use the Forestry Equalisation Reserve for "unbudgeted expenditure" that was necessary to complete the project. (The reason for this was that the Forest Equalisation Reserve was established to fund one-off type expenditure and avoid unnecessary rating fluctuations from year to year and was a logical choice to avoid a one off rating spike.)

The RPS project currently shows an over spend of \$92K so far this year (including expenditure on legal advice for councillors on their potential conflicts of interest and hearings). Staff will keep council apprised of the costs for the appeals and completion of the remainder of the project. Council could choose to have the costs funded from the Forest Equalisation Reserve or an operating surplus (if one exists) at the end of the financial year.

Offsetting the current overspend are delays to other projects such as the moorings and marinas strategy. Overall planning and policy expenditure is expected to be on track by year end.

**River Management Group has an unfavourable variance / is over budget by \$48K or 10%**

- **Awanui River** has an under spend of \$24K YTD due to delay in programmed expenditure on stop-banks and the river works scheme - scheduled to commence over summer. To date only minor repairs on floodgates have occurred.
- **Whangaroa/Kaeo River** has an over spend of \$12K YTD for consultancy and legal costs that occurred earlier than anticipated (for the drawings for the stop-bank realignment).
- **Whāngārei Urban Rivers** has an over spend of \$55K YTD for legal and consulting costs for the Kotuku Dam as more properties have been purchased. This is within target for the full year.
- **Kaeo property assistance** has an over spend of \$38K YTD for a payment made to a property owner and associated legal fees in relation to the Kaeo flood control programme. Revenue from the Far North District Council and the Department of Internal Affairs will be received to offset these costs.

**Economic Development Group - YTD immaterial variance**

- **Economic Development Activity** is on track for the year. This activity includes the costs for the oyster shell project.
- **Economic Development Projects** are on track for the year.

**ITEM: 6.1**

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**Hazard Management Group – favourable variance / is under budget YTD by \$109K or 27%**

- **Civil Defence and Emergency - favourable variance / is under budget YTD by \$18K or 13%** due to reduced labour costs resulting from internal secondments.
- **Natural Hazard Management - favourable variance / is under budget YTD by \$86K or 37%** due to an under spend in consultants originally programmed to occur evenly throughout the year. The contract for coastal hazard assessments is scheduled for October and work is expected to increase at this time. To date, costs relate to the Kaeo-Kerikeri model reports and the Whangatane spillway investigation.
- **Oil Pollution Response - favourable variance / is under budget YTD by \$4K or 14%** due to no oil spill responses occurring to date.

**Transport Group - favourable variance / is under budget YTD by \$120K or 11%**

- **Harbour safety and navigation** has an under spend of \$43K or 10% for the year to date. Vessel operating costs are lower while the vessel is operating in the Bay of Islands and less maintenance is required following major work done last year after a breakdown. Debris disposal was one cost area that increased this month as there was a sunken launch that required disposal.
- **Passenger Transport Administration** is \$63K or 11% under budget for the year to date. Council has negotiated a reduced contract price for the CityLink bus services as a result of rationalising the service. Subsidy and user charges are also reduced to offset this saving. The Total Mobility Scheme is presently operating under budget due to a continued decrease in demand which also results in a corresponding reduction in revenue. Advertising and promotion costs are also under spent as an advertising campaign was delayed while a reassignment of the CityLink Bus services contract was finalised.
- **Regional Transport Management** is showing an under spend of \$14K or 13% for the year to date as the Coffee Brake promotion has not yet occurred.

**Community Representation and Engagement Group - variance YTD not material**

- **Environmental Education** is slightly under budget for the year.
- **Community Representation** is also on track with budgets for the year.

**Support Services and Commercial Investments**

Support Services activity is made up of the following four areas: Finance and Information Technology, Human Resources and Health and Safety, Information Management and Administration and Communications. All support services costs are recharged out to the other council activities. The areas within Support Services that show material variances are:

- **Communications has an unfavourable variance / is over budget YTD by \$19K or 7%**  
The budget variance is driven by staff change and budget will be back on track in the next quarter.
- **Information Management and Administration has a favourable variance / is under budget YTD by \$43K or 12%**  
The under spend is mainly due to a staff vacancy in this area. Interviews to fill this vacancy have occurred this month.

**ITEM: 6.1**

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**Capital expenditure**

Capital expenditure for the year to date is \$651K against a budget of \$1.410M.

Expenditure on harbour navigation systems, river management and information systems are behind budget but expected to catch up during the year.

**Capex Reporting****year to date report to 25 September 2013**

Activity	YEAR TO DATE			Revised Budget
	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance	
Monitoring	31,445	41,520	10,075	118,669
Biosecurity	5,000	5,000	0	55,000
Emergency Management	1,000	1,250	250	1,250
Land and Biodiversity	4,104	4,512	408	4,512
Harbour Safety and Navigation	1,709	130,451	128,742	242,451
Oil Pollution Response	2,050	5,000	2,950	5,000
River Management	382,073	759,696	377,623	3,923,346
Commercial Investments	0	19,451	19,451	134,901
Information Systems	63,426	262,225	198,799	717,772
Community Representation and Engagement	0	18,927	18,927	18,927
Support	160,579	162,900	2,321	565,991
<b>GRAND TOTAL FOR COUNCIL</b>	<b>651,387</b>	<b>1,410,932</b>	<b>759,545</b>	<b>5,787,819</b>

**Balance sheet**

It should be noted this month that other investments, cash and cash equivalents have a variance against budget. This results from timing of maturities.

**Legal compliance and significance assessment:**

The activities detailed in this report are provided for in the council's 2013/2014 Annual Plan, and as such are in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76-82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this issue is considered to be of low significance under council policy because it is part of normal day to day operations of council, and it does not require a council decision but is for information purposes only.

**Recommendation:**

That the report Financial Report to 25 September 2013 by Financial Accountant, Angela Hobden, dated 8 October 2013, be received.

**Council Detailed Report****Year to date report to 25 September 2013**

<b>Total Council</b>	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Variance %</b>	<b>Full Year Revised Budget</b>
<b>Revenue</b>					
Rates	4,429,255	4,378,045	51,210	1%	17,512,172
User Fees and Sundry	592,692	585,903	6,789	1%	4,355,313
Grants and Subsidies	334,564	204,933	129,630	63%	971,190
Investment Interest Income	308,978	343,516	( 34,538)	-10%	2,199,106
Investment Property Income	948,550	865,599	82,950	10%	3,636,608
Forestry Income	-	-	-	-	-
Dividend Income	1,217,860	1,162,503	55,357	5%	2,103,577
Community Investment Fund Income	175,144	168,089	7,056	4%	672,355
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>8,007,042</b>	<b>7,708,588</b>	<b>298,454</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>31,450,322</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
<b>Resource Management</b>					
Biosecurity	559,062	574,500	15,438	3%	2,590,659
Consents advice and information	214,287	218,910	4,623	2%	843,191
Consents applications	177,053	290,242	113,189	39%	1,098,190
Land and Biodiversity	511,627	576,959	65,331	11%	2,298,564
Compliance Monitoring, Environmental incidents response	727,524	739,967	12,443	2%	2,900,438
State of the environment monitoring	306,598	394,763	88,165	22%	1,652,431
Planning and policy	625,412	577,094	( 48,318)	-8%	2,638,738
<b>Total Resource Management</b>	<b>3,121,564</b>	<b>3,372,435</b>	<b>250,871</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>14,022,211</b>
<b>River Management</b>					
River Management	539,510	490,952	( 48,558)	-10%	3,448,353
<b>Total River Management</b>	<b>539,510</b>	<b>490,952</b>	<b>( 48,558)</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>3,448,353</b>
<b>Economic Development</b>					
Economic development activities	355,210	352,479	( 2,731)	-1%	1,403,194
Economic development projects	272,863	265,601	( 7,262)	-3%	1,491,145
<b>Total Economic Development</b>	<b>628,073</b>	<b>618,080</b>	<b>( 9,993)</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>2,894,339</b>
<b>Hazard Management</b>					
Civil defence and emergency	126,113	144,877	18,764	13%	546,521
Natural hazard management	148,390	234,402	86,012	37%	930,475
Oil pollution response	27,727	32,247	4,519	14%	133,215
<b>Total Hazard Management</b>	<b>302,230</b>	<b>411,525</b>	<b>109,295</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>1,610,211</b>
<b>Transport</b>					
Harbour safety and navigation	372,062	415,203	43,141	10%	1,686,127
Passenger transport administration	489,594	552,662	63,068	11%	2,316,330
Regional transport management	96,019	110,391	14,372	13%	424,180
<b>Total Transport</b>	<b>957,676</b>	<b>1,078,257</b>	<b>120,581</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>4,426,636</b>
<b>Community Representation and Engagement</b>					
Environmental education	111,908	124,881	12,973	10%	505,237
Community Representation and Engagement	525,840	519,582	( 6,259)	-1%	1,865,793
<b>Total Community Representation and Engagement</b>	<b>637,748</b>	<b>644,463</b>	<b>6,714</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2,371,030</b>
<b>Support Services and Commercial Investments</b>					
Commercial	118,061	122,098	4,037	3%	364,404
Communications	296,271	276,919	( 19,353)	-7%	1,079,431
Finance and Information Technology	794,143	774,392	( 19,751)	-3%	3,850,591
Information Management and Administration	314,932	357,989	43,057	12%	820,854
Human Resources	72,515	75,642	3,127	4%	314,501
Internal Transfers	( 1,477,861)	( 1,495,347)	( 17,486)	1%	( 5,654,111)
<b>Total Support Services and Commercial Investments</b>	<b>118,061</b>	<b>111,692</b>	<b>( 6,369)</b>	<b>-6%</b>	<b>775,670</b>
<b>Total Expenditure (Note 1)</b>	<b>6,304,861</b>	<b>6,727,403</b>	<b>422,542</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>29,548,451</b>
<b>Net (Cost)/Surplus of Services</b>	<b>1,702,181</b>	<b>981,185</b>	<b>720,996</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>1,901,871</b>

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**Council Detailed Report****Year to date report to 25 September 2013**

<b>Total Council</b>	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Variance %</b>	<b>Full Year Revised Budget</b>
<b>Other Gains</b>					
Forestry Revaluation	-	-	-	-	147,447
Emissions Trading Scheme	-	-	-	-	30,686
Other Gains/(Losses)	101,214	-	101,214	-	-
<b>Total Gains</b>	<b>101,214</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>101,214</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>178,133</b>
<b>Net (Cost)/Surplus of Service before transfer from/(to) Special Reserves</b>	<b>1,803,395</b>	<b>981,185</b>	<b>822,210</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>2,080,004</b>
<b>Transfers from/(to) Special Reserves</b>					
Transfers from/(to) Awanui River Reserve					211,774
Transfers from/(to) Kaihu River Reserve					2,295
Transfers from/(to) Kaeo River Reserve					( 47,179)
Transfers from/(to) Whangarei Urban River Reserve					29,596
Transfers from/(to) Priority Rivers Reserve					( 20,553)
Transfers from/(to) Infrastructure Facilities Reserve					( 132,895)
Transfers from/(to) Recreational Facilities Reserve					( 829,323)
Transfers from/(to) Forest Income Equalisation Fund					596,848
Transfers from/(to) Hatea River Reserve					( 48,540)
Transfers from/(to) Environment Fund Reserve					3,139
Transfers from/(to) Investment and Growth Reserve					( 1,820,739)
Transfers from/(to) Approved Carry Forwards					398,000
Transfers from/(to) Waipapa Kerikeri River Reserve					107,166
Transfers from/(to) Community Investment Reserve					( 245,114)
<b>Net (Cost)/Surplus of Service after transfer from/(to) Special Reserves</b>	<b>1,803,395</b>	<b>981,185</b>	<b>822,210</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>284,479</b>

<b>Note 1: Total Expenditure by type</b>	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Variance %</b>	<b>Full Year Revised Budget</b>
Labour Costs	2,891,889	2,927,777	35,888	1%	10,907,433
Operations	3,002,325	3,381,499	379,174	11%	16,968,505
Member Expenses	127,700	135,181	7,481	6%	540,722
Depreciation	282,948	282,947	( 1)	0%	1,131,791
Finance Overheads	1,477,861	1,495,347	17,486	1%	5,708,112
Internal Recharges	( 1,477,861)	( 1,495,347)	( 17,486)	1%	( 5,708,111)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>6,304,861</b>	<b>6,727,403</b>	<b>422,542</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>29,548,451</b>



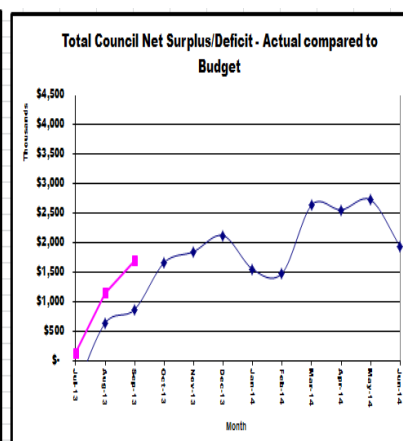
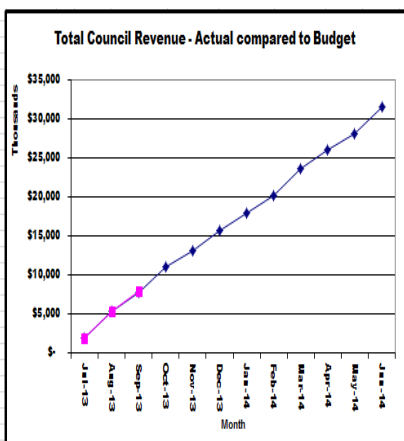
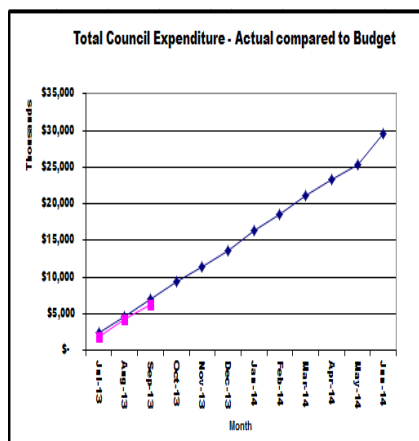
# Northland Regional Council

## FINANCIAL DASHBOARD

Year to Date Report to 25 September 2013

### SUMMARY OPERATING RESULTS

	000's ACTUAL YTD	000's BUDGET YTD	000's VARIANCE YTD
Revenue (including other gains)	\$ 8,108	\$ 7,708	\$ 400
Expenditure	\$ 6,304	\$ 6,727	\$ 423
<b>NET (COST)/SURPLUS BEFORE TRANSFERS FROM/(TO) RESERVES</b>	<b>\$ 1,804</b>	<b>\$ 981</b>	<b>\$ 823</b>



KEY: Budget Actual

### YTD EXPENDITURE VARIANCE INDICATORS BY COUNCIL ACTIVITY

= negative (unfavourable) variance over 10%			
= negative (unfavourable) variance under 10%			
= positive (favourable) variance			
	FAV / UNFAV		FAV / UNFAV
Resource Management		Transport	
River Management		Community Representation and Engagement	
Economic Development		Support Services and Commercial	
Hazard Management			

### YTD CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BY COUNCIL ACTIVITY

	\$000's	Brief Description of Major Items Purchased
Monitoring	\$ 31	Analysis Equip \$25K Instruments \$6K
Biosecurity	\$ 5	Optical equipment
Emergency Management	\$ 1	42" TV and bracket
Land & Biodiversity	\$ 4	Geovane
River Management	\$ 382	Kotuku St property
Harbour Safety & Navigation	\$ 2	Beacons
Oil Pollution response	\$ 2	Canvas Cover, load straps & signwriting
Information Systems	\$ 63	IRIS \$51K, Datasnow \$1K, Monitors \$2K, Generator \$9k
Support Services and Commercial	\$ 161	4 new vehicles, signwriting & aerals
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE YEAR TO DATE</b>	<b>\$ 651</b>	

### INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO YEAR TO DATE PERFORMANCE

At 25 September 2013 the investment portfolio has made a return of \$2.65M against a budgeted return of \$2.53M.

## Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

	Council as at 25/9/2013 \$	Annual Plan 30-Jun-14 \$	Council 30-Jun-13 \$
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings	114,793,577	107,269,799	112,990,747
Other reserves	8,425,585	18,143,888	8,425,585
Total equity attributable to Northland Regional Council	123,219,163	125,413,687	121,416,333
Non-controlling interest in subsidiary companies			
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>123,219,163</b>	<b>125,413,687</b>	<b>121,416,333</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	21,530,116	7,000,725	15,889,952
Trade and other receivables	2,327,873	4,893,100	4,896,707
Inventories	3,127,987	3,165,500	3,127,987
Other Investments	198,690	11,190,362	9,222,258
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>27,184,665</b>	<b>26,249,687</b>	<b>33,136,903</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Other receivables	5,395,453	5,256,299	5,395,453
Investment property	48,296,001	47,674,256	48,296,001
Investments in subsidiaries and associates	8,581,513	7,840,467	8,581,513
Other investments	14,957,158	14,247,205	9,859,589
Property, plant and equipment	19,873,529	27,226,723	20,186,617
Intangible assets	1,090,542	1,443,845	1,110,168
Biological assets	1,731,775	1,798,149	1,731,775
Capital projects in progress	723,771	-	56,420
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>100,649,742</b>	<b>105,486,945</b>	<b>95,217,537</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>127,834,407</b>	<b>131,736,632</b>	<b>128,354,440</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	2,815,400	4,617,350	5,114,869
Employee benefit liabilities	1,763,797	1,656,126	1,787,191
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>4,579,196</b>	<b>6,273,475</b>	<b>6,902,059</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Employee benefit liabilities	36,048	49,470	36,048
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>36,048</b>	<b>49,470</b>	<b>36,048</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>4,615,244</b>	<b>6,322,945</b>	<b>6,938,107</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>123,219,163</b>	<b>125,413,687</b>	<b>121,416,333</b>

**ITEM: 6.2**

Page 1 of 2

**ISSUE: Schedule of Credit Notes for Approval****ID:** A589591**To:** Council Meeting, 6 November 2013**From:** Trish Wells, Accounts Receivable Officer**Date:** 15 October 2013

**Summary** The purpose of this report is to authorise credit notes issued with a value over the \$600 delegated limit. It concludes with the recommendation that credit notes are ratified.

<b>Report Type:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal operations	<input type="checkbox"/> Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decision
<b>Purpose:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public service	<input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory function
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislative function	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
<b>Significance:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low

**Report:**

All credit notes have been authorised by the appropriate managers or officers and reviewed by the Finance and IT Manager who has been delegated power to write off rates, penalties and sundry debtors to a limit of \$600 for any one account (council resolution 20 November 2002). The following credit amounts are higher than that delegation and are therefore listed for the council's ratification:

<b>Credit Amount inc. GST</b>	<b>Original Amount inc. GST</b>	<b>Reason</b>
<b>\$3,374.43 (credit note # 7402661)</b>	<b>\$3,374.43</b>	<b>Leasehold property at 112-116 Robert Street, Whāngārei</b> Credit for rent charged in error at \$7,520 plus GST per annum, rather than \$7,250 plus GST per annum from lease review commencement 1 February 2002 to 31 January 2014

**Legal compliance and significance assessment:**

The activities detailed in this report are provided for in the council's Long Term Plan 2012-2022 and as such are in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76-82 of the Local Government Act 2002. In accordance with section 76 of the Local Government Act, this matter is not considered to be significant.

**ITEM: 6.2**

Page 2 of 2

**Recommendations:**

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1. That the report "Schedule of Credit Notes for Approval" from the Accounts Receivable Officer, Trish Wells, dated 15 October 2013, be received.
  2. That the issue of credit notes as detailed in the report from the Accounts Receivable Officer, Trish Wells, dated 15 October 2013, be ratified.
-

**ITEM: 7.1**

Page 1 of 1

**ISSUE: Councillor Appointments, Portfolios and Governance Structure****ID:** A591860**To:** Council Meeting, 6 November 2013**From:** Chris Taylor, Council Secretary**Date:** 25 October 2013**Summary**

The purpose of this report is to consider the following:

- the appointment of Northland Regional Council representatives on various collaborative decision making bodies and advisory groups;
- councillor portfolios; and
- the establishment of a governance structure of “subordinate decision-making” bodies.

The report concludes with the recommendation that the council confirms the various appointments and approves the proposed governance structure.

<b>Report Type:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Normal operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Decision
<b>Purpose:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public service	<input type="checkbox"/>	Regulatory function
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Legislative function	<input type="checkbox"/>	Annual\Long Term Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other
<b>Significance:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Low

**Report:**

Given the close proximity of the Inaugural Council Meeting and to give the Chairman the opportunity to meet with councillors to fully understand their areas of interest and expertise; this item will be circulated under separate cover.



**ISSUE: Request for Advance Capital Expenditure for Poplar and Willow Nursery Irrigation****ID:** A591525**To:** Council Meeting, 6 November 2013**From:** Wayne Teal, Land Management Advisor**Date:** 23 October 2013**Summary** The purpose of this report is to request an advance of \$25,000 capital expenditure for irrigation of the council poplar and willow nursery.

It concludes with the recommendation that the report from the Land Management Advisor, Wayne Teal, dated 23 October 2013, be received and that approval is given to advance \$25,000 funding from the 2014/2015 financial year for capital expenditure for irrigation of the council poplar and willow nursery from the targeted land management rate reserve, and that the advanced funds are repaid to the targeted land management rate reserve at the start of the 2014/15 financial year from the land management budget.

<b>Report Type:</b>	Normal operations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Information	<input type="checkbox"/>	Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Purpose:</b>	Infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public service	<input type="checkbox"/>	Regulatory function	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Legislative function	<input type="checkbox"/>	Annual\Long Term Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Significance:</b>	High	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Report:****Background**

Council has established a poplar and willow nursery on council land at Flyger Road, Mata-Ruakaka. A 12,000 stool nursery was established in order to provide a regional source of soil conservation material as a response to diminishing availability of plant material.

Nursery development has progressed well with 23 planted rows of poplar and willow. There has been an excellent strike of planted cuttings and with favourable conditions the first crop of poplar and willow poles is expected by June 2015.

**Irrigation and funding**

We are now at a critical stage where the potential risk of another prolonged dry summer could affect growth rates and the two year timeframe to harvest or worse losses could be suffered, setting back future planned programmes and initiatives.

An irrigation system was considered during the initial project planning, however in order to minimise cost, a decision was made to progress without irrigation and assess weather conditions as spring/summer progressed.

**ITEM: 7.2**

Page 2 of 2

Subsequently, staff have budgeted a total of \$25,000 in the draft 2014/2015 annual plan budget for the design and installation of an irrigation system, funded from reallocation of existing operational budgets (i.e. no net increase in rates to fund the activity).

Ideally it would be advantageous to have the irrigation system as soon as possible to assist with the growth and development of the new plantings keeping the harvest on track for 2015 and seeing the operation through the dry months of January and February.

On this basis staff recommend that approval is given to advance \$25,000 funding from the 2014/2015 financial year for capital expenditure for irrigation of the council poplar and willow nursery from the targeted land management rate reserve, and that the advanced funds are repaid to the targeted land management rate reserve at the start of the 2014/15 financial year from the land management budget.

Should council approve the advance in funding, this work could be done in conjunction with the budgeted stock water reticulation that is to be undertaken on council's adjacent farm block. A tender for the stock water reticulation will be advertised during November. Taking into account a period for tender responses, assessments and some lead in time, work for this infrastructure could begin as early as December. If approval was gained for the nursery irrigation funding, staff would aim to have that system operational by February 2014.

**Legal compliance and significance assessment:**

The activities detailed in this report are provided for in activities described in the council's Long Term Plan and as such are in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76-82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

This decision is considered to be of low significance under council policy, because the activities are existing council land and water management priorities as detailed in the 2012-22 Long Term Plan or Annual Plan 2013/14, and the funding is from the Land Management Reserve accumulated from the Land Management Rate, which is collected to fund these activities.

**Recommendations:**

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1. That the report "Approval to Advance Capital Expenditure for Poplar and Willow Nursery Irrigation", from Wayne Teal, Land Management Advisor, dated 23 October 2013, be received.
  2. That approval is given to advance \$25,000 funding from the 2014/2015 financial year for capital expenditure for irrigation of the council poplar and willow nursery from the targeted land management rate reserve, and that the advanced funds are repaid to the targeted land management rate reserve at the start of the 2014/15 financial year from the land management budget.
-



**ISSUE: Business with the Public Excluded****ID:** A592262**TO:** Council Meeting, 6 November 2013**FROM:** Chris Taylor, Council Secretary**SUMMARY:** The purpose of this report is to recommend that the public be excluded from the proceedings of this meeting to consider the confidential matters detailed below for the reasons given.

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**Recommendations:**

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1. That the public be excluded from the proceedings of this meeting to consider confidential matters.
2. That the general subject of the matters to be considered whilst the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to this matter, and the specific grounds under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution, are as follows:

Item No.	Item Issue	Reason\Grounds
8.1	Receipt of Confidential Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting - 8 October 2013	The reasons for excluding the public are as stated in the minutes of the open section of that meeting.

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