

**NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Agenda

Meeting to be held in the Council Chambers, 36 Water Street, Whangarei on Monday, 25 August 2014 commencing at 9:30am
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MEMBERSHIP OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Cr J Carr, Chairman

Cr C Brown (Deputy Chairman)	Cr B Shepherd (ex officio)	Cr D Bowman
Cr P Dimery	Mr R Booth (KDC)	Cr A Court (FNDC)
Ms Sue Reed-Thomas (DOC)	Cr T Cutforth (WDC)	Mr A Clarkson
Mr G Gover	Mr K Volkerling	

OPEN MEETING

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ISSUE: Confirmation of Minutes – 23 June 2014

ID: A666363

To: Environmental Management Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Peternel McLean, Committee Secretary

Date: 5 August 2014

Report Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Normal operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Information	<input type="checkbox"/>	Decision
Purpose:	<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
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Low

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to present the minutes of the Environmental Management Committee meeting held on 23 June 2014 (**attached**) for confirmation.

Legal compliance:

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

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the Environmental Management Committee meeting held on 23 June 2014 be confirmed.

**NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Environmental Management Committee Meeting
held in the Council Chamber,
Northland Regional Council, 36 Water Street, Whāngārei, on
Monday 23 June 2014, commencing at 9.30 am

Present:

Northland Regional Council

Cr Joe Carr (Chairman)
Cr Craig Brown (Deputy Chairman) (from 10.15 am)
Cr Bill Shepherd (ex officio) (from 10.15 am)
Cr Paul Dimery
Cr Dennis Bowman

Whangarei District Council

Cr Tricia Cutforth (from 10.15 am)

Far North District Council

Cr Ann Court

Department of Conservation

Ms Sue Reed-Thomas

Farming Community

Mr Alan Clarkson

Forest Industry

Mr Geoff Gover

In Attendance:

Mr Jeremy Busck
Ms Ruth Marsh, Mr John Booth (BOI Maritime Park Inc.)
Mr Vaughan Cooper (Northland Inc.) (part)
NIWA representatives (from 11.20 am), Dr Andrew Tait,
Mark Bojesen-Trepka, Ken Becker, Michael Bruce,
Gail Redelinghuys, Andrew Forsyth, Jochen
Schmidt, Clive Howard-Williams, Barb Hatden
Mr Dan Zwartz (MfE) (from 11.20 am)

NRC Staff:

Chief Executive Officer (from 10.15 am)
Operations Director
Consents/Monitoring Senior Programme Manager
Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager (part)
Water Resources/Hydrology Programme Manager (part)
Policy Programme Manager (part)
Natural Hazards Advisor
Policy Specialist - Water
Policy Analyst (part)
Environmental Education Officers (part)
Iwi Liaison Officer (part)
Biosecurity Officers (part)
Committee Secretary

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 9.37 am.

Resignation

The Chair read out an email received that morning from Dr Greg Blunden, advising of his resignation from the Environmental Management Committee and subsequently his resignation from the Doubtless Bay Catchment Group, citing increased work pressures and lesser involvement in the Kiwi Foundation. The Chair expressed his regret and acknowledged the considerable support Dr Blunden had given the committee.

Moved (Carr/Bowman)

That Dr Blunden's resignation be received, and a letter of acknowledgement and thanks be sent from the committee.

Carried

Apologies

Moved (Court/Clarkson)

That the apologies for non-attendance from Commissioner Richard Booth and Mr Keir Volkerling, and apologies for lateness from Crs Bill Shepherd, Craig Brown and Tricia Cutforth, and Mr Malcolm Nicolson, be received.

Carried

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest made at the commencement of the meeting. A previously declared conflict of interest from Dr Greg Blunden in relation to item 5 (Environment Fund and Farm Water Quality Improvement Plan update) was deemed no longer relevant and the recommendation in relation to this removed. Ms Sue Reed-Thomas noted a conflict of interest during item 8 (Warawara Forest Pest Control), as DOC was a party to the proposed Memorandum of Understanding.

Confirmation of Minutes: Environmental Management Committee Meeting 14 April 2014 (Item 1.0)

**Report from Peternel McLean, Committee Secretary, dated 9 June 2014.
A649545**

Moved (Gover/Clarkson)

That the minutes of the Environmental Management Committee meeting held on 14 April 2014 be confirmed.

Carried

Matters arising from 1.0:

- District council budget figures, previously forwarded by Cr Court to the Committee Chair, would be incorporated in the update agenda item on community wastewater treatment plants proposed for the August meeting.

- No advice had yet been received from the District Health Board regarding a request to fund a single site pathogen sampling programme at Whāngārei Falls; this would be followed up.

Waiora Northland Water Progress (Item 2.0)

Report from Natalie Glover, Water Policy Specialist, dated 4 June 2014.

A639984

Moved (Carr/Dimery)

1. That the report Waiora Northland Water progress by Natalie Glover, Water Policy Specialist and dated 4 June 2014, be received.
2. That the nominations for the Poutō catchment group, as detailed below, be confirmed.
3. That the updated Poutō catchment group draft Terms of Reference be confirmed; subject to (1) a generic change to TOR as stated below and (2) the removal of references to Kaipara District Council Sub-committee.
4. That the nominations for the Waitangi catchment group, as detailed below, be confirmed.
5. That the updated Waitangi catchment group draft Terms of Reference be confirmed, subject to (1) a generic change to TOR as stated below and (2) the inclusion of Department of Conservation as a member of the group.
6. That a generic change be made to all catchment group terms of reference under the section “membership”, deleting wording as follows:

Councillors ~~and council staff~~ have particular statutory (and non-statutory) responsibilities outside of the Poutō Catchment Group, but within the group they have the same rights and responsibilities as all other members. In addition to the particular knowledge, expertise and perspectives, they will represent the interests of the wider district and regional communities.

Poutō Catchment Group nominees

Nominee	Representative Position
Cr Graeme Ramsey	NRC Councillor
Commissioner Richard Booth	Kaipara District Council representative
Henry Holyoake	Te Uri o Hau
Rawson Wright	Te Uri o Hau
Mikaera Miru	Te Uri o Hau (alternate)
Tokorua Leaf	Waikaretu marae
Aleesha Bennett	Waikaretu marae
Henry Kemp	Pouto Topu Trust
Rudi Hoetjes	Fish and Game New Zealand
Barbara Searle	Department of Conservation
Wayne Graham	Forestry interests
Allister McCahon	Dairy farming interests
Sheree Marlow	Dairy farming interests
Chris Biddles	Dry stock farming interests
Mark Farnsworth	Dry stock farming interests
Logan James Forrest	Public position
Jock Wills	Public position
Andrew Richard Turner	Recreational interests

Waitangi Catchment Group nominees

Nominee	Representative Position
Cr Joe Carr	Northland Regional Council
Cr Dover Samuels	Northland Regional Council
Cr David Collard	Far North District Councillor
Liz Kingsford	Forestry Interests
Daryl Honey	Tourism Interests
Roger Ludbrook	Dry Stock Farming Interests
Donald Jack	Dry Stock Farming Interests
Terrence Brocx	Dairy Farming Interests
Kevin Baxter	Dairy Farming Interests
Sue Johnsen	Dairy Farming Interests
Ross Baker	Industry Interests
Neil Cates	Industry Interests
Darryl Way (Waimate North Landcare Group)	Environmental Interests
Carolyn Smith	Department of Conservation
Albie Apiata (Ngati Rahiri)	Waitangi River Liaison Committee
Bill Hunter	Kerikeri Irrigation Company
Nora Rameka (Ngati Rehia)	Iwi Representative
Arnold Maunsell (Ngati Hineria)	Iwi Representative
Gil Parker (Ngati Korohue)	Iwi Representative
Emma Gibbs-Smith (Ngati Rahiri)	Iwi Representative
Alec Jack	Public position
Robert Brown	Public position
Nathan Burkepile (Fish and Game)	Recreational interests

Carried

Northland Climate Change Predictions for Northland – IPCC 2014 (Item 3.0)

**Report from Bruce Howse, Land/Rivers Senior Programme Manager and Toby Kay, Natural Hazards Advisor, dated 20 May 2014.
A641696**

Moved (Dimery/Bowman)

That the report Climate Change Predictions for Northland – IPCC 2014 by Bruce Howse, Land/Rivers Senior Programme Manager and Toby Kay, Natural Hazards Advisor and dated 20 May 2014, be received.

Carried

Dairy Industry Liaison Group update (Item 4.0)

**Report from Tony Phipps, Operations Director, dated 10 June 2014.
A649546**

A verbal update was provided by both the Operations Director and the committee chairman, who had both attended the inaugural meeting of the Dairy Industry Liaison Group and had commended the collaborative, progressive nature of the group and its aim to work together in addressing water quality and quantity issues as they relate to the dairy industry. A further meeting of the group would be scheduled for early August to further explore water quantity and allocation for the dairy sector.

Moved (Clarkson/Gover)

That the report Dairy Industry Liaison Group update by Tony Phipps, Operations Director and dated 10 June 2014, be received.

Carried

Environment Fund and Farm Water Quality Improvement Plan update (Item 5.0)

**Report from Dean Evans, Land Programme Manager, dated 6 June 2014.
A645744**

Moved (Clarkson/Court)

1. That the report Environment Fund and Farm Water Quality Improvement Plan update by Dean Evans, Land Programme Manager and dated 6 June 2014, be received.
2. That a total of \$44,622 of funding is transferred from the Land Management Reserve to fund the land management projects granted funding approval of \$37,890 in April 2014 and \$6732 in May 2014.

Carried

Review of Regional Pest Management Strategies – Workshop outcomes (Item 6.0)

Report from Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager, dated 10 June 2014.

A646152

Moved (Carr/Clarkson)

1. That the report Review of Regional Pest Management Strategies – Workshop outcomes by Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager and dated 10 June 2014, be received.
2. That additional outcomes from the workshop be included, being:
 - that areas of significant value / indigenous vegetation in Northland be identified;
 - that those areas not specifically covered by existing CPCAs or active pest management be identified; and
 - that consideration be given through this and the LTP processes to resourcing the gaps identified.

Carried

Biosecurity Responses update (Item 7.0)

Report from Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager, dated 6 June 2014.

A649527

Moved (Bowman/Gover)

That the report Biosecurity Responses update by Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager and dated 6 June 2014, be received.

Carried

Warawara Forest Pest Control – Collaboration Memorandum of Understanding (Item 8.0)

Report from Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager, dated 3 June 2014.

A647435

Moved (Brown/Bowman)

1. That the report Warawara Forest Pest Control – Collaboration, Memorandum of Understanding by Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager and dated 3 June 2014, be received.
2. That the committee recommends to council that it sign the attached Memorandum of Understanding aimed at controlling pests across Warawara forest and surrounding private land.

Carried

Matters arising from 8.0:

The Committee Chair expressed concern that the collaborative project had not been identified through annual planning processes and as a result impacted significantly on the biosecurity budget, potentially preventing spending on other worthy pest control funding projects. Mike Knight, Pest Control Officer based in the Kaitiāia area office was able to provide the committee with background to the collaborative project which had been initiated by Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa.

**Reducing Risk of Kiwifruit Vine Disease- Psa-V –
Memorandum of Understanding with Kiwifruit Vine Health
Incorporated (Item 9.0)**

**Report from Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager, dated
3 June 2014.
A647290**

Moved (Brown/Court)

1. That the report Reducing Risk of Kiwifruit Vine Disease - Psa-V – Memorandum of Understanding with Kiwifruit Vine Health Incorporated by Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager and dated 3 June 2014 be received.
2. That the committee recommends to council that it sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Kiwifruit Vine Health Incorporated to reduce the risk of Psa-V spread throughout Northland.
3. That change to the current agreement be made to include a maximum annual contribution of \$20,000 (plus GST) operating budget and the removal of all references to the management of wild kiwifruit vines.

Carried

River Management Update (Item 10.0)

**Report from Joseph Camuso, Rivers Programme Manager and Toby Kay,
Natural Hazards Advisor, dated 6 June 2014.
A649075**

Moved (Carr/Dimery)

That the report - Rivers Management Update by Joseph Camuso, Rivers Programme Manager and Toby Kay, Natural Hazards Advisor dated 6 June 2014 be received.

Carried

Coastal Erosion Hazard Zone Assessment (Item 11.0)
Report from Bruce Howse, Land/Rivers Senior Programme Manager and Toby Kay, Natural Hazards Advisor, dated 3 June 2014.
A647429

Moved (Dimery/Clarkson)

That the report Coastal Erosion Hazard Zone Assessment by Bruce Howse, Land/Rivers Senior Programme Manager and Toby Kay, Natural Hazards Advisor and dated 3 June 2014, be received.

Carried

Matters arising from 11.0:

Concern for vulnerable coastal areas and infrastructure due to updated projections of sea level rise was expressed during discussion. Also noted was the omission of consideration of the risk reduction provided by existing “hard” protection structures from the assessment. The committee was advised that district councils were consulted on the assessment and a workshop with them was scheduled for August, prior to public release of the new hazard zone assessments and maps in September.

Environmental Monitoring for the period 1 April – 31 May 2014
(Item 12.0)

Report by Colin Dall, Consents/Monitoring Senior Programme Manager, dated 9 June 2014.
A649073

Moved (Carr/Brown)

That the Environmental Monitoring report for the period 1 April – 31 May 2014 from Colin Dall, Consents/Monitoring Senior Programme Manager, be received.

Carried

Matters arising from 12.0:

A request from the committee for additional statistical information would be investigated, for possible future inclusion in reporting.

At this point of the meeting (11.00 am), Bay of Islands Maritime Park Inc. were invited to present to the committee (refer Item 16).

Shellfish Decline at Mair Bank update (Item 13.0)

Report by Ricky Eyre, Monitoring Programme Manager – Coastal, dated 22 May 2014.

A646103

Moved (Court/Dimery)

That the report Shellfish Decline at Mair Bank update by Ricky Eyre, Monitoring Programme Manager – Coastal, dated 22 May 2014 be received.

Carried

Enviroschools Northland update (Item 14.0)

Report by Susan Karels, Environmental Education Officer / Enviroschools Regional Co-ordinator dated 6 June 2014.

A648754

Moved (Bowman/Cutforth)

That the report Enviroschools Northland update by Susan Karels, Environmental Education Officer/Enviroschools Regional Co-ordinator and dated 6 June 2014, be received.

Carried

Severe Weather Event – 8-10 June 2014 (Item 15.0)

Report by Dale Hansen, Water Resources/Hydrology Programme Manager dated 16 June 2014.

A649843

Moved (Carr/Brown)

That the report Severe Weather Event – 8-10 June 2014 by Dale Hansen, Water Resources/Hydrology Programme Manager and dated 16 June 2014, be received.

Carried

Bay of Islands Maritime Park Inc. – presentation (Item 16.0)
Introductory report dated 10 June 2014.
A649616

Ms Ruth Marsh and Mr John Booth provided a presentation for the committee which outlined the work of Living Waters and Fish Forever, being the public profiles of the Bay of Islands Maritime Park Inc. (Note: this item was promoted in the agenda to allow it to occur at 11 am.)

Moved (Court/Reed-Thomas)

That the introductory report and presentation from Bay of Islands Maritime Park Inc. be received, and acknowledgement be given to the society for the biodiversity work being undertaken in the Bay of Islands.

Carried

The Weather and Climate of Northland – NIWA presentation (Item 17.0)
Introductory report dated 4 June 2014.
A647860

Representatives from NIWA attended the meeting from 11.20 am. Led by Dr Andrew Tait, the new NIWA publication “The Climate and Weather of Northland” was introduced to the committee with an accompanying presentation. During discussion Mr Dan Zwartz of the Ministry for the Environment also addressed the committee. He advised that the Ministry were keen to receive feedback on publications currently available in relation to climate change response. Members of the committee expressed a concern that inadequate guidance currently existed from central government in this regard.

Moved (Dimery/Cutforth)

That the introductory report and presentation from NIWA on the Weather and Climate of Northland be received, and Dr Tait be thanked for attending and providing the information.

Carried

Conclusion

The meeting closed at 12.03 pm.

ISSUE: Environmental Interest Groups Representative on Environmental Management Committee

ID: A666387

To: Environmental Management Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Peternel McLean, Committee Secretary

Date: 5 August 2014

Report Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal operations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
Purpose:	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> Other
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low

Report

Following the resignation of Dr Greg Blunden from his position as Environmental Interest Groups representative on the Environmental Management Committee, a paper was put to the July council meeting in order to establish a process to recruit a replacement representative.

A public notice was placed in local Northland newspapers in mid-July calling for nominations, with a closing date of 8 August. Following a shortlisting process, the Council Chairman Bill Shepherd and Committee Chairman Joe Carr will hold interviews on behalf of the council, and the preferred nominee will go forward for formal approval by the council at its September meeting.

It is hoped that the preferred nominee will be in attendance on an informal basis at the August Committee meeting.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

This report complies with both Clause 31(1) of the 7th Schedule of the Local Government Act 2002 and with the Environmental Management Committee's terms of reference.

Recommendation:

That the report Environmental Interest Groups Representative on Environmental Management Committee by Peternel McLean, Committee Secretary and dated 5 August 2014, be received.

ISSUE: Waiora Northland Water progress

ID: A663497

To: Environmental Management Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Natalie Glover, Water Policy Specialist

Date: 8 August 2014

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

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress between 5 June and 8 August 2014 with Waiora Northland Water and contributing programmes, including:

- The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 (NPS FM) is now operative as of 1 August 2014. The NPS FM includes a National Objectives Framework to guide regional objectives setting.
- Inaugural catchment group meetings for Waitangi and Pouto catchment groups were held during June 2014. Catchment groups in Doubtless Bay, Mangere and Whangarei have been finalising their uses and values for freshwater management.
- Recommendation that Cr Paul Dimery formally replace Cr David Sinclair as the NRC councillor appointed to the Whangārei Harbour Catchment Group.
- The Taharoa Domain Reserve Management Plan Review draft project plan was approved at Kaipara District Council's June meeting.
- The new Dairy Industry Liaison Group held its first meeting 18 June 2014.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The issues covered in this report are part of council's normal operations in particular the NPS Freshwater Management (NPS FM) implementation programme adopted in May 2012 (as detailed in the 2012-2022 Long Term Plan) and the activities in the Annual Plan 2013/14. They are therefore of low significance and comply with the Local Government Act 2002 and the Resource Management Act 1991.

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Recommendations:

1. That the report Waiora Northland Water progress by Natalie Glover, Water Policy Specialist and dated 8 August 2014, be received.
 2. That Cr Paul Dimery formally replace Cr David Sinclair as the Councillor representative on the Whangārei Harbour Catchment Group.
 3. That Chris Frost be appointed as horticultural representative on the Mangere Catchment Group.
 4. That Marty Robinson be appointed as Community Board Representative on the Waitangi Catchment Group.
 5. That Peter Bullen and his alternate Tiwha Everitt be appointed as additional forestry industry representatives on Pouto Catchment Group.
-

Report:

NPS FM 2014

Amendments to the NPS FM were released 3 July 2014, with an effective date of 1 August 2014. The NPS FM 2014 is generally consistent with the proposal put out for consultation in November 2013, but the implementation deadline has been amended from 2030 to 2025.

The changes embed the National Objectives Framework for water quality (NOF). The NPS FM now includes compulsory ecosystem and human health values and sets attribute states which include 'bottom lines'. One change from the 2013 proposal is that the human health value previously proposed has been merged with the recreation value into one compulsory value. Councils are required under this value to consider whether to manage water in rivers and lakes for swimming or any other level above the national bottom line, which is set at a level suitable for wading and boating.

The implications of the NPS FM 2014 (and NOF) will be assessed in the review of the regional plans and will inform future water policy development. The NOF will also provide a baseline from which the Waiora Northland Water catchment groups can work. In addition to addressing compulsory national values, and subject to cost / benefit assessment, council and communities can recommend additional objectives to meet their uses and values for freshwater management.

A separate agenda item provides an overview of the key changes to the NPS FM and implications for Northland Regional Council.

NPS FM IMPLEMENTATION

Joint Venture with Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)

Council staff are working with MPI to scope and set the timeframe for the various studies that will be undertaken under the Northland Region Economic Impact Joint Venture Studies Project. Initial work will assess the potential economic costs and environmental outcomes of meeting sediment objectives and limits in freshwater and estuarine environments. This economic study will align with council's own research into sedimentation; build on the current sedimentation work programmes of NIWA and Landcare Research; and support the setting of region wide water quality objectives and limits.

Proposed Regional Policy Statement

Council began the process of preparing a new Regional Policy Statement (RPS) back in 2010 and has now reached the Environment Court phase, addressing appeals. The appeals on the water management sections are very close to being resolved.

Regional Plans Review

The project to evaluate the performance of our three current regional plans and identify options for how they can be improved has reached the draft report stage. Staff are now preparing to engage with key stakeholders - including priority catchment groups - on the draft outcomes of the plans review.

The joint Environmental Management Committee (EMC)/Regional Policy Committee (RPC) workshop held 23 June 2014 was an opportunity to hear about and provide feedback on the key issues being identified by the review so far.

The process and indicative completion dates¹ are as follows:

- Draft review completed – August 2014
- Stakeholder engagement – September/October 2014
- Reports finalised – December 2014

The regional plans review will complement implementation of the Waiora Northland Water programme and the new RPS, by identifying options for improving the way we manage water quality and quantity that give effect to the NPS FM. This includes identifying options for the setting of region-wide water quality and water quantity objectives and limits.

Region-wide water quality objectives and limits for rivers

Council has contracted NIWA to advise appropriate water quality objectives and standards for Northland's rivers. This work will assist in the development of a range of potential objectives and limits particular to the Northland region, that provide for increasing levels of protection for aquatic ecosystem health and human health (contact recreation). The report will cover limiting nutrients in rivers (phosphorus and/or nitrogen) and fine sediment and help the council and stakeholders determine appropriate objectives and limits for Northland's rivers.

Freshwater Management Units

Freshwater management units (FMU) are a means to group freshwater bodies with similar characteristics/values, issues or risks into a single management unit and treat them in a similar manner (rather than having to deal with each individually). They are required for both water quantity and water quality (although FMU for water quality purposes are likely to be different from those for water quantity). Staff anticipate testing potential options for FMU for both water quality and quantity with stakeholders and iwi as part of the plan review process.

Sediment research in Kaipara and Whangarei harbours

Council is undertaking further research on sources of sediment in the Kaipara and Whangarei Harbours. Sediment is the key contaminant of concern in Northland's rivers and estuaries in terms of impacts on aquatic ecosystems and other values such as natural character, amenity, fisheries, and navigation. The project involves researching the relative contributions of sediment from sources in the Kaipara Harbour and Whangarei catchments over the past 100 years. The research will help us to target sediment mitigation initiatives in a more effective and efficient way to achieve water quality objectives and meet water quality limits. Samples have been processed and a summary report is due October 2014 for both Kaipara and Whangarei Harbour cores.

Outstanding Freshwater Bodies

Management of outstanding freshwater bodies is a requirement of the NPS FM and is a priority in the Waiora Northland Water programme. According to a report from NIWA dated 2012, 12 dune lakes are outstanding in ecological terms. However many such lakes are impacted by nuisance plant and algae growth. Council is seeking advice on whether nitrogen or phosphorus (or a combination of both) is the key contributor or factor causing the growth of nuisance plants and algae in dune lakes. The findings will assist council in setting appropriate water quality objectives and limits

¹ Note – the Regional Policy Committee will be discussing the completion dates at their meeting scheduled after the EMC meeting so they may change.

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for outstanding freshwater bodies and better target management actions to improve their ecological health.

Northland also has numerous wetlands, many of which are unique and likely to be deemed outstanding on ecological grounds. The Regional Water and Soil Plan includes criteria for outstanding freshwater bodies and has identified eight rivers or lakes. The criteria and list of outstanding rivers and lakes will be evaluated in the review of the regional plans to reflect the NPS FM.

PRIORITY CATCHMENTS

Waioara Northland Water web pages <http://www.nrc.govt.nz/waioara>

Whangārei Harbour

Whangārei harbour catchment group held two workshops on 25 June and 29 July. At the June workshop, staff presented information about the Whangārei flood risk reduction strategy and the group reviewed their uses and values. At the July workshop, the group went on a field trip to the Whangārei wastewater treatment facility and received a presentation on past and future developments in the WDC wastewater and stormwater system. The catchment group have been offered an opportunity by WDC to develop a list of projects under a Wastewater Strategy Capital Fund worth \$275,000 that will make further progress towards addressing actions from the Whangārei Harbour Water Quality Improvement Strategy.

Cr Paul Dimery has attended the last two catchment group events, to replace Cr David Sinclair who has other commitments. Cr Dimery's position as Councillor representative on the group should now be formalised.

The next catchment group event is a meeting scheduled for 26 August 2014.

Mangere

Mangere catchment group held a workshop 24 June and meeting 5 August 2014.

The catchment group discussed local riparian planting projects, and ways to engage with their communities of interest, including the options for social media and staging a "Meet the Catchment Group" event.

The group has also been working on defining and finalising its uses and values for freshwater in the catchment generally, as well as for particular locations. Staff made a presentation to the group about groundwater and surface water monitoring in the Mangere Catchment.

At the meeting held 5 August, the group nominated Chris Frost for a recommended additional member on the group to represent the horticulture sector.

The next event is a meeting scheduled for 2 September 2014.

Doubtless Bay

Dr Greg Blunden has resigned from the group due to other commitments and Cr Joe Carr has stepped in as interim Chair as per the Terms of Reference, which stipulate an EMC member in the role of the chair. A change to the Terms of Reference would be required to provide for a chair to be selected from amongst the catchment group's members, as occurs in the four other priority catchment groups.

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The group has continued its learning pathway, receiving presentations about the regional policy framework and setting objectives for freshwater management. Minutes for the meeting held 30 July are attached. A visit to the Taipa Wastewater Treatment Plant on 25 June 2014 provided the group with insights about the consent renewal process and the running of the plant. The fieldtrip log is attached. The group intend to hold another visit to the plant with increased participation.

A Doubtless Bay catchment group riparian planting day on a local drystock property is scheduled for Sunday 24 August 2014.

The next catchment group meeting will be held 24 September 2014.

Waitangi

The Waitangi catchment group held its inaugural meeting at the Okaihau Golf Club on 19 June 2014. Minutes of the meeting are attached. The meeting was an opportunity for catchment group members to meet each other, discuss the Terms of Reference, and learn about their catchment management role ahead.

Robert Brown (public interests representative) signalled during the inaugural meeting that the agreed meeting night would unfortunately not suit him and has since resigned from the group. The group is also lacking a nomination from Living Waters Bay of Islands. There are consequently vacancies for both public and environmental interests positions on the group.

Since the inaugural meeting attended by Terry Greening, Far North District Council has nominated Marty Robinson to fill the Community Board vacancy on the group. The Far North District Councillor position remains vacant.

At its meeting held 7 August 2014 (minutes attached), the Waitangi catchment group agreed it would remain separate from the Waitangi River Liaison Group at this stage, due to the catchment group's current learning phase and focus on policy. River Liaison Group representation on the catchment group in addition to the sharing of minutes between the groups will promote shared understanding of catchment management across river hydrology, water quality and allocation issues.

Justin Murfitt, Resource Management Policy Programme Manager, presented the water policy framework at the meeting to provide background to the group's policy recommendation role.

The group requested monitoring data and research on a number of freshwater management topics to supplement their year of learning ahead.

The next catchment group meeting scheduled for 4 September 2014 will include agreeing a permanent chair for the group and a freshwater uses and values workshop.

Pouto

The Pouto catchment group held its inaugural meeting at Te Kopuru School on 26 June 2014. Minutes of the meeting are attached. In addition to familiarising themselves with each other and the catchment management role ahead, the group considered and recommended additional forestry representation for the group.

ITEM: 3

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The group also discussed Environment Fund proposals for riparian planting around Upper Lake Rototuna and Lake Humuhumu.

Following the inaugural meeting, the forestry industry nominated Peter Bullen and his alternate Tiwha Everitt to provide additional forestry representation on the group.

These members were subsequently recommended at the workshop held 4 August 2014, which also included a freshwater uses and values brainstorm.

CONTRIBUTING PROGRAMMES

Kaipara Catchment

Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group (IKHMG)

Promotion of the Kaipara Harbour Symposium *Looking Back - Thinking Forward* has commenced. The IKHMG website² has been updated to promote the event and accept registrations. Panui have gone out to potential speakers and facilitators.

The independent review of the Flagship programme undertaken by Annette Lees has been completed and the final report accepted at the IKHMG quarterly hui held in June. The report includes a number of recommendations that will be considered by the IKHMG Flagship site sub-committee.

The annual planting programme is underway on all flagship sites. Wherever possible, local volunteers are working with landowners to plant into riparian areas that were fenced over the previous year.

Kai Iwi Lakes

The Taharoa Domain Governance Group (TDGG) approved the Project Plan for the Reserve Management Plan review on 23 June 2014. The Steering Group will consider proposals from three consultants 12 August 2014.

Community Wastewater and Dairy Effluent Improvement

The programmes that manage community wastewater and dairy effluent point source discharges are reported as a separate item in this agenda.

Land Management

A separate item in this agenda details land management, Environment Fund and Farm Water Quality Improvement Plan progress.

Environmental Monitoring

A separate agenda item details the Northland-specific Macroinvertebrate Community Index that has been developed to better report stream health in the Northland region.

Industry liaison

The Dairy Industry Liaison Group meetings of 18 June and 31 July 2014 are reported in a separate agenda item.

² <http://www.kaiparaharbour.net.nz>

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of the Doubtless Bay Working Group,
of the Environmental Management Committee
held at Taipa Bay Resort,
Wednesday 30 July 2014,
commencing at 10 am

Present:	Peter Wiessing	(NRC – Group Leader)
	Joe Carr	(NRC EMC Acting Chair)
	Murray Walden	(Dairy Industry Rep)
	Wayne Parsonson	(Clean Waters to the Sea)
	Victor Holloway	(Parapara Marae)
	Beau Mallett	(Summit Northern Plantation)
	Clara Lugnet	(Doubtless Bay Promotions)
	Laurie Atkinson	(Te Hiku Community Board)
	Gerald Messenger	(Friends of Taumarumaru)
	Larry Matthews	(Beef farmer)
	Doug Te Wake	(DOC)
In Attendance:	Natalie Glover	(NRC)
	Wendy Jecentho	(NRC)
	Yvonne Steinemann	(DB Marine Protection Group)
	Helen Moodie	(Dairy NZ)
	Peggy Morrison	(Beef farmer)

Karakia Mihimihi Ngati Kahu (Victor Holloway)

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from, Andreas Kurmann, Dr Jenny Dymock, Ruben Wylie, Grant Parker and John Kenderdine.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous Doubtless Bay Working Group meeting held on 28 May 2014 be confirmed.

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising

CATCHMENT UPDATE

Peter Wiessing advised that the field trip to the FNDC Taipa waste water treatment plant went ahead as scheduled on June 25. The field trip log was circulated. Given that the weather was bad and the turnout low the group may schedule a repeat visit.

Mr Wiessing advised that monthly water quality monitoring was underway and the first summary of results was due out in September so should be available at the next meeting.

An update was given on Environment Fund projects within the Doubtless Bay catchment. Mr Wiessing reported that there were eight riparian fencing projects underway so far this year, each of which would be provided with a farm plan. This brings the total of funded riparian fencing projects in this catchment to 27.

Mr Wiessing advised that Jenny Dymock would update the group on the progress of funding for the dung beetle project at the next meeting.

OBJECTIVES FOR FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT

Natalie Glover outlined the process the group needed to follow when setting freshwater objectives in order to meet the requirements of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management in New Zealand.

She advised that Councils were required to set water quality and quantity objectives and limits for catchments in priority areas and that a nationally consistent approach for managing freshwater was required under the objectives framework.

Groups such as the Waioara Northland Water groups had to consider all national values and how they apply to local and regional circumstances. Firstly noting the compulsory national values which are:

- Te Hauora o te Wai / the health and mauri of water
- Te Hauora o te Tangata / the health and mauri of the people

And secondly noting the additional national values which are:

- Te Hauora o te Taiao / the health and mauri of the environment
- Mahinga Kai / food gathering, places of food
- Mahi mara / cultivation
- Wai Tapu / sacred waters
- Au Putea / economic or commercial development
- He ara Haere / navigation

Ms Glover advised that the DBWG were currently at step 3 of the 7 steps on the Catchment Group Work Plan and as this step was brainstorming objectives, the group needed to take into consideration the values mentioned above. The 7 steps in the full process are:

1. Uses and values brainstorm
2. Uses and values confirmed
3. Objectives brainstorm
4. Objectives confirmed
5. Cost benefit options analysis
6. Narrative limits
7. Action Plan

The consensus process to be followed at each step was explained by Ms Glover. This presentation will be placed on the council website.

ALTERNATIVE FERTILISER TRIAL

This item was postponed until Andreas Kurmann is available.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Discussion on the FNDC waste water treatment plant resource consent that expired in 2008. Committee requested that NRC staff hurry the renewal process along. The committee were also keen for the plant to be upgraded and requested that discussions are held at the next meeting with FNDC in

attendance. The committee also raised the issue of the wormerator which was agreed to by FNDC some years ago but not progressed.

- Discussion on the planting day at Larry Matthews planned for Sunday 24th August, meeting at the Aurere Garden Centre carpark at 10am.
- Discussion on Taipa School being approached to join the Enviroschool Programme. Staff to approach Taipa School.
- Discussion on commercial freshwater fishery allocation. Staff to approach MPI regarding Waioira objectives and input from NRC on allocation.
- Discussion on CBEC planting and fencing package available to farmers. Brochure circulated.
- Discussion on the science behind riparian fencing and planting versus fencing and not planting. Staff to research science and provide to DBWG members.
- Discussion on Greg Blunden's resignation with the committee members noting their disappointment at the loss of Dr Blunden from the committee but also understanding his reasons for resigning. (Cr Joe Carr has been interim chair). The group indicated it would be interested in the opportunity to select a chair from amongst its members, either to fill in for the interim Chair or on a permanent basis. Currently the Terms of Reference stipulate that the chair must be a member of the EMC. A change to the Terms of Reference would be required to provide for a chair to be selected from amongst the catchment group's members.
- Discussion on also selecting a deputy Chairman should the designated chair be unable to attend a meeting. Further discussion required at next meeting.
- Discussion on the EMC position left vacant after Dr Blunden's resignation. Joe Carr advised nominations for this position are open until 8th August 2014.

Action Points from meeting

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Agenda item for next meeting – discussion on open day | NG |
| 2. Agenda item for next meeting - discussion with FNDC on WWTP resource consent | WJ |
| 3. Agenda item for next meeting 'presentation on sampling results' | WJ |
| 4. Provide Yvonne with A2 colour photo of 3 main catchments | WJ |
| 5. Research science on riparian management (fencing/ planting/ grass) | PW |
| 6. Arrange presentation on Regional Plan review | NG |
| 7. Approach MPI on freshwater fishery allocation | NG |
| 8. Circulate summary of extended monitoring | PW |
| 9. Make up poster for planting day and give to Yvonne | NG |
| 10. Send out invitations reminder for planting day Sun Aug 24 th | WJ |
| 11. Approach Susan Karels about Taipa School in relation to their future involvement in the Enviroschools programme | NG |
| 12. Arrange revisit to FNDC WWTP | PW |
| 13. Approach Stuart Savill about progressing the FNDC WWTP RC | PW |
| 14. Presentations to be loaded to council website | WJ |

Meeting closed 12:20pm

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Fieldtrip log of the Doubtless Bay Working Group,
of the Environmental Management Committee
held at FNDC East Coast Waste Water Treatment Plant
Wednesday 25 June 2014,
commencing at 2 pm

Present:	Peter Wiessing Wayne Parsonson Andreas Kurmann Grant Parker Laurie Atkinson	(NRC – Catchment Lead) (Clean Waters to the Sea) (Recreational users) (Dairy farming rep) (Te Hiku Community Board)
In Attendance:	Yvonne Steinemann Jenny Dymock Peggy Morrison George Morrison Greg Timperley	(DB Marine Protection Group) (Entomologist) (Beef farmer) (Beef farmer) (Transfield)

REPORT

The Doubtless Bay Working Group attended a fieldtrip on 25 June 2014 to view the Far North District Council East Coast Bays Waste Water Treatment Plant at Taipa.

Plant Operator Greg Timperley of Transfield Services explained the operation of the waste water system which involves treatment of wastewater, storage and discharge of treated waste water to an unnamed tributary of the Parapara Stream.

Discussion topics and outcomes

- The age of the plant and what would be required to complete an upgrade.
- The next stage of the resource consent renewal.
- Possible re-run of this field trip in drier conditions to allow more group members to participate.

Peter Wiessing advised that while their current resource consent had expired the FNDC were able to operate the plant under their previous consent. Since expiry FNDC had investigated the possibility of discharging to land via irrigation to Keri Fresh Orchards at Taipa. Resource consent application was lodged for this land disposal in October 2011 however this application was assessed as incomplete by NRC and was returned to FNDC for further investigation. FNDC would also require full consent from Ngati Kahu as landowners in order for this to proceed.

In order to discharge to land FNDC would be required to upgrade the WWTP to improve the quality of waste water discharged. FNDC still need to meet with the 56 original submitters, decide if they wish to proceed with an upgrade for land disposal or continue without the upgrade and discharge to water as is current practice.



Viewing the WWTP

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of the Waitangi Catchment Group meeting
Sub-Committee of the Environmental Management Committee
held in the Okaihau Golf Clubrooms,
Thursday, 19 June 2014,
commencing at 6.30pm

Present:

Terry Greening

Donald Jack
Terence Brocx
Daryl Way
Bill Hunter
Albie Apiata
Neil Cates
Liz Kingsford
Bob Brown
Alec Jack
Sue Johnsen
Nora Rameka
Ross Baker
Cr Joe Carr

Nathan Burkepile

Arnold Maunsell
Roger Ludbrook

Bay of Islands/Whangaroa
Community Board (FNDC)
Drystock Farming Interests
Dairy Farming Interests
Waimate North Landcare
Kerikeri Irrigation
Waitangi River Liaison Group
Transfield (Industry Interests)
Forestry Interests
Public Interests
Public Interests
Dairy Farming Interests
Ngati Rehia
Top Energy (Industry Interests)
Northland Regional Council
(Interim Chair)
Fish and Game (Recreational
Interests)
Ngati Hineira
Dry Stock Farming Interests

In Attendance:

Duncan Kervell
Natalie Glover
Rio Greening
Clinton Rameka
Helen Moodie

Northland Regional Council
Northland Regional Council
Catchment resident
Ahi Kaa Takou Bay
DairyNZ

Apologies:

Emma-Gibbs Smith
Cr David Collard
Kevin Baxter
Gil Parker

Ngati Rahiri
FNDC
Dairy Farming Interests
Ngati Korohue

Absent:

Darryl Honey
Carolyn Smith

Tourism Interests
Department of Conservation

KARAKIA MIHIMIHI

Arnold Maunsell

The meeting opened at 6.40pm.

Item 1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Emma Gibbs-Smith, Cr David Collard, Kevin Baxter and Gil Parker.

Item 2 Welcome and Introductions

Cr Joe Car, Interim Chair welcomed everyone. Catchment Group members, public in attendance and regional council and DairyNZ staff introduced themselves.

Item 3 Presentation: Overview of Waioara Northland Water

Natalie Glover, Water Policy Specialist with Northland Regional Council, presented an overview of the Waioara Northland Water programme she project manages, and the role of catchment groups in freshwater management.

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. How are the appointed members of the Environmental Management Committee selected?
2. Prioritisation of catchments
3. Resourcing for participation of iwi in catchment groups – request for money.

Item 4 Presentation: Overview of Waitangi Catchment

Duncan Kervell, Land Management Advisor and Waitangi Catchment Lead, presented an overview of the Waitangi catchment and its associated water management issues.

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. Catchment description: NRC has an obvious role in stabilising the high level of erosion occurring in the catchment.
2. How to influence land management approach of land owners upstream and downstream of your property.
3. Smell of public water supply at Waitangi.
4. Reliance of Waitangi population on kaimoana.
5. Science is useful to a point but actions are the most important.
6. Natural events and ecological processes are not under our control.
7. Need to start actions in our own backyards.

Item 5 Terms of Reference

The group discussed the Terms of Reference for the group.

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. Omission of Department of Conservation position on the group – to be added back in.
2. Work programme and associated field trips are important, for the catchment and for the group to improve understanding.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Timing of meetings

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. The group agreed to Thursday evenings. Unfortunately Thursdays were a clash for Robert Brown.

2. Meeting scheduled for 6 August to be changed to Thursday 7 August. Revised schedule to be emailed to the catchment group members.

CONCLUSION

The meeting concluded at 9pm.

The next catchment group meeting is scheduled for 6.30pm, Thursday 7 August 2014, at Okaihau Golf Club. A meal will be served at 6pm.

Unconfirmed Minutes

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of the Waitangi Catchment Group workshop
Sub-Committee of the Environmental Management Committee
held in the Okaihau Golf Clubrooms,
Thursday, 7 August 2014,
commencing at 6.30pm

Present:

Marty Robinson	Bay of Islands/Whangaroa Community Board (FNDC)
Donald Jack	Drystock Farming Interests
Terence Brocx	Dairy Farming Interests
Darryl Way	Waimate North Landcare
Bill Hunter	Kerikeri Irrigation
Albie Apiata	Waitangi River Liaison Group
Neil Cates	Transfield (Industry Interests)
Liz Kingsford	Forestry Interests
Alec Jack	Public Interests
Sue Johnsen	Dairy Farming Interests
Ross Baker	Top Energy (Industry Interests)
Cr Joe Carr	Northland Regional Council (Interim Chair)
Arnold Maunsell	Ngati Hineira
Roger Ludbrook	Dry Stock Farming Interests

In Attendance:

Duncan Kervell	Northland Regional Council
Natalie Glover	Northland Regional Council
Justin Murfitt	Northland Regional Council
Anita Semenoff	Northland Regional Council
Abraham Witana	Northland Regional Council
Rio Greening	Catchment resident
Doug Small	Member of the public
Helen Moodie	DairyNZ

Apologies:

Kevin Baxter	Dairy Farming Interests
Gil Parker	Ngati Korohue
Cr Dover Samuels	Northland Regional Council

Absent:

Darryl Honey	Tourism Interests
Nathan Burkepile	Fish and Game (Recreational Interests)
Carolyn Smith	Department of Conservation
Emma-Gibbs Smith	Ngati Rahiri
Cr David Collard	FNDC

KARAKIA MIHIMIHI

Rio Greening

The meeting opened at 6.45pm.

Item 1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Kevin Baxter, Cr Samuels and Gil Parker.

Cr Joe Car, Interim Chair welcomed everyone. Catchment Group members, regional council and DairyNZ staff introduced themselves.

Item 2 Confirmation of minutes

The group agreed that the minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.

Item 3 Catchment update

3.1 Update on monitoring in Waitangi catchment

Duncan Kervell, Waitangi catchment group staff lead, updated the group with details of an expanded state of the environment monitoring that had begun for the Waitangi catchment. The programme – which includes sediment analysis for source location and associated landuse - has increased the number of sites monitored monthly over the next year from two to nine. Results of the monitoring - anticipated by December 2015 – will allow regional council staff to delineate any problems they find. Details of the monitoring programme were distributed to the group in a summary document.

3.2 Farm Water Quality Improvement Plans

Anita Semenoff and Duncan Kervell explained the function of Farm Water Quality Improvement Plans and advised that over 22 had been completed in the Waitangi catchment to date. Farmer attitudes to the plans had been positive due to the plans being simple and tailored to each farm.

DISCUSSION POINTS:

1. Waitangi River Liaison Group held a site visit 6 August 2014 to look at flood damage in the Waitangi catchment, including Waiaruhe River at Puketona junction.
2. The idea of putting a plan together to manage erosion.
3. Discussion about events generating gravel accumulation and whether peak river flows were monitored.
4. Options for reducing sediment load and slowing velocities down
5. Commercial uses for the extracted material are few due to it being derived from a low energy river system.
6. Need to understand issues before looking for solutions because aspirations come at a cost.
7. Catchment group needs to agree values and objectives based on the current state. We may have to wait for results to establish that.
8. Sediment management case studies from similar catchments would be useful if presented to the group.
9. River aggradation – is it natural or land use related?
10. Catchment group members are expecting the first year of their involvement to primarily include learning about the catchment.
11. Peter Taylor gave a good presentation about Horizons One Plan at a recent conference.
12. An understanding of stormwater detention systems would be useful.

13. Willow clearance effectively reduced the impact of flooding around Puketona Junction.

ACTIONS:

1. **upload Waitangi monitoring summary to website.**
2. **Send link to hydrology monitoring information to catchment group members.**
3. **Send minutes of Waitangi River Liaison Group to Waitangi catchment group members.**
4. **Research sediment management case studies with a view to presenting these to the group.**
5. **Research stormwater detention systems for future presentation to the group.**

Item 4 Presentation: Freshwater Policy Framework

Justin Murfitt, Resource Management Policy Programme Manager, presented the big picture in relation to national and regional freshwater management legislation.

DISCUSSION POINTS:

1. Sediment – Northland can and should have sediment objectives, due to its effect on uses and values of fresh and coastal water.
2. Catchment groups will provide input into the preparation of regional plans, currently undergoing an internal review process. Stakeholder workshops on the various workstreams of the regional plans review are scheduled for September/October 2014 to provide for this, including workshops on water quality and quantity with catchment groups.
3. Timeline for catchment group to provide feedback may be too short – consider extending it.
4. Unhappy about doing action plans now – expecting to learn about the catchment for the next year to improve knowledge first.
5. Sediment benchmarking – how do we know sediment situation is bad? Depends upon the values we are managing for. What can we do to mitigate? If nothing, is it still considered an issue?
6. The Waitangi River Liaison group is already addressing sediment. The Waitangi catchment group is primarily here to address policy. Hydraulic actions should happen but are independent of this catchment group. The group needs to stick to its Terms of Reference and agenda.
7. Everyone will need to move their positions in terms of values to create consensus.
8. Need to consider the catchment as a whole and wait for staff to produce the requested information before jumping to solutions.

ACTIONS:

6. **Send link to NPS Freshwater Management to catchment group members. Provide hard copy at the next meeting/workshop.**
7. **Distribute copy of plans review vs catchment group workplan timeline to catchment group.**
8. **Provide current Waitangi monitoring status against National Objectives Framework.**
9. **Irrigation allocation of 22,000m³/day needs to come out of the calculation because it is not relevant.**
10. **Prepare a virtual catchment tour to present to the group at a future meeting.**

- 11. Make arrangements for Arnold Maunsell to join State of Environment monitoring staff during a site visits in Waitangi catchment.**
- 12. Distribute copy of Justins presentation to the group.**

Item 5 Uses and Values Workshop

The workshop was postponed to the next meeting, due to running short on time.

ACTIONS:

- 13. Add uses and values workshop to the next agenda.**

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Change of venue after daylight savings: Ohaeawai Rugby Club was proposed and agreed to by the group as an alternative venue when the Okaihau Golf Club venue was unavailable on Thursday evenings following daylight savings.
2. Add Lake Omapere Trust representative to the Waitangi Catchment Group?
3. Election of chair

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. For what reason should a representative of Lake Omapere Trust be involved in the group?
2. Many absent members, and late hour – better to add election of chair to the next agenda.

ACTIONS:

- 14. Record Terence Brocx apologies for the next meeting.**
- 15. Lake Omapere Trust member to be invited to attend the next meeting to present their case to be included in the group.**
- 16. Add election of chair to the next agenda.**

CONCLUSION

The meeting concluded at 9.30pm.

The next catchment group meeting is scheduled for 6.30pm, Thursday 4 September 2014, at Okaihau Golf Club. A meal will be served at 6pm.

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of the Pouto Catchment Group meeting
Sub-Committee of the Environmental Management Committee
held at the Te Kopuru School,
Thursday, 26 June 2014,
commencing at 6:30pm

Present:

Cr Graeme Ramsey
Commissioner Richard Booth
Henry Holyoake
Rawson Wright
Tokorua Leaf
Aleesha Bennett
Henry Kemp
Rudi Hoetjes
Barbara Searle
Kristi Henare
Allister McCahon
Sheree Marlow
Chris Biddles
Logan Forrest
Jock Wills
Andrew Turner
Cr Joe Carr

Northland Regional Council
Kaipara District Council
Representative of Te Uri o Hau
Representative of Te Uri o Hau
Waikaretu Marae - Local Iwi and Hapu
Waikaretu Marae - Local Iwi and Hapu
Pouto Topu A Trust
Fish and Game New Zealand
Department of Conservation
Forest and Bird (Alternate)
Dairy farming interests
Dairy farming interests
Dry stock farming interests
Public Position
Public Position
Recreational interests
Northland Regional Council

In Attendance:

Mark Schreurs
Gary Treadgold
Bruce Griffin
Rachel Ropiha
Venessa Anich
Matthew Keesing
Helen Moodie
Mikaera Miru
Peter Bullen
David Lourie
Matua Pere
Ngareta Richards
Te Kopuru School Students

Kaipara District Council
Northland Regional Council
Northland Regional Council
Northland Regional Council
Kaipara District Council
Kauri Coast 4 Wheel Drive Club
Dairy NZ
Environs Holdings Limited
P.F. Olsen
Forest and Bird
Te Kopuru School
Supporter
Waiata group

Apologies:

Wayne Graham
Mark Farnsworth
Andrew Knock
Natalie Glover

Forestry Interests Representative
Dry Stock Farming Interests
Forest and Bird Representative
Northland Regional Council

The Interim Chair declared the meeting open at 6.16 pm.

KARAKIA MIHIMIHI *Matua Pere*

The meeting opened at 6.16pm. Cr Graeme Ramsey, Interim Chair welcomed everyone.

6.23pm the meeting adjourned for dinner

The Meeting resumed 7.04

KARAKIA MIHIMIHI *Mikaera Miru*

Round table – everyone introduced themselves

Item 1 WAIORA NORTHLAND WATER PROGRAM

Bruce Griffin gave an overview presentation on the Waiora Northland Water Program

Discussion points

- It was asked who the Environmental Management Committee is.
- Cr Joe Carr gave an overview of the Environmental Management Committee (a committee of Northland Regional Council) and its membership.

Item 2 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Andrew Knock, Mark Farnsworth, Wayne Graham and Natalie Glover

Item 3 The Pouto Catchment

Gary Treadgold gave a presentation on the Pouto Catchment and its lakes

Discussion points

- Projects: existing and potential
- Funding of projects through Northland Regional Council's existing budgets
- Land ownership: Private vs DOC

Item 4 Terms of Reference

The Draft Terms of reference were introduced by Interim Chair Cr Ramsey

Discussion points

- Consideration for Matauranga Maori
- The ability of the Pouto Catchment Group to recommend rules and policies to the Environmental Management Committee for adoption and to review rules and policies (refer to the 3rd paragraph of page 1 of the Draft Terms of Reference).
- Membership
- The phrase “Public statements must be agreed” (refer to page 7 of the Draft Terms of Reference) should be extended to read “Public statements must be agreed and approved”.
- Timeframes around reporting
- Reporting by members of the Pouto Catchment Group to the organisations they represent.
- Issues around disclosure
- Alternative representatives to cover absence

Consensus recommendations:

- Adopt the Terms of Reference
- Pouto Catchment Group forestry representatives to consider additional forestry representatives if required.
- Environmental Management Committee allocate funds to the riparian planting project around Upper Lake Rototuna.
- Support in principal for securing funding for the restoration project for Lower Rototuna Lake, subject to the proposed project being further presented to the Pouto Catchment Group.

Action: Power point presentations presented at the meeting to be e-mailed to all members.

Next meeting to be held 6:30pm - 9pm, 4 August 2014 at Te Kopuru School.

Further meeting to be held 6:30pm - 9pm, 8 September 2014 at Te Kopuru School.

Apologies for next meeting – Henry Kemp

Chair declared the Meeting closed at 9.05pm with a karakia

ISSUE: National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014

ID: A667229

To: Environmental Management Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Justin Murfitt, Senior Programme Manager (Resource Management)
and Ben Tait, Policy Analyst

Date: 12 August 2014

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

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to advise the Environmental Management Committee of recent changes to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM). Last month (July 2014) the Government amended the NPS-FM to include a national framework to help regional councils set freshwater objectives in their regional plans. This national objectives framework includes compulsory values and national bottom lines for ecosystem health and human health. The amended NPS-FM came into effect on 1 August 2014. The amended NPS-FM can be viewed at:

<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/rma/nps-freshwater-management-2014/index.html>

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are part of the council's day to day operations and as such are provided for in the council's 2012-2022 Long Term Plan, and are in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76-82 of the Local Government Act 2002. The matter is considered to be of low significance in terms of the council's significance policy because it is for information purposes only.

Recommendation:

That the report National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 by Justin Murfitt, Senior Programme Manager (Resource Management) and Ben Tait Policy Analyst and dated 12 August 2014 be received.

ITEM: 4

Page 2 of 10

Report

The NPS-FM came into force in July 2011 and sets out a nationally consistent approach for managing fresh water quality and quantity. It does this by directing regional councils to set water quality and quantity objectives and limits for all water bodies in their regions and manage activities to avoid and phase out over-allocation – the situation where a freshwater objective is not being met or where water quality or quantity has been allocated to a user beyond a limit.

In November 2013, the government set out a proposal to amend the NPS-FM, primarily to provide more detailed guidance on water quality management (the proposal to amend the NPS-FM has been reported previously (Item 4.0 of EMC meeting December 2013 and Item 8.3 of council meeting of December 2013)).

After considering submissions on the proposed changes the Government amended the NPS-FM on July 3, 2014. The changes are largely in line with those proposed in the November 2013 discussion document. Key changes include:

- An Appendix identifying national values for freshwater;¹
- A requirement that objectives and limits must be set for all freshwater management units² in a region, and at a minimum they must provide for two compulsory national values:
 - Ecosystem health / Te Hauora o te Wai, and
 - Human health for (secondary) contact recreation / Te Hauora o te Tangata
- A National Objectives Framework (NOF)³ and associated policy that specifies the process for setting freshwater objectives⁴ in regional plans – the NOF includes numerical states for several “attributes”⁵ of ecosystem health and contact recreation (these numeric attributes state range from A, B, C and D equating to very good to very poor)
- Inclusion of national bottom lines⁶ for the including attributes, which are attribute states below a C. Regional councils must specify minimum numerical attribute states in freshwater objectives for each management unit. An objective cannot be set at or below national bottom lines unless certain exceptions can be met⁷ (e.g. due to naturally occurring contaminants or significant existing infrastructure).
- A requirement to monitor progress towards, and the achievement of, freshwater objectives and to account for water takes and sources of contaminants.⁸
- A requirement to implement the NPS-FM by 2025 (instead of 2030).

¹ Appendix 2, NPS-FM

² Freshwater management units enable a diverse region to be divided up so common objectives and limits can be set for each unit. They can be a water body, multiple water bodies, or any part of a water body.

³ Part CA, NPS-FM

⁴ “Freshwater objectives” state desired environmental outcomes. They can be expressed in broad narrative terms and numeric terms. The NPS-FM requires objectives to be set in numeric terms where practicable, otherwise in narrative terms.

⁵ “Attributes” are measurable characteristics of water, including physical, chemical, and biological properties, which support particular values, e.g. nutrients for aquatic ecosystems and faecal bacteria for contact recreation.

⁶ Appendix 2, NPS-FM

⁷ Policy CA4, NPS-FM

⁸ See Parts CB and CC, NPS-FMA

The key steps in implementing the NPS-FM are:

1. Define freshwater management units – Freshwater management units enable a diverse region to be divided up so common objectives and limits can be applied to each unit. Under the NPS-FM a freshwater management unit can be a water body, multiple water bodies, or a part of a water body.
2. Put in place freshwater monitoring and accounting regimes at representative sites for each freshwater management unit – this information provides a baseline for setting objectives and enables progress to be tracked;
3. Identify uses and values of water in each freshwater management unit (ecosystem health and human health are compulsory);
4. Assess the current state of freshwater in each freshwater management unit and in conjunction with the community, set objectives for water quality and quantity;
5. Establish water quality and quantity limits (and other methods as appropriate) to achieve the objectives within certain timeframes after considering likely social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts.

For further information on the amended NPS-FM see:

<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/rma/central/nps/freshwater-management.html>

Progress to date

Council set out its approach to implementing the NPS-FM following consultation on the 2012-22 Long Term Plan. The various elements of the implementation programme are collectively termed Waiora Northland Water – this includes a catchment specific collaborative approach in priority areas and a more generic regional approach elsewhere. Five collaborative catchment groups have been established to date in Waitangi, Doubtless Bay, Whangarei Harbour, Mangere and Poutu catchments. The role of these groups is to identify uses and values of water and recommend objectives and associated water management measures to council.

Background work is also underway on a more generic regional approach. This includes developing options for freshwater management units for lakes, rivers, wetlands and aquifers and identification of indicative uses / values and associated freshwater objectives and limits, as well as methods for managing activities that affect water quality and quantity. The regional approach to water quality and quantity management is to be tested with iwi, stakeholders and other interested parties as part of the review of the regional plans in October this year.

Key implications for Northland Regional Council

Attributes

Regional councils are now required to implement the NPS-FM as promptly as is reasonable by 31 December 2025 or, by 2030 if the earlier date is not practicable or will result in an inferior planning document. While the 2025 timeframe is within the implementation programme set out to date, staff are currently assessing the need for changing the programme as a result of the 2014 amendments to the NPS-FM. The council must review, and revise if necessary, its implementation programme for implementing the NPS-FM. The programme must be adopted by the council by 31 December 2015.

The most significant amendment is the addition of the national objectives framework (NOF). This framework is intended to provide a nationally consistent structural basis for setting objectives, primarily in relation to water quality (this being the more

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challenging for most councils). The NOF uses a table format to define four water quality states or bands for several attributes of nationally held values of water in lakes and rivers. The values include ecosystem health, human health, both of which are compulsory. Councils must manage the defined water quality attributes of these values. The compulsory attributes are set out below:

Compulsory values/attributes

Value	Waterbody type	Attribute
Ecosystem health	Lakes	Chlorophyll-a
		Total Nitrogen
		Total Phosphorous
	Lakes and Rivers	Nitrate toxicity
		Ammonia toxicity
	Rivers	Dissolved Oxygen
		Periphyton
Human health (secondary contact recreation)	Lakes and rivers	<i>E. coli</i>
		Cyanobacteria

Each of these attributes is described in four states or bands from very good (A), good (B), fair (C) and very poor (D). These attributes states / bands are described numerically (E.g. total Nitrogen per cubic metre) and in narrative terms (e.g. what the level of nitrogen means in terms of ecosystem health). So attribute states are essentially a series of thresholds that describe four water quality conditions for a number of water quality indicators.

Significantly, the NOF applies national 'bottom lines' – a minimum acceptable state for the specified attributes. The bottom lines are set at the breakpoint between the C and D attribute states/bands. A rank of D is below the bottom line and unacceptable.

It is important to note that the tables in the national objective framework attribute tables are only partly populated at this stage. They will be added to as the science is developed and agreed on (expected to be in 2016 and 2019). However, the Government has stated that it expects regional councils to set freshwater quality objectives for attributes that are not currently in the NPS-FM where appropriate (E.g. sediment is an issue in Northland's rivers and estuaries but is not currently included in the NPS-FM).

Staff are also working with science providers to determine potential Northland specific numeric attribute states for nutrients (for controlling nuisance the growth of nuisance plants and algae), sediment and invertebrates. These attributes are not currently in the NPS-FM.

Interestingly, while the proposed amendments to the NPS-FM (and NOF) emphasise connections between fresh and coastal waters, no national values appear to relate specifically to coastal waters and associated descriptions are limited to freshwater management units. In Northland, where most rivers discharge to estuaries or harbours, the influence of freshwater on coastal water quality is significant. Freshwater quality objectives for Northland will need to recognise this relationship, particularly for two key attributes (sediment and faecal microbes).

National Bottom lines

The national bottom lines are potentially significant as councils must set objectives to improve water quality above them unless an exception can be argued (staff have yet to confirm whether any exceptions are justified in Northland).

Staff are currently assessing Northland's water bodies against the national bottom lines for ecosystem health and human health and the need to adjust our monitoring programme, however an indicative assessment is provided below.

The majority of Northland's monitored lakes (mostly dune lakes) exceed one or more of the national bottom lines for ecosystem health (Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus and or chlorophyll *a* - indicators of lake trophic level). These lakes are considered to be representative of most of Northland's lakes. An early assessment is provided in Table 1 of Appendix 1. This suggests that actions are required to improve water quality for ecosystem health in many of Northland's lakes.

Our rivers tend to measure up better against the limited number of national bottom lines for ecosystem health with all monitored river sites generally within the A or B state and we have no monitored rivers that do not comply with bottom lines for ammonia or nitrate toxicity. The majority of the results for dissolved oxygen also fall within the A or B band but bottom lines are not met in several instances. An indicative assessment is provided in Tables 2-4 in Appendix 1.

An assessment against national bottom lines for human health has yet to be fully completed and our monitoring of cyanobacteria and *E. Coli* may need to be extended as a result of the changes to the NPS-FM (currently we have limited data on cyanobacteria and *E. Coli* is only monitored in a limited number of lakes). Table 5 in Appendix 1 indicates that the majority of Northland's river water quality monitoring sites have levels of *E Coli* in the A and B attribute states of secondary contact recreation (wading and boating), but in some cases bottom lines are exceeded.

Under the NPS-FM, the council is required to put in place actions to improve water quality to above national bottom lines over time. The council has the discretion to set the timeframes in which this will happen after considering likely costs and community aspirations. The extent and rate of improvement sought is established in the objectives and limits setting phase and any regulatory mechanisms (i.e. limits and rules) will be subject to the cost / benefit tests typically applied under the Resource Management Act 1991.

Conclusion

The amendments to the NPS-FM are largely as set out in the November 2013 proposal and primarily relate to water quality management. The key changes include the National Objectives Framework and associated compulsory bottom lines for ecosystem health and human health (this will continue to be developed by government). The 2014 version of the NPS-FM is a useful structure for setting water quality objectives and limits with communities, iwi and stakeholders.

The changes are not considered to dramatically influence councils Waiora Northland Water implementation programme although some changes may be required and to our water quality monitoring regime will be needed. The implementation programme will be revisited and notified prior to 31 December 2015 and should work well with both the 2015-25 LTP and plan review timeframes.

Appendix 1 Table 1: Assessment of NOF water quality bottom lines for Northland's natural lakes (based on 2009-2013 data)

Lakes	Compulsory NPS-FM Attributes						
	Phytoplankton (chlorophyll a)		Total Nitrogen		Total Phosphorous	Ammonia Toxicity	
	Annual median	Annual max	Annual median	Annual max	Annual median	Annual median	Annual max
Carrot	6.6	22.9	544	717	20	0.008	0.04
Heather	1.4	28.4	305	929	11.5	0.003	0.005
Morehurehu	2.1	5.7	498	645	11.5	0.017	0.052
Ngakapua North	5.1	18.2	498	1130	13	0.007	0.477
Ngakapua South	6.7	12.3	541	653	16	0.005	0.023
Ngatu	4.5	20.5	785	1430	9.5	0.033	0.857
Rotokawau	2.4	6.8	349	447	8	0.002	0.016
Rotorua	8.4	37.1	851	1020	13.5	0.015	0.159
Te Kahika	0.75	7.6	237	529	3	0.043	0.268
Waihopo	3.7	10.3	606	789	15	0.010	0.050
Waipara	2.8	10.4	469	575	14	0.007	0.051
Waiparera	12.3	43.5	818	1010	25.5	0.006	0.017
Waiporohita	17.3	51.3	821	1270	34		
Kai Iwi	2.3	4.1	354	414	6.5	0.004	0.028
Taharoa	0.81	1.7	130	179	2.0	0.001	0.003
Waikere	1.8	4.2	204	378	4.0	0.000	0.003
Humuhumu	4.8	10.8	306	383	11	0.003	0.017
Kahuparere	9.7	17.2	377	475	14	0.003	0.064
Kanono	7.35	21.7	350	431	16	0.002	0.016
Karaka	18.8	203	527	2580	36	0.004	0.457
Mokeno	4.3	113	1020	2070	27	0.017	0.819
Rotokawau	4.0	13.8	607	1000	13	0.015	0.344
Rototuna	18.3	62.9	731	1060	31	0.005	0.019
Wainui	2.8	22	400	682	17	0.006	0.082
Swan	18.2	159	964	1530	51	0.011	0.242
Omapere	1.5	15	480	910	52		

Green boxes: 'A' attribute state in the NPSFM

Orange boxes: 'C' attribute state in the NPSFM

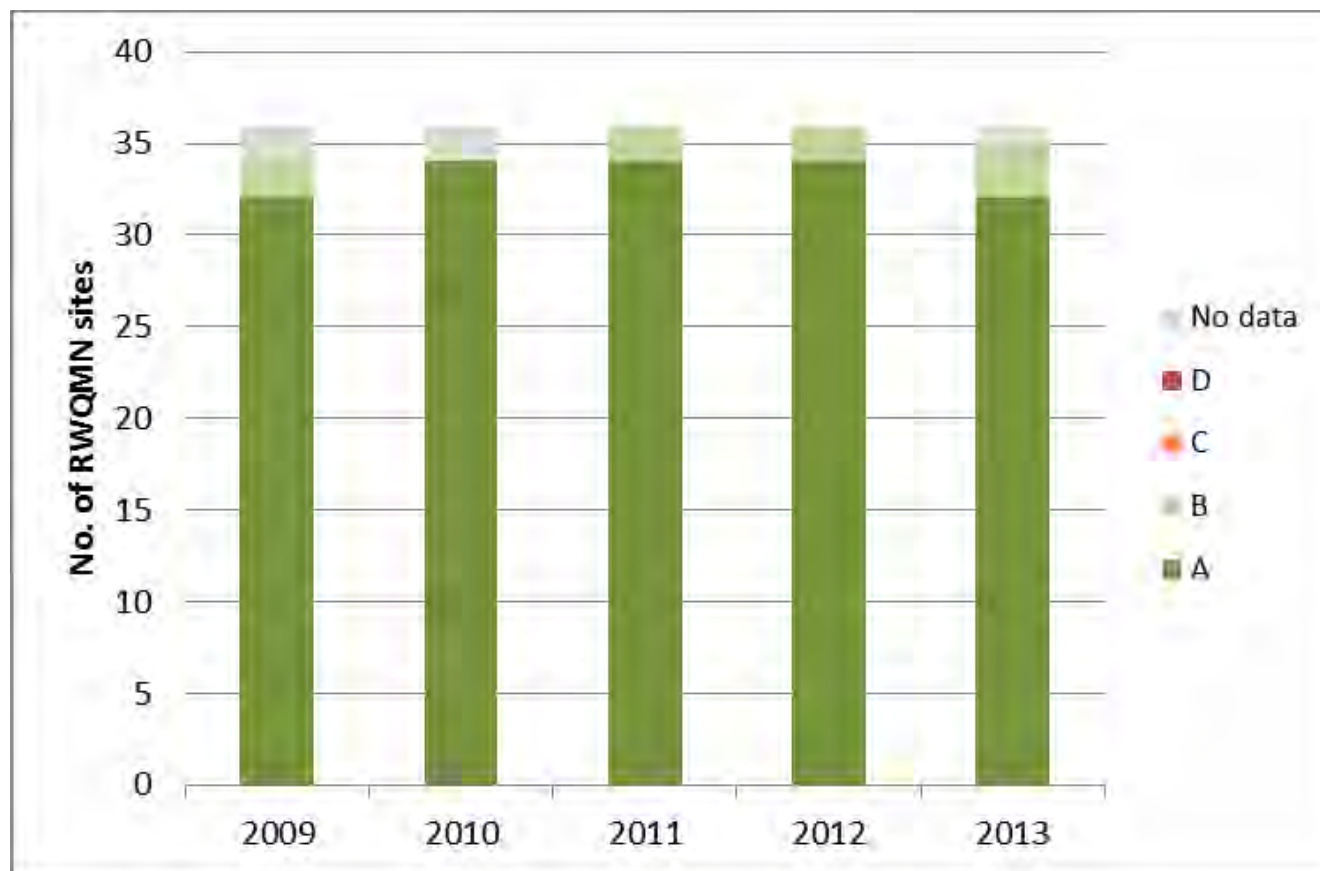
Yellow boxes: 'B' attribute state in the NPSFM

Red boxes: levels exceed national bottom lines ('D' attribute state)

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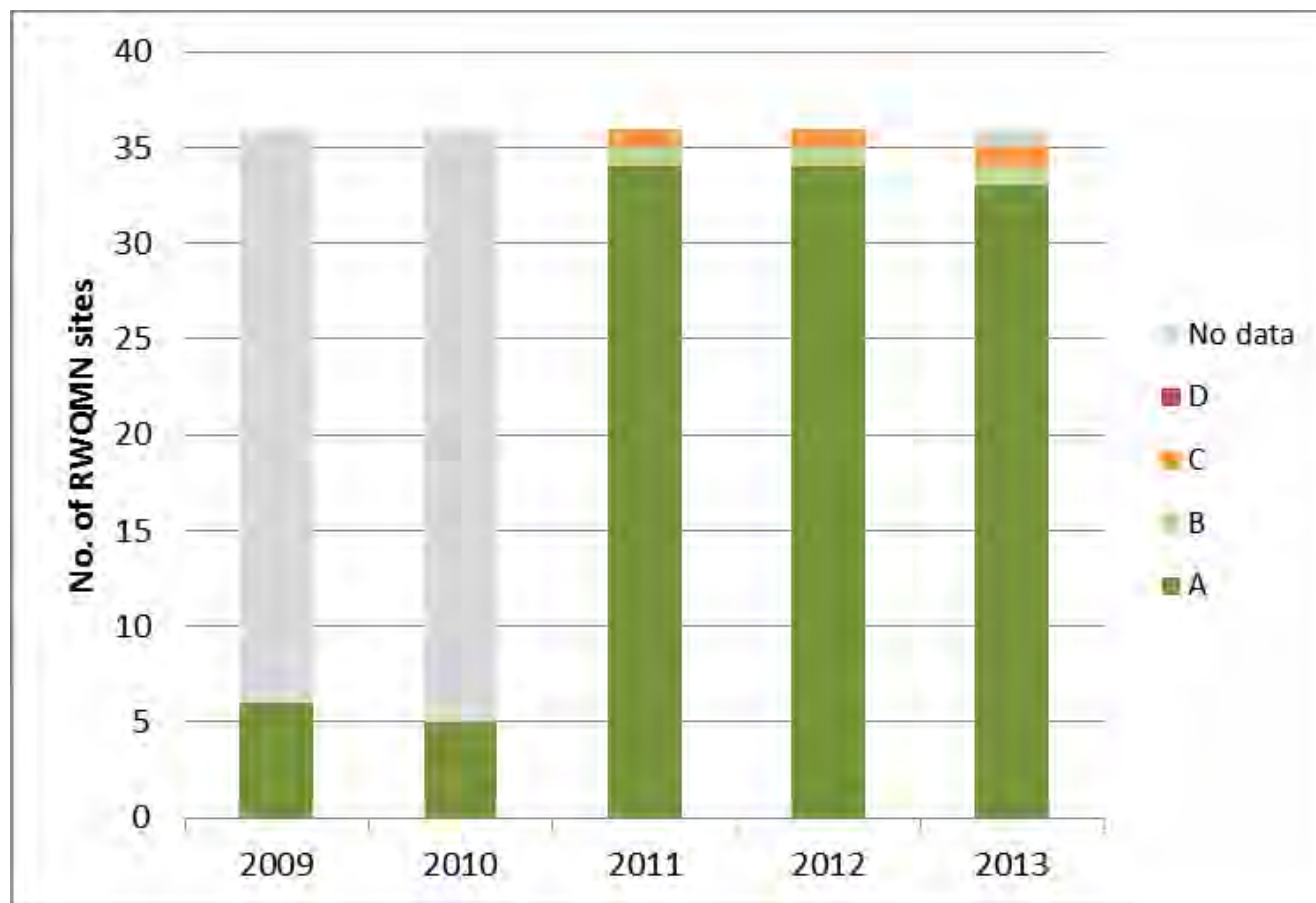
Table 2: Northland's river water quality monitoring site results compared to the compulsory numeric attribute states (A through D) for ammonia toxicity over the 2009-2013 period.



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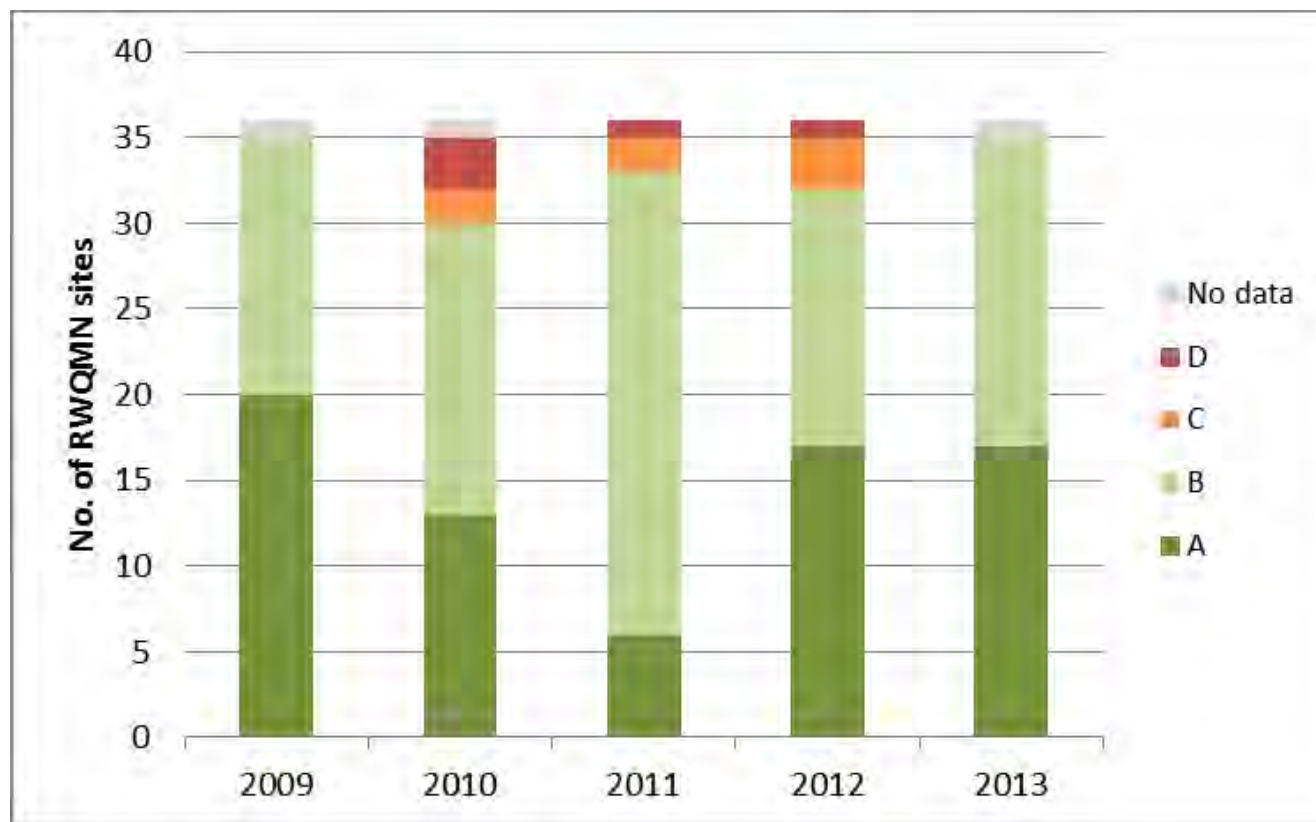
Table 3: Northland's river water quality monitoring site results compared to the compulsory numeric attribute states (A through D) for nitrate toxicity over the 2009-2013 period



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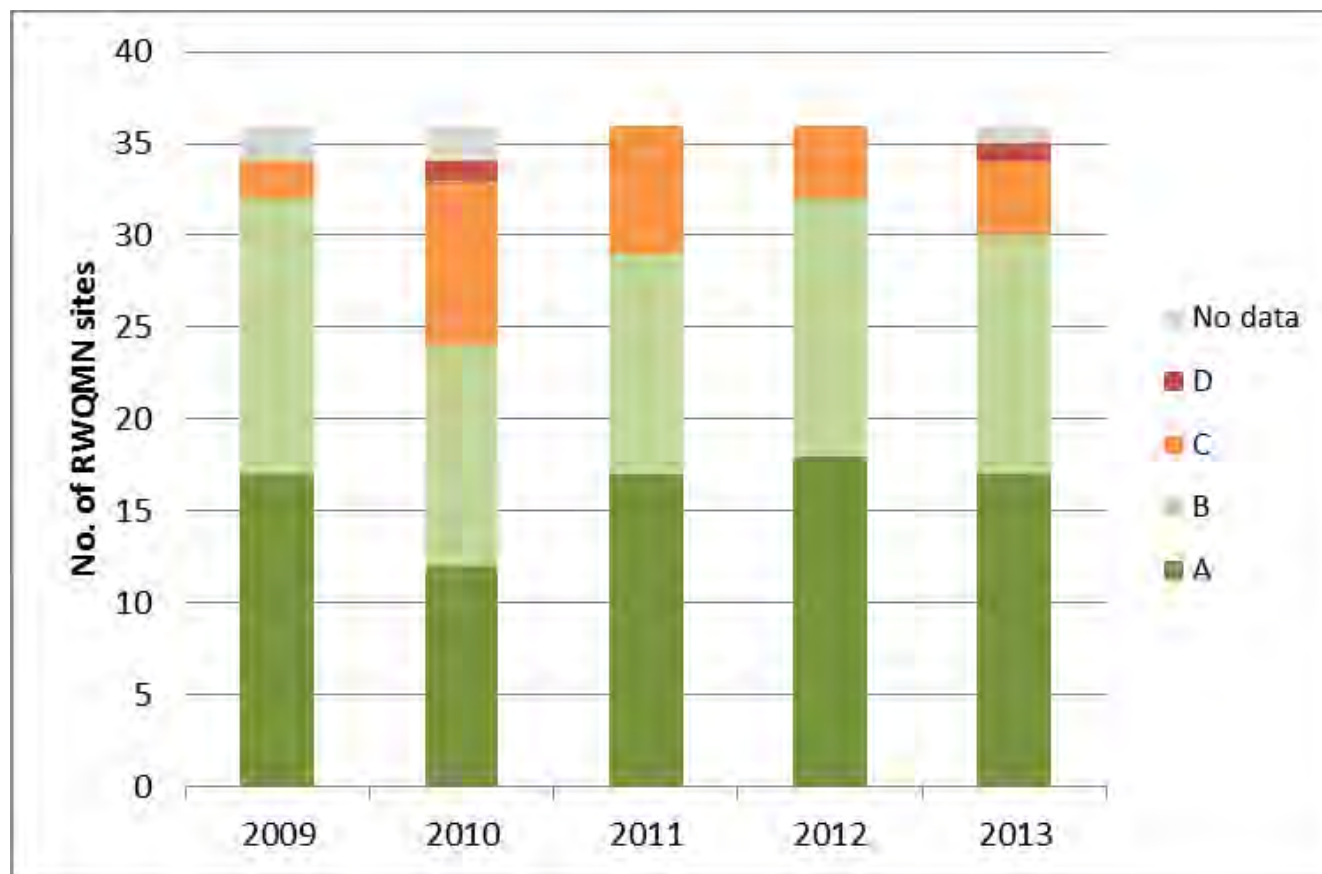
Table 4: Northland's river water quality monitoring site results compared to the compulsory numeric attribute states (A through D) for dissolved oxygen over the 2009-2013 period.



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Table 5: Northland's river water quality monitoring site results compared to the compulsory numeric attribute states (A through D) for *E.coli* over the 2009-2013 period.



**ISSUE: Community wastewater treatment plant discharges
– current compliance status (updated)**

ID: A628807

To: Environmental Management Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Tess Dacre, Monitoring Programme Manager – Water and Wastes

Date: 13 August 2014

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

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to give an update on the resource consent compliance status of Northland's 29 community wastewater treatment plants and the actions being taken to remedy any non-compliance. Good progress is being made by all three district councils in bringing their treatment plants into consistent compliance.

Background

This report and the attached table provide a status update on the 29 community wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) operated by the region's three territorial authorities: Far North, Kaipara and Whangarei District Councils (FNDC, KDC and WDC). FNDC has the most with 15 different WWTP across its district. WDC has nine and KDC has five. Also included in the table is the Hatea pump station and storage tank operated by WDC (this is also covered by a resource consent).

The majority of Northland's community wastewater treatment plants have up-to-date consents and routinely meet their required discharge and water quality standards. Good progress continues to be made by all three councils to improve wastewater treatment and bring all plants into consistent compliance.

FNDC now has only the Taipa and Paihia wastewater treatment plant replacement discharge consents in process. FNDC have several plants which have had ongoing non-compliance issues: Kaikohe, Paihia, Ompononi/Omapere and Whatuwhiwhi. FNDC are working towards rectifying these issues. Further, a new plant is planned for Kerikeri, since the decision not to proceed with the previously proposed Bay of Islands scheme. FNDC have indicated that the consent application for a replacement consent for Kerikeri will be lodged by the end of 2014.

It has come to light that there are issues with the reticulation network for Kaitiā. There are several places in the town where frequent overflows of untreated wastewater occur. FNDC and NRC will jointly put in a place a monitoring programme to quantify the effects from these. FNDC are looking at options for remediation.

FNDC is subject to two abatement notices which relate to the on-going non-compliance with water quality conditions for the Paihia and Whatuwhiwhi wastewater treatment plant discharges.

WDC has done considerable upgrade works on the main WWTP, including renovating the wetlands. As noted in the table, while this work has been undertaken there have been some issues with compliance.

District Council Expenditure on wastewater

At a previous meeting the committee asked to see figures on the District Councils current expenditure on wastewater. This is shown in Table 1 below. The table shows the operational and capital expenditure for the three District Councils in relation to wastewater infrastructure (as shown in their respective Annual Plans).

Table 1 – Expenditure on wastewater infrastructure by FDNC, KDC and WDC

	2013/14	2014/15
FNDC		
Operational Expenditure	\$11,101,000	\$11,445,000
Capital Expenditure	\$13,795,000	\$10,620,000
KDC		
Operational Expenditure	\$6,315,000	\$6,578,000
Capital Expenditure	\$1,246,000	\$1,070,000
WDC		
Operational Expenditure	\$7,834,000	\$7,585,000
Capital Expenditure	\$8,698,000	\$8,067,000

Compliance rate comparison: Community wastewater (WWTP) v FDE

A comparison of the compliance rates for FDE and the WWTP's for the 2013/14 year is shown in the table 2, below.

Table 2 – Compliance rates for 2013/14 year

	Fully Compliant	Non-compliant	Significantly Non-compliant
WWTP	27.5%	45%	27.5%
FDE	58%	22%	20%

Extreme caution should be exercised when comparing FDE and WWTP compliance due to the differences in the monitoring regimes. Dairy farms receive a single compliance visit during the year, whereas monitoring programmes for the WWTP's range from twice a year at the minimum, up to monthly visits for the larger plants. Consent conditions for water quality standards are typically significantly higher for WWTP's than for FDE.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are provided for in the council's 2012-22 LongTerm 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 the report does not seek a decision other than that information be received.

Recommendation

1. That the report Community wastewater treatment plant discharges – current compliance status (updated) from Tess Dacre, Monitoring Programme Manager – Water and Wastes, dated 13 August 2014 be received.

Location/Consent Status	Plant Description	Status & Issues	Update as at August 2014
Ahipara (FNDC) Consent issued 2013, expiry 2033.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxidation pond, surface flow wetland, overland flow to drain. • Discharges to a tributary of Wairoa Stream. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No major operational issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland has not yet been fully de-sludged.
Hihi (FNDC) Consent issued 2011, expiry 2022.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended aeration treatment system with flow equalisation and UV disinfection followed by surface flow wetland. • Discharges to the Hihi Stream. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is significant stormwater infiltration to the reticulation system, however, some improvements have been made. Further work is planned to resolve key infiltration issues and then FNDC will re-assess the situation and determine what else needs to be done. • Treatment quality now fully compliant with RC requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing new to report.
Kaeo (FNDC) Consent issued 2007, expiry 2022. Changed consent issued October 2011.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Settlement and oxidation ponds • Packed bed reactor incorporating vermiculture. • Wetland. • Discharges to the Kaeo River. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent requires 4-log reduction of viral indicators to protect downstream oyster farms. • Sampling indicates treatment plant achieves a 3 to 3.5 log reduction of viral indicators. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UV filter from Awanui WWTP has been installed and commissioning commenced on 7 August 2014.
Kaikohe (FNDC) Consent issued 2005, expiry 2021. Changed consent issued 19 April 2011.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anaerobic pond, large facultative pond, three surface flow wetlands. • Discharges to a tributary of the Wairoro stream. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kaikohe ponds often suffer from blue green algae blooms in summer. • Problems with compliance during low flows (ammoniacal nitrogen exceeds consent limit). • Floating wetlands proposed to improve treatment. • FNDC has commissioned an investigation to determine effects of current ammonia exceedances on the receiving environment. • FNDC will either upgrade the treatment plant or apply for a change to the resource consent depending on the outcome of the study. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FNDC are expecting the report for the investigation of ammonia in the receiving environment on 11 August 2014.
Kaitiāia (FNDC) Consent issued 2005, expiry 2021.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two ponds plus floating wetland cells. • Discharges to the Awanui River. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main issue is blue green algae and discharge during summer. • Upgrade condition requiring installation of a disinfection unit by August 2008 – this has not been done. However, monitoring results indicate that >5 log reduction in phages (virus indicators) is being achieved. • Consent routinely meets all discharge standards. However technically the consent is being breached because the WWTP does not include a “disinfection system”. • FNDC will apply to change the consent to resolve the technical non-compliance. • No exceedances of the consent limits for algae occurred during summer 2013/14. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing new to report with regard to the WWTP. • However, significant issues with the Kaitiāia reticulation network have been raised. FNDC are currently assessing options for remediation. • NRC and FNDC are undertaking additional monitoring in the most affected areas.

Location/Consent Status	Plant Description	Status & Issues	Update as at August 2014
Kawakawa (FNDC) Consent issued 2012, expiry 2036.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aeration tank, a secondary clarifier, a disc filter, UV treatment and then to constructed wetlands. • Discharges to Kawakawa River. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System usually working well since upgrade. • Upper Kawakawa shellfish monitoring site for viruses once one of the worst sites now one of the best. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 2014 compliance visit found significant non-compliance. An infringement notice was issued. • Operational changes have since been made to stop the problem from recurring. June and July compliance visits fully compliant.
Kerikeri (FNDC) Consent issued 2005, expiry 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aerated treatment system (solids separation, RCBs, and clarifiers). • System has UV unit (operates poorly). • Discharges to the Waitangi forest natural wetland (a tributary of the Kerikeri Inlet). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historically, the system has had significant odour problems. • Ongoing issues with performance of disinfection unit due to poor quality effluent. • FNDC has decided to build a new treatment plant at the current Kerikeri WWTP site and reticulate the rest of central Kerikeri. • Resource consents will be lodged for the activity towards the end of 2014. • The outstanding community liaison meeting will not be held given consultation with interested parties will be undertaken as part of the consent process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FNDC still assessing options for new treatment plant at Kerikeri.
Kohukohu (FNDC) Consent issued 2002, expiry 2016.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Septic tanks followed by oxidation pond and surface flow wetland. • Discharges to Hokianga Hbr. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistently complies with water quality conditions of consent. • No outstanding issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing new to report.
Opononi and Omāpere (FNDC) Consent issued 2009, expiry 2019.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary screen, aerated pond, facultative pond, surface flow wetland. • Discharges to Hokianga Harbour (on outgoing tide). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stormwater infiltration is an issue. • During significant rainfall events the discharge will at times occur outside of the tidal flow condition to prevent overtopping of the wetland. • Issue complying with Ecoli condition of consent. • FNDC intends to carry out a district wide investigation of inflow & infiltration and will include Opononi as part of a prioritised programme. • Improvements in hydraulic retention and discharge pumping have been made to alleviate necessity to discharge outside of consented timeframes. • The wetlands will be desludged and replanted by end of summer 2015. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing new to report.
Paihia (FNDC) Consent issued 2004, expiry 2014.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two pond system. • Discharges to the Waitangi forest natural wetland (a tributary of the Kerikeri Inlet). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource consent granted for BOI scheme in mid-2012. • Current system in significant non-compliance with consent conditions (ammoniacal nitrogen frequently exceeds consent limits) and in need of upgrade regardless of progress on new system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As at the date of this report FNDC is on track to commence works for the upgrade by November 2014, with a targeted completion date of April 2015.

Location/Consent Status	Plant Description	Status & Issues	Update as at August 2014
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An abatement notice was issued in November 2012. FNDC will not be giving effect to the BOI resource consent. Replacement application has been received. Compliance date for abatement notice has been extended to 30 June 2014. FNDC has commenced negotiations with the land owner (Crown). 	
Rangiputa (FNDC) Consent issued 2008, expiry 2032.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oxidation ponds. Discharges to ground via the base of a third pond. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No current performance issues with this treatment system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing new to report.
Rāwene (FNDC) consent issued May 2013, expiry 2023.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anaerobic pond, facultative pond & surface flow wetland. Discharges to Omanaia River. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No current performance issues with this treatment system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing new to report.
Russell (FNDC) Consent issued September 2013, expiry 2024.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerated treatment system, surface flow wetland, filtration and UV disinfection. Discharges to deep bores. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No significant issues at this point. Usually consistently complies with water quality conditions of consent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mechanical failures in May 2014 resulted in significant non-compliance. An infringement notice was issued.
Taipā (East Coast Bays) (FNDC) Consent expired 2008. Replacement consent in process – on hold to allow assessment of land disposal option. Significant opposition to WWTP operation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facultative pond and aerated pond followed by surface flow wetland (4 cells). Discharges to a tributary of the Parapara Stream. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Problems with blue green algae in the discharge at times. High ammonia and suspended solids from the marsh discharge at times. Application is still in process. FNDC have been granted an extension to pursue the land application option. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing new to report.
Whatuwhiwhi (FNDC) Consent issued 2007, expiry 2025.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two aerated ponds equipped with biological growth media. Discharges to natural wetland which extends down to Karikari Bay. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistently does not comply with faecal coliform discharge condition of consent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An abatement notice was issued in July 2014 for ongoing non-compliance. Installation of UV plant has commenced. UV due to be commissioned by 31 October 2014.
Dargaville (KDC) Consent issued 2007, expiry 2022.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facultative pond and wetland/maturation pond. Discharges to the Northern Wairoa River. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCTV investigations to identify areas of inflow and infiltration to the wastewater reticulation network have been undertaken Consistently complies with water quality conditions of consent. Wastewater reticulation repairs are ongoing to further reduce inflow and infiltration to the network. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KDC are looking into current exceedances regarding monthly discharge volumes during winter.
Kaiwaka (KDC) Consent issued 2010, expiry 2022.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerated pond and constructed wetland. Discharge to Pukekaroro Stream 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues with complying with water quality conditions of consent. De-sludging of the oxidation pond has been completed. Hoping to see improvements in water quality now that the pond has been renovated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-compliant for discharge volume and FC limits. Results marginal. KDC are going to replace the ultrasonic flow meter with a Magflow meter at the

Location/Consent Status	Plant Description	Status & Issues	Update as at August 2014
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KDC often late with submission of reports and monitoring data. 	<p>discharge point this financial year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KDC investigating operation of an aerator. June and July 2014 results outstanding, previous records received on time. KDC working on setting up system to send data in appropriate excel format and on time.
Maungaturoto (KDC) Consent issued 2008, expiry 2032.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerated pond, membrane filtration plant, storage pond, discharge to rock filter. Discharges to the Wairau River. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No current issues with plant operation. KDC often late with submission of reports and monitoring data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment plant compliant. Latest quarterly report and data received on time. KDC working on sending data in appropriate excel format. Discharge at 'extreme wet weather' rate during last storm event to prevent overflow of untreated WW from oxidation pond.
Mangawhai – Ecocare (KDC) Consent issued 2007, expiry 2042.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Screening, CASS tanks, chlorination and then pumped to storage dam. Irrigated to farmland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistently complies with water quality conditions of RC. KDC are investigating additional wastewater disposal options. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing new to report.
Te Kopuru (KDC) Consent issued 2010, expiry 2044.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oxidation ponds and constructed wetland. Discharges to Northern Wairoa River. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing non-compliance for suspended solids and Ecoli. De-sludging of oxidation pond has been completed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 2014 Ecoli levels still elevated. Additional time required to determine if de-sludging has rectified problems. Decreases in suspended solid concentrations have been evident in the WW discharge.
Hātea Pump Station & Storage Tank (WDC) Consent issued July 2013.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storage tank, UV unit and chemical treatment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant commissioned in July 2013 and has performed well in five extreme overflow events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional connections to the storage station and UV treatment are planned. The connections are intended to decrease untreated overflows downstream of the Hatea during storm events. Works are looking to be completed by the end of October 2014. Some mechanical faults occurred during recent storm events resulting in a non-compliant discharge (results marginal). These faults have been rectified by WDC.
Hikurangi (WDC) Consent issued 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Settling pond, aerated pond, wetland and membrane filter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant has been operating well. Plant is now running again after wetland de-sludging and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The floating wetlands are beginning to establish.

Location/Consent Status	Plant Description	Status & Issues	Update as at August 2014
(re-issued 2010), expiry 2025.	for disinfection. • Discharges to Mangawhero stream.	upgrade works have, for the most part, been completed. • Upgrade has resulted in better wastewater volume management. • A floating wetland system has been installed.	
Ngunguru (WDC) Consent issued 2010, expiry 2035.	• Aerated pond, settling pond, constructed wetland and UV unit. • Discharges to tributary of the Waitoi creek.	• Telemetry and alarm fully working. • Phone line installed in August 2013 to address alarm issue. • Plant operating well, no issues.	• There are presently issues with the phone line and a new connection to the Chorus network is being installed.
Oakura (WDC) Consent issued 2006, expiry 2025.	• Screening, sedimentation tanks, biological contactor unit, disc filter and UV unit. • Discharges to forest land via dripper lines.	• No issues with operation of plant.	• Nothing new to report.
Portland (WDC) Consent issued 2004, expiry 2024.	• Oxidation pond and constructed wetland. • Discharges to Tokitoki Creek.	• Consistently complies with water quality conditions of consent.	• Nothing new to report.
Ruakaka (WDC) Consent issued 2008, expires 2018.	• Aerated pond and constructed wetlands. • Discharges to Bream Bay sand dunes.	• Irrigation area on Rama Road has been fully commissioned. • WDC working to manage increased inflows into the plant. They are on-track to comply with annual volume limits in RC.	• Variation to consent issued June 2014 – the number of bores to be sampled reduced from 20 to 8 and quarterly sampling rather than monthly.
Tutukaka (WDC) Consent issued 2004, expiry 2024	• Screening, primary treatment, denitrification recirculation tanks, sand filters, UV unit and constructed wetland. • Discharges to a tributary of Tutukaka Harbour.	• Have had issues with the reliability of alarms. • UV data now being received into SCADA and reports available. • Phone line installed to improve reliability of coms and reduce operating costs. • Plant is operating well and no compliance issues.	• Investigations are being undertaken to ensure UV lamps reach sufficient intensity prior to discharge of wastewater to ensure initial discharge receives required disinfection.
Waiōtira (WDC) Consent issued 2008, expiry 2030.	• Septic tank and constructed wetland. • Discharges to Waiōtira Stream.	• Consistently complies with water quality conditions of consent.	• Nothing new to report.
Waipū (WDC) Consent issued 2007, expiry 2015.	• Aerated pond, constructed wetland with discharge to rapid in-fill basins. • Discharges to the Bream Bay coast via subsurface flow.	• Consistently complies with conditions of consent.	• De-slugging of Waipu's oxidation pond is in the planning process. Works are to start October 2014. • Upgrade planned to include a new screen, inlet flow meter, aerator and telemetry back to Kioreroa Road.

Location/Consent Status	Plant Description	Status & Issues	Update as at August 2014
<p>Whāngārei Main WWTP (WDC) Consent issued 2004, expiry 2022. Change to consent applied for – currently in process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Screening, primary clarifiers, 1st and 2nd stage trickling filters, activated sludge basin and clarifiers, effluent filter, UV unit and normal to high flows go through wetlands. Discharges to Limeburners Creek. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the upgrade of the Okara Park Pump Station it is recognised that the extra volume resulted in the need to upgrade the main WWTP. The upgrade will occur in 3 stages: Stage 1: Upgrade existing UV channel to treat 50ML/d (currently 30 ML/d) – completed. Stage 2: Install new UV channel in UV building with capacity to treat a further 50 ML/d – completed. Stage 3: Install new separate UV system to treat balance of influent unable to be processed by stage 1 & 2 units: completed and operated well in first storm event. Plan to upgrade Kioreroa Road wetland in summer 2014 and direct all flows to it once upgrade complete. Diversions to wetland will need the consent to be reviewed. WDC are currently installing a new line from the UV unit to the wetland. The last quarter saw elevated suspended solids and BOD in the UV discharge due to operational adjustments. This has now been rectified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some elements of wetland one desludging have been put on hold until spring due to high rainfall. Floating wetland installation is on hold until Summer 2014/15. Non compliances with resource consent have occurred due to high rainfall and the requirement to bring the uncompleted excavated wetland back online on multiple occasions. Works have been undertaken to bring a second aeration lagoon online at the wastewater plant. Works are almost completed now. The disc filters are presently non-operational, the possibility of seeking a change to the consented suspended solids in the final effluent is being considered.

ISSUE: Dairy Industry Liaison Group update

ID: A667484

To: Environmental Management Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Tony Phipps, Operations Director

Date: 12 August 2014

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

Background:

As previously reported to the committee, the Northland Effluent Improvement Project Group has been reconvened with an expanded role and is now the "Dairy Industry Liaison Group". The Group's first meeting was on 18 June and a verbal report on the meeting's outcomes was given to the committee at its 25 June meeting.

Update:

A further meeting of the Group was held on 31 July. As had been agreed previously, the topic of this meeting was dairy industry water allocation – policy, resource consents for allocating quantity and metering issues.

A NRC/DairyNZ/Fonterra staff technical working group is progressing joint messaging and guidelines on water metering which is being promoted by both the council and industry.

Both the council and industry will report back to the next liaison group meeting (26 August) on allocation quantities as well as options for authorisation of water takes including permitted activity rules and consents.

Legal Compliance and Significance Assessment:

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 76-82 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 the report does not seek a decision other than that information be received.

Recommendation:

That the report Dairy Industry Liaison Group update by Tony Phipps, Operations Director and dated 12 August 2014, be received.

ISSUE: Ballance Farm Environment Awards - 2014 Update

ID: A126952

To: Environmental Management Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Debbie Johnson, Senior Land Management Advisor

Date: 12 August 2014

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

Executive Summary:

The purpose of the report is to update the committee on the results of the 2014 Ballance Farm Environment Awards and highlight the success and value of the awards to Northland Regional Council and the Rural Industry in Northland.

BACKGROUND TO AWARDS

The Ballance Farm Environment Awards were established in 2002, taking the Waikato Regional Council initiative nationwide. Today the awards are held in 10 regions across New Zealand. 2005 saw the New Zealand Farm Environment Awards Trust established as an independent body to oversee the awards.

The key objectives of the awards are to encourage sustainable land management and to highlight to farmers that profitability need not be compromised when restoring and enhancing environmental values.

Through feedback and profiling winners, the Awards are aimed at encouraging other farmers to be more proactive in their resource management by providing them with role models and practical ideas to sustainably manage their land.

The awards look at the whole farm system, including financial, productive, social and environmental aspects of the farming system. Farmers are judged on how they are progressing and what they have learnt with regard to sustainable land management, rather than how long they have been farming or how much production they are attaining.

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL INVOLVEMENT

Northland Regional Council (the council) is a Regional Partner in these awards. In addition to a sizeable financial input, Council staff are heavily involved at many levels of these annual awards. Land management staff have contributed approximately 160hrs each year, over the last couple of years; however during the 11/12 financial year this was considerably more due to a staff member being the Awards judging co-ordinator; this has since ceased.

Land Management staff are involved in training judges, helping with technical information for winners field days and being part of judging teams. Community relations staff are involved in the awards evening, field days and other meetings.

Northland Regional Councillors and staff members also attend the awards evening representing the council.

HOW DOES THE JUDGING PROCESS OCCUR

Each judging team contains representatives from different rural professional organisation, farmers and sponsors. When the judging team is made up, thought goes into bringing people together with skills and knowledge in different areas. These will include people with environmental, financial and farming backgrounds.

In addition to being able to promote award winners that show strong sustainable land management practices, council staff are also provided with the opportunity to educate other rural professionals and high profile farmers through the judging process. The value of this to the Council should not be discounted, as these are the faces that farmers are dealing with every day.

In addition to Council staff bringing valuable knowledge to judging teams, they themselves are also learning about other aspects of farming businesses, and getting amongst other people in the industry.

NORTHLAND AWARD WINNERS

Past Balance Farm Environment Award winners and entrants have been incredible role models for Northlands rural communities. They have frequently had interaction with council staff over several departments. The positive feedback from previous entrants/winners/rural professionals about council staff, relationships and services provided by the council was abundant at the winners field day in May.

The 2014 Supreme Award Winners for Northland were Okaihau dairy farms Roger and Jane Hutchings, Lodore Farms Ltd. They farm a predominantly pedigree Ayrshire herd milking 680 cows. They show great awareness of nutrient management, water quality issues, energy efficiency and effluent management.

The Hutchings have also shown long term biodiversity protection of wetlands, streams and native bush which are abundant on this property. In addition to the Supreme Award, the Hutchings won the Balance Agri-Nutrients Soil Management Award, the LIC Dairy Farmers Award and the Meridian Energy Excellence Award.

Other Category Winners:

Beef and Lamb NZ Livestock Award: **Andrew Kirk (Landcorp Kapiro)**

PGG Wrightson Land and Life Award, Waterforce Integrated Management Award,

Massey University Discovery Award: **Patrick and Rebecca Malley** (kiwifruit orchard, Mangatapere)

NRC Water Quality Enhancement Award, Hill Laboratory Harvest Award, Donaghys Farm Stewardship Award: **Stephen and Anne Kearney**, Kerikeri Dairy Farmers

Conclusion:

That the benefits of being involved in the Balance Farm Environment Awards far outweigh the cost to the council in terms of staff time and regional sponsorship funding and that the current level of support is continued with a review undertaken prior to signing the annual sponsorship agreement.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

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 76-82 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.

Recommendation:

1. That the Ballance Farm Environment Awards – 2014 Update by Debbie Johnson, Senior Land Management Advisor dated 12 August 2014 be received.
 2. That the Committee recommends to the Council that it provides continued support for the Ballance Farm Environment Awards in its draft Long Term Plan.
-

ISSUE: Environment Fund Report for the 2014/15 financial year to date

ID: A663722

To: Environmental Management Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Dean Evans, Land Programme Manager

Date: 1 August 2014

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

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to update and make recommendations to the committee on matters relating to the Environment Fund, as follows:

- To receive details of the delegated approvals for funding for Land Management and Biosecurity projects through the Environment Fund for the year to date, totaling \$225,000 and \$75,000 respectively.
- To receive an update on progress with the Farm Water Quality Improvement Plan (FWQIP) programme.
- To recommend that the Council approve the draw-down of an additional \$17,550 from the Land Management Reserve for funding of current applications for Environment Fund – biosecurity projects.
- To request the committee's support for funding of two projects that exceed E-Fund cap criteria, and decline funding support for another project that is outside of the E-Fund criteria. Background information for these are provided as separate attachments to the agenda (attachments 9a, 9b, 9c).

Legal Compliance and Significance Assessment:

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 76-82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, the activities covered in this report are considered to be of low significance under council policy because the report does not seek a decision other than that information be received.

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Recommendations:

1. That the report Environment Fund Report for the 2014/15 financial year to date by Dean Evans, Land Programme Manager and dated 1 August 2014, including:
 - That a total of \$58,884 for the 2014/15 financial year first delegated authority consisting of 19 projects; and
 - That a total of \$166,083.25 for the 2014/15 financial year 2nd delegated authority consisting of 45 projects; be received.
 2. That the Committee recommends to Council that an additional \$17,550 is made available from the Land Management Reserve to fund the cost of Biosecurity Fund pest control applications in excess of the current budget.
 3. That the application for the Portland Farms Fencing Project is approved for the amount of \$15,521.
 4. That the application for the Sunvalley Livestock Fencing Project is approved for the amount of \$9,900.
 5. That the application for the Dung Beetle Release Project is not approved.
-

Report

Background

The Northland Regional Council Environment Fund has been available to assist Northland landowners since 1996. The fund recognises that while Northlanders are generally committed to protecting and enhancing their natural environment, and minimizing the effects of their land management practices on the wider community, the economic viability of many farms dictates spending priorities. The Environment Fund enables a partnership approach whereby Northland Regional Council's priority works can be identified and brought further up the list by being partially funded. The production of Farm Water Quality Improvement Plans (FWQIPs) is one of the tools used to promote this partnership.

Alongside Environment Fund grants, the council also offers Biosecurity Fund grants to assist pest control projects throughout Northland.

Applications for funding can be received from groups or individuals. The process below clarifies how catchment groups can access funding for identified projects.

Environment Fund Update

The first two delegated authority approvals for the 2014 financial year have taken place.

- Our first delegated authority approval for the 2014/15 financial year consisted of 19 projects and totalled \$58,884.
- Our second delegated authority approval for the 2014/15 financial year consisted of 45 projects and totalled \$166,083.25.

In total therefore, \$225,000 for 63 projects has already been approved. A further three projects to the value of \$35,000 are for consideration by the committee at its meeting on 25 August.

Farm Water Quality Improvement Plans (FWQIP) from 1–31 July 2014 2014

Status of FWQIP	Farm Type	Far North	Kaipara	Whangarei	Total
Completed	Drystock			1	1
In progress	Dairy		1		1
	Drystock	9	2	3	14
	Lifestyle	1			1
TOTAL		10	3	4	17

Attached is a map showing the location of properties for which FWQIPs have been undertaken.

Pest control applications

Forty two applications for pest control have been received totaling \$92,550 and demand has exceeded budget by \$17,550. Ranking of applications has taken place using a nine point scoring system and applications that can be funded within the current budget are **attached** for information. Applications with a ranking score of 13 or below have not been able to be funded however all applications are of high quality and have passed selection based on the criteria which has been applied. Applications which have not been able to be funded within the current budget are also **attached**.

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It is recommended that additional funds up to the value of \$17,550 are made available from the reserve fund to meet the cost of pest control applications in 2014-2015.

Projects requiring committee consideration

The following three projects are referred to the committee for consideration as they do not meet with funding criteria.

Portland Farms Fencing Project (refer separate attachment 9a)

Project Description: This project is for CMA fencing on a large sheep and beef property bounding the Whangarei Harbour at the Mangapai River. The farm has a long CMA boundary (approximately 5.5kms) including a c.1370m stretch most easily accessible to stock that was fenced with the help of an environment fund grant in the 2013-14 funding year, after a complaint by a member of the public who had seen cattle in the mangrove area adjacent to the farm. The farm owner proposes to continue fencing the CMA, along two stretches with easier stock access, totalling 1826m with a 7-wire P&B fence to ensure all classes of stock are excluded. The riparian margin will provide a useful buffer to overland flow from paddocks before water enters the harbour. The farmer wants to continue with full P&B fencing as he has sheep as well as cattle.

This project is above the dry stock farm cap of \$7,000, but the project is well worth supporting because it is on a beef farm with large, heavy stock and a long CMA boundary within the Whangarei Harbour priority catchment. (A public complaint has come in regarding this property; however a FWQIP has already been completed for this property with water quality improvement actions already underway.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that this project is funded to the value of \$15,521.

Sunvalley Livestock Fencing Project (refer separate attachment 9b)

Project Description: This project is for riparian fencing along a section (approx. 4500m) of the Wairoa River on a beef farm at Tangiteroria. The property takes in a small peninsula formed by an oxbow north of SH14. The river banks are quite shallow and stock have easy access to the river, and are contributing effluent directly to the water and eroding the banks. Fencing this river boundary will allow a buffer zone of ungrazed grass to establish which will filter sediment, nutrients and bacteria from paddock runoff. The area is flood-prone, so the farmer wants to use 1 WE fencing, with #1 posts rammed deeper to reduce damage from flood debris.

This proposed fence is highly visible to the public (public complaint has initiated this EFund application), being next to SH14 and it will provide a good example for other beef farmers in the district. It is recommended to grant above the \$7000 beef cap, as the project requires 4.5km of fencing that will withstand flood damage. A per metre rate of \$2.20 is recommended to account for the heavier posts needed to withstand flood effects: 4500m @ \$2.20 = \$9,900.

Recommendation: It is recommended that this project is fully funded to the value of \$9,900.

Dung Beetle Release Project (refer separate attachment 9c)

Project Description:

Release of 750 Dung beetles onto 3 beef properties (250 beetles on each property) over spring 2014 (\$2000/property) plus Entomologist (Dr J Dymock) time and equipment (\$4000). Total cost: \$10,000 + GST.

Project includes the releases on the 3 properties that previously had releases in Jan-March 2014. Sites will be monitored for presence of dung beetle activity monthly from Oct 2014-May 2015.

Background:

Dung beetles feed and reproduce in dung only. Adult beetles ingest dung and move it into the soil, breaking down dung pats on the surface.

Main benefits of dung burial are:

- Reduction of dung on surface and improved nutrient cycling and soil structure – water penetration and retention is better and less dung/sediment is lost to waterways. Nitrogen losses should be reduced to air mostly but some reduction to water may also be achieved
- Other benefits include a decrease in parasitic worm load and ingestion, reduction in fly numbers.

Data is backed up by research done by Dr Shaun Forgie (Landcare Research) which does show some reduction in movement of sediment and bacteria in rainfall events.

This however was carried out in a confined cage and while there were benefits obtained, there would appear to be the need for a considerable number of beetles on a farm to achieve these results.

The application came about following Jenny Dymock presenting data to the Doubtless Bay Catchment Working Group and the group supporting an application for funding from several sources (including NRC) for further releases.

Dung beetles are very effective at soil conditioning and breaking down dung. It is however unclear how many beetles would be needed to have a real improvement in water quality. The cost of 250 beetles onto 3 properties at \$10,000 is a considerable cost for possible marginal benefits to water quality. The individual farms will over time achieve more benefits in improved soil structure. The same properties had releases earlier in the year. It is unclear at this time how successful establishment or how quickly the dung beetles will multiply in Northland.

This project falls outside of the Environment Fund criteria. The potential benefits to water quality are difficult to quantify, however it is likely to be minimal, particularly if beetle numbers do not multiply quickly. Given the huge range of soil types across Northland any trial would only be a snapshot and extrapolating the results would be of limited value. The project is a trial rather than achieving a known outcome at this time and would not be able to be signed off as a completed project with visible actions completed; therefore justifying the use of the fund for this purpose is not considered appropriate.

The council supported the initial release (April 2014) of dung beetles in the Doubtless Bay Catchment through \$2,300 being provided from the land management budget. The pastoral industry is seen as the most appropriate supporter of this initiative now and into the future.

Recommendation: It is recommended that this project is not funded further by providing funding through the Environment Fund, but instead this trial is supported financially and in kind through the pastoral industry.

Delegated Authority Recommendations - July 2014


EFD No.	FWQIP	NRC STAFF MEMBER	Applicant	Previous Funding Year(s)	Previous Funding Amount(s)	Farm Type	Funding Stream	Priority Catchment	District	Brief Project Description	Amount Recommended
APP.036696	76	DEJ	Bruce Kenneth Matheson	2013	\$ 2,528.00	Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 1,284.00
APP.036903	194	DEJ	Ross Killen	2013	\$ 2,517.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Planting	\$ 1,000.00
APP.036779	232	DEJ	John & Myrtle Sanson			Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing/Planting	\$ 3,103.00
APP.151540.03.01	242	DEJ	Neville Draffin	2012	\$ 2,500.00	Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 1,369.00
APP.036664	23	LOD	Kai Iwi Farms Ltd			Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 1,325.00
APP.036760	44	LOD	Neville Donaldson	2013	\$ 4,935.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 5,325.00
APP.036777	223	LOD	Daryl Jeffrey Barge	2013	\$ 6,418.00	Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 838.40
APP.036741	225	LOD	Janice Lugtigheid			Drystock	Biodiversity		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 928.00
APP.036891	246	LOD	Graham Hodgson (Whatitiri Farm)			Drystock	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 7,000.00
APP.036708	105	ASE	Heaven on Earth (Limited)			Drystock/Lifestyle	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 2,570.00
APP.036215.04	166	ASE	Oraiti Farms Ltd	2013 x2	\$ 9,550.00	Dairy	Water Quality	Doubtless Bay	Far North	Fencing	\$ 1,812.50
APP.036830	234	ASE	Matt King (RM & SL King Partnership)			Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 2,372.50
APP.036835	237	ASE	Norman Wilde			Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 3,880.00
APP.036836	238	ASE	Larry Matthews			Drystock	Water Quality	Doubtless Bay	Far North	Planting	\$ 2,000.00
APP.036838	239	ASE	Joseph Leslie			Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 5,796.00
APP.036841	240	ASE	Brian Kay Otway (BK Otway & Co Ltd)			Drystock	Water Quality	Waitangi	Far North	Planting	\$ 1,000.00
APP.036933	245	ASE	Tony Lunjevich			Dairy Support	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 4,936.50
APP.036931	250	ASE	Sutton Drystock Farms (Ltd)			Drystock	Water Quality	Doubtless Bay	Far North	Fencing	\$ 6,794.00
APP.036932	251	ASE	Otengi Farms Ltd			Drystock	Coastal	Doubtless Bay	Far North	Fencing	\$ 5,550.00
TOTAL										\$	58,883.90

Approved Under Delegated Authority


Bruce Howse
Land & Rivers Senior Programme Manager

Date: 3/7/14

Summary Sighted by Councillor


Bill Shephard
Chairman - Northland Regional Council

Date: 03/07/14

Delegated Authority Recommendations - August 2014

EFD No.	FWQIP	NRC Staff Member	Applicant	Previous Funding Year(s)	Previous Funding Amount(s)	Farm Type	Funding Stream	Priority Catchment	District	Brief Project Description	Amount Recommended
APP 036990	37	ROM	Keith Randal Edwards	2013	\$ 5,000.00	Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 5,000.00
APP 037012	38	ROM	Rae Farm	2013	\$ 3,080.00	Dairy	Water Quality	Mangere	Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 530.00
APP 036166.02.01	114	ROM	ITR Ag Limited	2013	\$ 2,870.00	Dairy	Water Quality	Mangere	Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 4,395.00
APP 037037	138	ROM	Glen Elvie Trust (Robert & Deborah Hastie)	2012 & 2013	\$ 12,550.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 6,110.00
APP 036169.02.01	149	ROM	DB Douglas Limited	2013	\$ 4,845.00	Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 5,000.00
APP 036953	243	ROM	John and Jennifer Waterhouse			Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 2,080.00
APP 036953.02.01	256	ROM	John and Jennifer Waterhouse (May Tito)			Drystock	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 2,040.00
APP 036778	51	LOD	John Jochems	2013	\$ 2,421.50	Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 2,475.00
APP 036994	71	LOD	Murphy Mahanga	2013	\$ 1,500.00	Drystock	Biodiversity		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 3,400.00
APP 036963	248	LOD	Alex McLennan & Yvonne Ritchie			Drystock	Water Quality	Whangarei Harbour	Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 3,076.00
APP 036991	253	LOD	Chris Lapiush			Drystock	Biodiversity		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 2,520.00
APP 037028	264	LOD	Whangarei Museum & Heritage Trust			Drystock	Biodiversity		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 467.50
APP 036971	184	KWE	RJ & LG McGregor Limited			Drystock	Water Quality	Mangere	Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 3,000.00
APP 037022	186	KWE	Hugh Jarvis	2013	\$ 1,145.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Kaipara	Planting	\$ 1,000.00
APP 036977	87	KWE	Kenneth Hames	2012 & 2013	\$ 7,040.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 2,850.00
APP 037029	254	KWE	Paton Family Trust	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 3,958.00
APP 036947	255	KWE	Nick Roundtree on behalf Kohatu Toa	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 2,500.00
APP 037035	110	DEJ	David & Doris Smith	2013	\$ 2,580.00	Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Planting	\$ 875.00
APP 036809	126	DEJ	Ricard Cauffield & Katrin Seumenicht	2013	\$ 3,250.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 3,487.50
APP 036659	222	DEJ	John David Coates			Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 4,840.00
APP 036818	233	DEJ	MC & HM Smith			Drystock	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing & Planting	\$ 3,591.00
APP 036829	236	DEJ	Hugh Edward Tennent			Drystock	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 3,468.00
APP 036929	249	DEJ	Alan & Jill Moscrip			Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing & Planting	\$ 3,585.00
APP 036965	252	DEJ	Scott Candy & Karlene Jordan			Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing & Planting	\$ 4,877.00
APP 037028	267	DEJ	Kevin & Gayle McBeth			Drystock	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 1,956.00
APP 036872	N/A	DEJ	Chad & Angelique Bennett	2013	\$ 1,180.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 2,500.00
APP 037016	N/A	BRG	Barbara Searle, DOC & KDC			Dune Lake Retirement	Biodiversity	Pouito Dune Lakes	Kaipara	Planting	\$ 4,000.00
APP 037023	262	BRG	Allister McCahon			Dairy	Water Quality	Pouito	Kaipara	Planting	\$ 1,300.00
APP 036755	228	BRG	David Linton (Kaipara View Farming Ltd)			Beef and Dairy	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 7,000.00

APP 037055	N/A	LAS	Waipu Cove Domain Board (Camp Waipu Cove)		Coastal	Dunes		Whangarei	Planting	\$	5,740.00
APP 036355.02.01	9	ASE	Kerry Ludbrook	N/A	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Planting	\$	1,000.00
APP 151907.06.01	102	ASE	Campbell Farms Maromaku Ltd	2013	Dairy	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$	3,197.50
APP 36793.02.01	106	ASE	The Broadacre Farms Trust	2013	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$	6,984.95
APP 037041	154	ASE	Micnat Farms Ltd	2013	Dairy	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing & Planting	\$	1,792.80
APP 036674.02.01	157	ASE	Ngamaia Farms Ltd	2013	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$	6,993.60
APP 036558.02.01	210	ASE	Te Huia Farming Trust	2013	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$	6,302.50
APP 036647.02.01	219	ASE	Waireia Trust	2013	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$	5,905.00
APP 037040	257	ASE	Awapiko Family Trust	N/A	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$	2,746.00
APP 037027	258	ASE	Michael & Ursula Eyer	N/A	Lifestyle	Biodiversity		Far North	Planting	\$	3,400.00
APP 036959	77	ASE	AE & P Douglas	2013	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$	5,949.90
APP 036931	250	ASE	Sutton Drystock Farms (Limited)	N/A	Drystock	Water Quality	Doubleless Bay	Far North	Fencing	\$	6,794.00
APP 037034	259	ASE	Lynn Brothers Farming	N/A	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$	7,000.00
APP 037033	260	ASE	Beach Road Farms 1896 Limited	N/A	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$	7,000.00
APP 037008	261	ASE	Desmond Simpkin (Glendale Farms)	N/A	Drystock	Biodiversity		Far North	Fencing	\$	5,010.00
APP 037044	266	ASE	Maxwell Grant Wakelin	N/A	Lifestyle	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing & Planting	\$	5,480.00
TOTAL										\$	172,877.25

Approved Under Delegated Authority



Bruce Howse
Land & Rivers Senior Programme Manager

Date: 12/8/14

Summary Sighted by Councillor

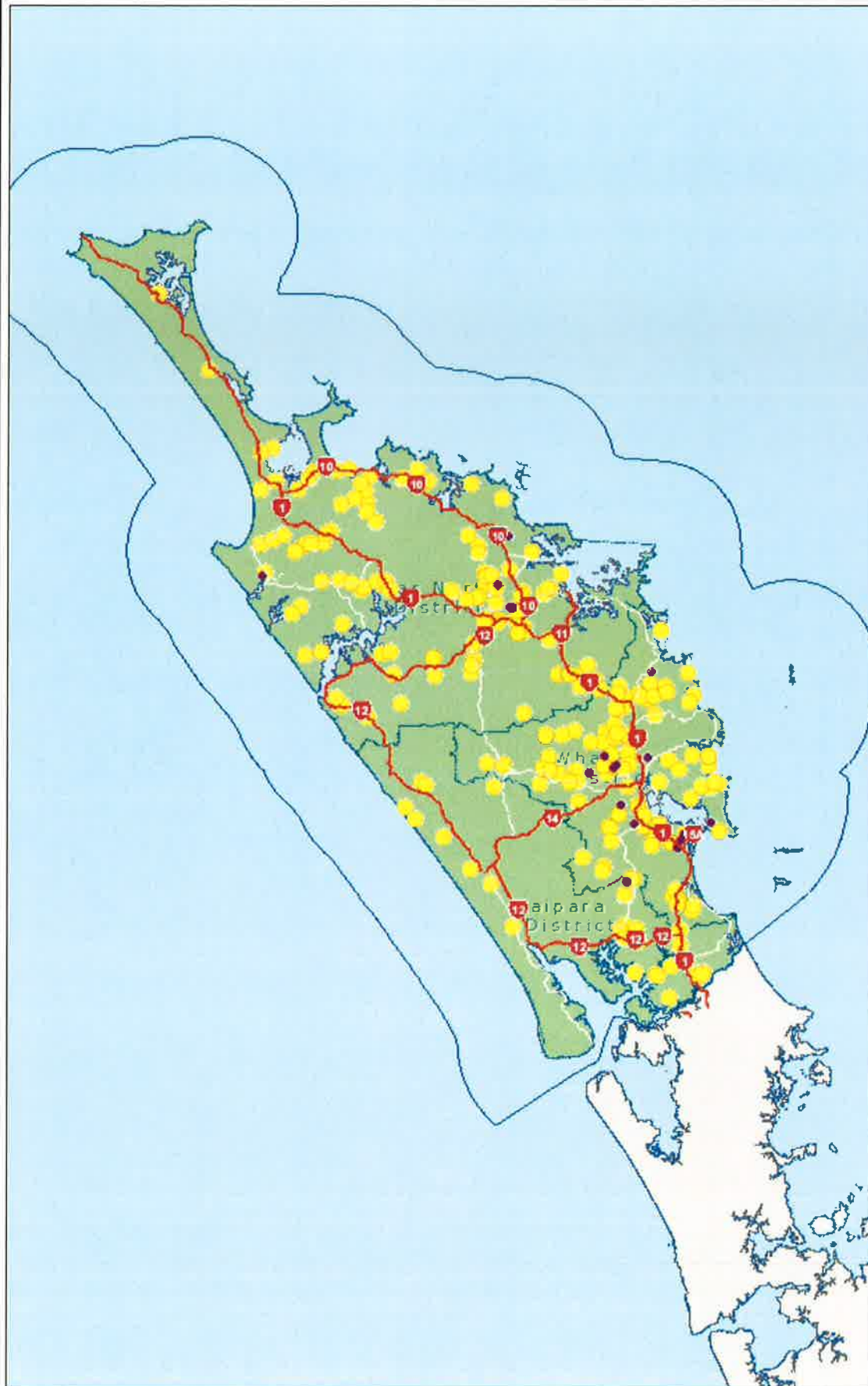


Bill Shephard
Chairman - Northland Regional Council

Date: 12/8/14

CHAIRMAN
NAC ENV MGMT COMMITTEE

Date Printed: 13 August 2014



Legend



- FWQIP Requests
- FWQIP Grant Application

This map is a user generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable.

THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

SCALE 1: 1,480,666

75.2

0

75.2 Kilometers

Projection: NZGD_2000_New_Zealand_Transverse_Mercator



Biosecurity Fund Applications 2014/15

Status: Proposed

Site name	NRC estimated cost	Biofund area (Ha)	Number of owners	Project summary/ justification
Bay Bush Action Bio Fund 2014-2017	\$6000.00	500.0	1	Protection of a large area of high value forest by motivated landowners. The grant will supplement the works undertaken by the owners to trap the area and control pests.
Riverlands biofund 2014-17	\$1000.00	70.0	5	This application is for 2 extra properties which are joining Riverlands and increasing their area which is under effective pest control. Riverland has done an excellent job at controlling animal pests and are now showing the benefits in increased bird life including kiwi which are coming from the adjacent Doc Reserve.
Biofund 2012-15 & 2014-17 Langs Cove estate	\$1600.00	212.0	35	A large area of natural forest which requires possum control and owners are willing to maintain low possum numbers using Timms traps.
Tawapou Biosecurity Fund Application 2014-2017	\$2650.00	125.0	2	Large scale rodent control through all native forest areas. Large coastal property with regenerating bush. Currently trapping mustelids.
Biofund 2014-17 Waipu Sandspit and Ruakaka reserve	\$1600.00	120.0	2	Control of rabbits over a high value coastal habitat to prevent damage rabbits are having on sanddune ecology, and rare seabird populations (eg fairy tern)
Whareora Landcare Biofund 2014-2017	\$12000.00	1700.0	12	Large scale community led pest control project reducing rodent and possum populations on private land. This group is wanting to expand the current area being controlled and control a wider range of animal and weed pests than what has previously been done.

Site name	NRC estimated cost	Biofund area (Ha)	Number of owners	Project summary/ justification
Doug Blaxall Biosecurity Fund Project 2014-17	\$1000.00	40.0	2	This project provides integrated pest control materials for a QEII protected, large forest remnant. Forest remnant is rated in DOC reports as significant, due to limited amount of native forest left in the Hoanga area (Dargaville).
Winiwini Kingi	\$1100.00	25.0	1	A good stand of natives - owner has been doing previous work himself.
Nicki Wakefield	\$3400.00	108.0	2	Very worthwhile project - dedicated owners block with high values.
Biofund 2014-17 Donegan	\$750.00	7.0	1	Adjacent Marunui conservation area likely to have kiwis on their place.
Biofund 2014-17 Violet Sade	\$1000.00	61.0	7	A high value (top 50) wetland requiring pest control and motivated owners who can sustain the work.
South Kerikeri Inlet Landcare Group	\$7000.00	660.0	40	To create a pest free habitat for kiwi which are already in some of the landcare group area.
biofund 2017-14 Dawson Allely	\$5400.00	51.2	1	Adjoins existing biofund area, and has continual native bush. Near Trounson Kauri Park.
Lake Rototuna Biosecurity Fund Project 2014-17	\$1000.00	30.0	3	Integrated pest control for 3 lifestyle properties, adjacent and includes Lake Rototuna, Pouto.

Site name	NRC estimated cost	Biofund area (Ha)	Number of owners	Project summary/ justification
Phil Tebbitt Biosecurity Fund Project 2014-17	\$1000.00	200.0	1	Integrated pest control to protect native wildlife & vegetation in adjacent DOC reserve & Lake Kahuparere, Pouto.
Kaimamaku Landcare Biosecurity Fund 2014-2017	\$3000.00	3000.0	10	Landcare group addressing pests over a large area.
Michael Barry Biosecurity Fund 2014-2017	\$500.00	1.0	1	Coastal Headland property, surrounded by district council reserve. Project proposes to manage animals within reserve as well.
Kellys Bay Improvement Society.	\$1000.00	200.0	10	Project is to provide additional assistance & enlarge predator trapping program to protect NZ dotterel, spotless crane etc on DOC reserve & forestry property. Project is managed by the Kellys Bay Improvement Society, Pouto.
Summit Forestry Bio Fund 2014-2017	\$4000.00	8000.0	1	Protection of ground dwelling /sea birds.
Kohinui Catchment LGC	\$5500.00	125.0	23	A significant area of natural forest which is being damaged by possums- the project also includes some weed control.
Wayne Clarkson Biosecurity Fund Project 2014-17	\$500.00	8.0	1	Integrated pest control for a lifestyle property/forest remnant to protect resident kiwi; located near Waipoua Forest.

Site name	NRC estimated cost	Biofund area (Ha)	Number of owners	Project summary/ justification
Wayne Lambeth Biosecurity Fund Project 2014-17	\$1000.00	200.0	1	Integrated pest control for QEII protected, native forest remnant on a 200 ha property on the Maungaru Range, SH 14 Tangowahine.
Dargaville High School (Argentine Ant) Biosecurity Fund Project 2014-17	\$500.00	1.0	1	Project to control argentine ants in a native tree nursery managed by Dargaville High School. Native trees are likely to be used by NRC Environment Fund projects.
Doug and Shona Rowe	\$1500.00	270.0	1	Property owners enthusiastic - most of bush classed as significant natural area.
Brett Blackmore Bio Fund 2014-17	\$1000.00	80.0	1	Project proposes integrated pest control to build on the limited existing possum control on this 80 ha property, which is 40 % coastal forest remnants, adjacent to the Kaipara Harbour.
Grant Faber Biosecurity Fund Agreement 2014-2017	\$500.00	40.0	1	Possum control on several properties around Kauri Mountain coastal area.
Duncan Road Trappers -Bio Fund 2014-2017	\$3000.00	609.0	20	New group that adjoins an already existing landcare group, so they are extending the area.
Tauraroa Area School Murray Babe	\$3000.00	197.0	1	Farm will be used by the school as a training area for Project possum to gain unit standards.

Site name	NRC estimated cost	Biofund area (Ha)	Number of owners	Project summary/ justification
Bruce Clare Biofund 2014-2017	\$1000.00	200.0	1	Integrated pest control for this 200 ha property, includes predator control to enhance native bird life in a significant wetland, adjacent to Lake Waikare (Ski Lake), Taharoa Domain & possum control for coastal pohutukawa.
Mike Riddle	\$2150.00	14.0	1	two kiwi listening devices included which will be used in the wider area.
James Buckland Biofund 2014-2017	\$1600.00	24.0	1	Landowner wanting to reduce animal pests. Very keen and enthusiastic landowner. Has fenced off gullies and waterways.
Total	\$76,250.00	16878.0		
Minimum	\$500.00	1.0		
Maximum	\$12,000.00	8000.0		
Average	\$2459.68	544.45		

Biosecurity Fund Applications 2014/15

Status: Deferred

Site name	NRC estimated cost	Biofund area (Ha)	Number of owners	Project summary/ justification
Taipa Area School Bio Fund 2014-2017	\$3500.00	200.0	5	Pest control projects within the Taipa area, as a follow on from the enviro schools project.
McLennan Biosecurity Fund 2014-2017	\$1500.00	83.0	1	Large farm property backing on to Tangihua Forest. Needs assistance to establish pest control. Runs Youth education programme from Property.
Jeanne Cole Biosecurity Fund 2014-2017	\$1000.00	54.0	1	Problems with possums and rabbits. Mustelid trapping is occurring in the area.
Richard Henry Biofund 2014-2017	\$1700.00	156.0	1	Property backs on to Marunui conservation and also adjacent to other properties in the area doing pest control.
Helen and Mike Flight Biosecurity Fund Project 2014-17	\$500.00	3.0	1	Project involves multi-species control to assist existing possum control in a forest remnant on a lifestyle property and assists wildlife corridors to adjacent properties.
David Waterhouse Biosecurity Fund 2014-2017	\$2500.00	214.0	1	Kiwi were historically present on property. Large wetland bordering property (Jack Bissett).
Warren Blair Biosecurity Fund 2014-2017	\$2000.00	540.0	1	Large farm property surrounded by forestry, property borders Kai Iwi Lakes.
Biofund 2014-17 Reade Murray	\$1000.00	32.0	1	This is a forest property between other biofund areas and will help protect a much wider area of high value forest from possums, rats and wild cats.

Site name	NRC estimated cost	Biofund area (Ha)	Number of owners	Project summary/ justification
Glenn Walker Bio Fund 2014-2017	\$1000.00	20.0	1	This project is expected to reduce the impact possums and rats are having on an orchard, although environmental values are low economic value of pest control to the owner is high and they are motivated to sustain the works.
Kathryn White Biosecurity Fund 2014-2017	\$500.00	5.0	1	Property is surrounded by native bush, would be trapping outside of property area also.
Biofund 2014-17 Hicks Ody Road argentine ants	\$800.00	0.9	1	argentine ants project Whg heads adjacent previously treated area Ody road.
Paul Ulenberg Biosecurity Fund 2014-2017	\$300.00	4.5	1	Small property, felled forestry stand will be left to regenerate in to Native.
	\$16300.00	1312		
	\$300.00	1.00		
	\$3500.00	540.00		
	\$1358.33	109.33		

**ISSUE: Review of Regional Pest Management Strategies -
Review of the Proposed Timeline**

ID: A667504

To: Environmental Management Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager

Date: 11 August 2014

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

Executive Summary:

At the June EMC meeting, committee members were provided an update on the Biosecurity workshop held on 26 May. The key issues were highlighted, and a timeline presented of the key steps of the process.

The formal statutory process of public consultation was planned to begin in early 2015 with the aim of producing a revised Regional Pest Management Plan and Marine Pathways Plan by July 2015. However, following talks with the Auckland Council review team and Ministry for Primary Industries it would be beneficial to extend the timeline for the Northland RPMS review by 6-8 months. The two main reasons to extend the timeline involve a delay by the Ministry for Primary Industries in producing the National Policy Direction and achieving closer alignment with the Auckland strategy.

1. National Policy Direction

The development of the National Policy Direction (NPD) required by the Biosecurity Act has been delayed again. We were advised earlier in the year that the document would be released in June, but have now heard it is likely to be February 2015 (further delays are likely if there is a change of government and Minister). The NPD will contain directions on the process and content of Regional Pest Management Plans, as well as their implementation, monitoring and good neighbour rules. The new RPMP will be required by the Act to be consistent with the National Policy Statement. If we progress on our original timeline, we will be notifying a proposed RPMP prior to receiving the NPD. Once the NPD is approved we would have to undertake a review of our new RPMP to ensure there were no inconsistencies, and if there were, we would have to undertake our RPMP review process again to resolve any. The risk is that this could be a time consuming and costly process.

2. Coordination with Auckland

Section 12B of the Act specifies that regional councils have a leadership role in pest management and that part of that role is to promote co-ordination of pest management between regions. We have begun discussions with Auckland Council regarding collaboration and where possible alignment of species and rules in both regions new RPMPs. Auckland Council have also just begun their review

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process, but due to the delay of the NPD and the complexities of consultation in Auckland, they plan to notify their proposed RPMP mid 2015 (while we had planned to notify ours in January 2015). Delaying our process to coincide with the also delayed Auckland process will allow for closer alignment and future coordination of implementation.

Although the above delay for notification of the RPMS review is proposed the discussion document is proceeding as planned and staff are aiming at having a draft of this document ready for committee members at the October Environmental Management Committee, and to undertake consultation with key stakeholders over the following few months. We also need to ensure that we have made enough progress with the review to align with the LTP consultation period.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are part of the council's day to day operations, are provided for in the council's 2012-2022 Long Term Plan, and are in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76-82 of the Local Government Act 2002. The matters are not significant under council policy and are in accordance with the above legislation and Biosecurity Act 1993.

Recommendation:

-
1. That the report Review of Regional Pest Management Strategies – Review of the Proposed Timeline by Don McKenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager and dated 11 August 2014, be received.
 2. That the Committee agree to the revised timing for formal notification of the Regional Pest Management Plan in July 2015.
-

ISSUE: Biosecurity Responses update

ID: A667899

To: Environmental Management Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager

Date: 11 August 2014

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

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to update the Environmental Management Committee on Kai iwi lakes, kauri dieback, and marine pests.

Kai iwi lakes

Pest control at Kai iwi lakes is ramping up over winter and an update to all landowners surrounding the lakes has been mailed out to ensure they are kept informed.

Work has begun to remove several hectares of wilding pines and pampas behind Pine Beach campground and this work is expected to continue through the winter and spring. Additional weed control to remove wattles, target feral pigs, trap possums, stoats and wild cats will also be undertaken over the next three months. Monitoring the recovery of wildlife is also planned. Key actions over the last two months include:

- Five pigs removed past two weeks, culls to begin next Monday (to be supervised by Biosecurity staff);
- Fish traps will be deployed in a new test location next week as existing equipment was damaged during the storm;
- Spraying of research trial plots to begin this week, second seedling measurements to be conducted in October;
- Officers discover what is thought to be of small population of *Drosera pygmaea* (Critically Endangered) at Kai Iwi (pending taxonomic conformation); and
- Identification of the invasive aquatic weed *Ludwigia peploides* in a river that skirts Kai Iwi Lakes system – further investigation of site margins to begin once the river has receded.

Research is also underway to find out the best way to manage selected weeds such as brush wattle to ensure unwanted nutrients are prevented from draining into the lakes. NIWA advice on this issue is being sought and staff recently met with science providers to design a trial removal and nutrient measurement of selected weeds.

Regular communication with adjoining landowners is underway and Kaipara District Council staff are part of the planning process and also provide advice on operational issues.

Kauri dieback

A preliminary meeting of the Northland Regional co-ordinating team was held in July to ensure all joint agency staff in the region were aware of the new programme and additional resourcing assigned.

Actions arising from the meeting included:

- There is a need to identify high value kauri forest on private land which is free of kauri dieback and ensure the landowners are aware of how they can maintain this disease free status.
- An audit of signage at key visitor access ways to Kauri forest will be undertaken and where necessary additional signs warning of the risk of spreading the disease erected.
- Small scale management plans are needed for several private properties and larger scale plans will be required where extensive areas of infection across the landscape are detected.
- An extensive kauri dieback survey of Northland over the next 12 months is required to inform management.
- Research trials testing the effectiveness of phosphine to control the disease are being undertaken in Northland on Crown forest and further trials on private land could be considered.

A report back on progress on the above will be presented to the committee at the October Meeting.

Marine pests

NIWA dive teams have completed their survey of high risk ports in Northland and no new marine invasives were recorded from Opuia or Whangarei harbors. However the invasive sea squirt *Botrylloides giganteum* was collected from Marsden Cove marina in February. This species has the potential to smother reefs, mussel beds and aquaculture structures and a survey to determine the extent of the infestation was initiated by MPI. It was found that the colony had died back during winter and it was decided that during the summer port surveillance, MPI, NIWA and NRC would attempt another survey and determine a way forward.

Control of existing fanworm populations at Marsden Cove has progressed and divers have removed fanworm from the structures in Stage 1 of Marsden Cove marina and part of Stage 2. Overall, adult fanworm populations have reduced by up to 80% from the previous year but recruitment of juveniles is still significant.

A resource consent application has been submitted to use heavy duty plastic to wrap piles at port Nikau and smother fanworm. Further evaluation of this technique's suitability for Northland conditions is being undertaken. If successful, pile wrapping will commence in September.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The council 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 matter is considered to be of low significance, as the report is only provided to be received for information.

Recommendation:

-
1. That the report Biosecurity Responses update by Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager and dated 11 August 2014, be received.
-

ISSUE: River Management Update

ID: A668238

To: Environmental Management Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Joseph Camuso, Rivers Programme Manager

Date: 13 August 2014

Report Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Normal operations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Information	<input type="checkbox"/>	Decision
Purpose:	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	Other
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/>	High	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Low

Executive Summary: The purpose of this report is to give council an update on the River Management programme. During July and August River Liaison Committee meetings were held with each of the seven River Liaison Committees - Awanui, Kaeo, Kerikeri, Waitangi, Kaihu, Ruakaka, and Whangarei scheduled on 18 August 2014. The draft minutes are attached.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The council 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 matter is considered to be of low significance, as the report is only provided to be received for information.

Recommendation:

-
1. That the report - Rivers Management Update by Joseph Camuso, Rivers Programme Manager dated 13 August 2014 be received.
 2. That the minutes of the following liaison committee meetings be received:
 - a. Ruakaka River Liaison Committee, 23 July 2014
 - b. Awanui River Liaison Committee, 1 August 2014
 - c. Kaihu River Liaison Committee, 5 August 2014
 - d. Waitangi River Liaison Committee, 6 August 2014
 - e. Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee, 6 August 2014
 - f. Kaeo River Whangaroa Catchment Liaison Committee, 12 August 2014
-

Report and Summary of Liaison Committee Meetings

Awanui –The Awanui River Liaison Committee resolved for staff to progress with the option of lowering the Whangatane Spillway intake by 500mm in isolation with the other elements of the Preliminary Scheme Design upgrade. This will allow the spillway to be active earlier and later in a storm event.

The Committee also discussed and agreed on the proposed 2014-2015 works programme. Staff will prepare the work documents with the intention on tendering in September. Scheduled drain maintenance cleaning for the cut-off drains and horizontal drains on Bell's Hill Slip have been completed.

Model Upgrade: Staff intend to use the GHD hydraulic model to simulate scheme improvement options and produce flood maps for the Liaison Committee to consider.

Preliminary Scheme design work – Tonkin & Taylor

Tonkin & Taylor have completed model simulations for the design scenario originally proposed by Haigh Workman, which includes spillways alongside the SH1 to reduce overflow to the Tarawhataroa.

Project outputs, including preliminary design drawings and rough order costings, were presented to the Liaison Committee in July. The committee resolved to progress with lowering of the Whangatane Spillway intake weir in isolation of the other elements.

KAEO

Stage 1 Deflection Bank Works are substantially complete, only minor re-fencing and regrading works are outstanding. The Kaeo River Liaison Committee resolved to monitor the effectiveness of Stage 1 Works and to have staff further investigate a revised Stage 2 (consisting of relocating the confluence of the Kaeo River and Waikare Stream downstream to reduce backwater flooding of the Kaeo Township) for the committee's future consideration.

Staff have met with the affected landowners from Stage 1 works and have developed a list of remaining works, typically minor regrading, fencing and water line installation.

KERIKERI- WAIPAPA

The Kerikeri River Liaison Committee resolved to delay the construction of the proposed high level spillway for 12 months, until additional work is completed on assessing feasibility of a storage/multipurpose dam.

A resource consent application for the Kerikeri Spillway project will be logged by the end of August. An extensive Hydrologic Report to accompany the AEE and application has been prepared.

Waitangi – The committee resolved that the remainder of the targeted "drill and kill" willow work from last year's programme be completed for this 2014-2015 work season.

WHANGAREI

The Kotuku Street detention dam tender has been awarded and construction is scheduled to start October 2014. The services relocation contract (to relocate utilities around the footprint of the dam) is complete and the demolition contract (demolition of 8 houses within the dam footprint) is scheduled to start 1 September. The Kotuku

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Street Detention Dam will complete Phase 2 of the flood mitigation strategy for Whangarei. Staff plan on outlining Phase 3 "The Greenways" (grass lined flood corridor through the Whangarei CBD) at the next Liaison Committee meeting scheduled for 18 August 2014.

KAIHU

A workshop was held, where detention dams were a major part of the discussion. It was noted that Northland Inc. has applied to the Ministry for Primary Industries for funding to carry out a regional irrigation dam feasibility study. It was decided to await progress with this study prior to the committee progressing dam investigations in the Kaihu catchment. Staff have offered to supply interested parties with existing dam investigation reports, funding options and other desktop studies that may help inform this discussion.

Staff have met with landowners during the flooding events and have noticed areas that could have improvement from river works. Staff have modified this year's works programme to include these areas.

Ruakaka – The committee resolved that staff are to prepare a presentation on the potential cost of proposed river clearance works. Staff to estimate costs for river clearance work (log jam and fallen tree removal) and around improving the SH-1 Bridge conveyance in areas where flooding affects houses and property: this will help the committee to make an informed cost/benefit decision and to decide if there is demand for a catchment wide targeted rate to pay for the works.

NGUNGURU

A resource consent application has been drafted for gravel extraction on the Ngunguru River, and staff are meeting with local residents and Iwi to discuss this proposal, with the view of submitting the application in September.

MINOR RIVERS

A priority list for the minor rivers works has been prepared. Works will begin in late spring or when site conditions allow.

LAKE OMAPERE

The heavy rainfall events of June and July resulted in a 1 to 1.2m rise in the level of Lake Omapere which resulted in flooding of a significant area of a low lying portion of a lakeside farm. Concerns were raised by some that the remains of an old rock fish barrier near the lake outlet channel and vegetation in the channel were restricting outflow and causing the flooding.

In response, council rivers and hydrology staff have investigated to determine what, if anything could be done. The site has been inspected several times since the July rain events. Staff have made lake level observations and flow gaugings of outflow channel, calculated lake storage curve from LiDAR survey data, conducted water level recession measurements, calculated slope measurements from LiDAR survey, analysed recent rain gauge data and made comparison's with historic recession measurements. These investigations found that lake level rise due to the June - July rainfall events of approximately 1 to 1.2m equates to approximately 12.4 to 15.2 million cubic meters of additional water in the lake. The gauged flow of the outflow channel was 3 cubic metres per second. The recession time to drain the lake level back to pre-July rainfall levels would be approximately 45 to 55 days, the recession could however flatten out and be longer with lower head and especially with any

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additional rainfall. The current recession rate for this event is very similar to the recession rate for historical large events (pre the fish barrier). A 1975 event had recession rates of 100mm/week reducing to 50 mm/week over a 60+ day recession. The remains of the old rock fish barrier were submerged with no observed head loss.

From the investigations it was concluded that: The remains of the old fish barrier was at the time having no material impact on the lake level or outflow and that cleaning of the channel bed and side vegetation would only result in minor increases in outflow and lessening of recession time. Therefore there was nothing that could be done to quickly reduce the flooding and that taking action to require the clearing of the old fish barrier and vegetation was not justified.

NRC will continue to monitor the situation as the lake level recedes and reconsider the position should any obstructions be causing any significant adverse effects. In the meantime council staff have raised the issue of outflow channel vegetation clearance with channel side landowners and could assist in arranging landowner approvals should vegetation clearance work be required or should those with the flooded property wish to undertake the works. We also understand that the Lake Omapere trustees, the representatives of the owners of the lake bed, are to consider their position on the clearing of the remnants of the old rock fish barrier and vegetation at a meeting on 25 August.

LAKE ROTOTUNA

Staff have made an initial site inspection, and have recommended topographical survey which is scheduled over the next few weeks as time and priority permits.

NATURAL HAZARDS

New Zealand Aerial Mapping have commenced LIDAR survey for Waipu, Whangarei, Dargaville and Ruawai areas. Survey flights have been delayed due to weather and the company being in receivership. Whilst in receivership, the company is still operating and has confirmed that it intends to complete remaining elements of the contract. Waipu survey is 100% complete, Whangarei is 70% complete, and Dargaville / Ruawai areas are yet to be surveyed. This data is being acquired to support future flood mapping and coastal hazard assessments.

RUAKAKA RIVER LIAISON COMMITTEE

Report of the Inaugural meeting of the Ruakaka River Liaison Committee, held on
Wednesday 23 July 2014
Council Chambers, Northland Regional Council, Water Street, Whangarei.
commencing at 10.30 am

Present :

Committee Members

Craig Brown	Chair
Juliane Chetham	Iwi representative
Tom Pow	Ratepayer representative
Peter Batten	Ruakaka Residents and Ratepayers Association
Georgina Newmann	NZTA
Lynnie Gibson	Department of Conservation

Also in Attendance

Joe Carr	Northland Regional Council
Bruce Howse	Northland Regional Council
Nola Sooner	Northland Regional Council
Joseph Camuso	Northland Regional Council
Nick Gordon	Northland Regional Council
Warren Daniel	Member of the public

APOLOGIES

John Kooge, NZTA

Moved (Batten/Pow)

That the apology from John Kooge, NZTA for absence be received.

Carried

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBER

Craig tabled a letter received from Ruakaka Residents and Ratepayers Association nominating Warren Daniel as an additional representative to the Ruakaka River Liaison Committee.

It was noted that the Committee has one vacancy for a ratepayer representative which has not yet been filled.

Craig referred attendees to the Terms of Reference and noted the Northland Regional Council shall select the Liaison Committee ratepayer representatives from nominations received based on the experience and familiarity of the nominees with the Ruakaka River catchment management issues. If there are insufficient nominations to fill the ratepayer positions on the Liaison Committee, the Council shall invite appropriate landholders to join the Committee.

Moved (Brown/Batten)

That Warren Daniel is appointed to the Ruakaka River Liaison Committee as a Ratepayer representative.

Carried

REVIEW OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Bruce summarised the Terms of Reference and advised the Ruakaka River Liaison Committee is a sub-committee of and appointed by the Northland Regional Council and comprises of:

- One Regional Councillor appointed by the Northland Regional Council who shall be the chair of the Committee (Cr Craig Brown)
- One Whangarei District Councillor as a representative of the Whangarei District Council (Cr Phil Halse)
- One (or more) iwi representatives, nominated by local iwi (Juliane Chetham)
- Three representatives of the ratepayers of the river catchment, preferably representing a geographical cross-section of the catchment ratepayers from upper catchment areas through to lower catchment areas (Margaret Hicks, Tom Pow, Warren Daniel)
- One representative of the Ruakaka Residents and Ratepayers Association (Peter Batten)
- One representative of the New Zealand Transport Agency (John Kooge)
- One representative of the Department of Conservation (Lynnie Gibson)
- And any other person that the Environmental Management Committee may from time to time appoint to the committee because of their particular skills or knowledge.

Bruce advised appointments are made for a term of three years, in sequence with the local government elections, or until earlier disqualification, death or resignation. Should any of the latter three events arise, replacement appointees may be made by the Northland Regional Council.

It was noted that meetings will generally be run in accordance with New Zealand T-Standard Model Standing Orders (NZS 9202:2003).

Objective:

To advise and make recommendations to the Northland Regional Council, via the Environmental Management Committee, on all matters pertaining to the development and implementation of the Ruakaka River Management Plan.

Functions:

The Ruakaka River Liaison Committee is an advisory committee of the Northland Regional Council and has no delegated authority or specific powers. Its functions are to:

1. Provide a stakeholder forum for the development of policies and plans for the reduction of river flood risk within the Ruakaka catchment.
2. Enable stakeholders to participate in the ongoing management of river flood risk reduction within the Ruakaka catchment.

3. Facilitate communications between the Northland Regional Council, which is ultimately responsible for the development and implementation of Management Plans to reduce river flood risk, and the residents and landholders within the Ruakaka catchment.

4. Advise the Northland Regional Council on all matters relating to the development and implementation of the Ruakaka River Management Plan.

It was noted specific tasks include:

1. Assisting the Northland Regional Council to develop and refine a River Management Plan for the reduction of flood risk in the Ruakaka catchment.

2. Reviewing the implementation and effectiveness of other measures identified in the River Management Plan to reduce flood risk, including policies and rules in Regional and District Plans, controls under the Building Act, or any other methods.

Craig advised that meetings are held generally as required – typically once or twice per annum.

Warren noted that the Ruakaka River Liaison Committee does not touch on water quality issues. Craig advised the purpose of this Committee is to remove risk to communities through flooding and other natural events. The quality of water in this catchment is covered in other areas of NRC's workload. Should there be a need to have a whole of catchment type Committee to look at water quality, there will be an opportunity to have a liaison Committee for that purpose. Craig noted that ex-tropical Cyclone Wilma event in January 2011 was probably the reason why this Committee was formed as it shows the damage that a one off event can make. He emphasised the main issues of concern to NRC is people's personal safety during events.

Juliane assumed land management practices will need to be taken into account. Craig advised that if those land practices are contributing to flooding then they will need to be addressed.

Moved (Newmann/Batten)

That the Terms of Reference be accepted.

Carried

DRAFT RIVER MANAGEMENT PLAN OVERVIEW

Bruce and Joseph provided an over view of the River Management Plan. It was noted the catchment covers an area of 89.6 km². Bruce advised 68% of catchment is in pasture and 22 % is in indigenous forest.

Bruce summarised the LiDAR undertaken for the Ruakaka catchment. He noted that it is quite flat terrain through Flyger Road area. Tom illustrated on the map the area that his farm covers and what area has a tidal influence. Bruce summarised the Ruakaka River Catchment Hydrometric Network. He noted these sites are available on the Northland Regional Council's website for viewing by the public. It was noted that if there is an even distribution of rainfall, the lower area will peak earlier. In response to a query, Bruce confirmed that the blue line is the extremities of the catchment.

Bruce summarised the following flood maps:

- 10 and 100 year CC (climate change) Flood map – Craig advised NRC is obliged to take into account guidelines laid down as accepted in relation to climate change. Bruce noted that potentially if an area has not been covered by LiDAR than it would not be included on the 10 and 100 year CC Flood map. Joseph confirmed he would investigate whether the area to the right hand bottom end of the map has been included in the LiDAR.
- Design Storm Flood mapping 1% AEP CC.
- Model output – flood flow prediction – flow hydrographs for the design storms at the Flyger Road gauging station. It was noted that it is quite “peaky”.
- Cyclone Wilma January 2011 – flow summary from the NRC’s water level recording stations – estimations of river flow return periods was approximately 60 years.
- Cyclone Wilma Hourly Rainfall intensities recorded at Eastern Rain stations from 6.00pm on 28 January to 1am on 29 January (NZST – a period of seven hours – 202 ml rainfall accumulated.
- Post follow up flood level surveys were plotted against the 100 year CC Flood map. For the most part the flood level plotted between the 100 year CC and 10 year flood maps. Flood level from the model would confirm the event is within the range of a 60 year event.

ISSUES AND OPTIONS

- State Highway 1 flooding – Channel Realignment
 - Estimated rough order cost \$450,000
- State Highway 1 Flooding – Raise SH 1
 - Raise State Highway 1 - approximately 750 mm of water over State Highway 1
 - Part of NZTA route security
 - Cost estimate \$5,000,000 upwards
- Princes Road Flooding
 - Approximately 500 mm of flooding expected
 - Potential Sea Level rise could increase flooding
 - Flood proofing of homes should be explored
 - Planning restrictions
- Mangroves
 - It was noted mangroves are not as dense further upstream
 - Discussion held on the historical spread of mangroves in the area 1961 versus 2004.
 - Bruce highlighted the coastal marine area boundary.
 - From a planning perspective, everything below the bridge is a wildlife refuge advised Bruce.
 - Pastoral farming – is it causing silting? The issue is that we know that the area is susceptible to erosion said Craig.
- Bank/Cliff Erosion
 - Predominantly on the outside of meanders and adjacent point bars
 - Loss of vegetation on upper slopes evident at some key points indicating recent slope failure
 - Management options involve toe protection, channel realignment, monitoring or managed retreat.
- Other Flood Mitigation Options
 - Flood proof buildings, raising homes
 - Land use change/managed retreat
 - Land use planning

- Civil Defence
- Increase community awareness
- River works for debris removal

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Tom noted that whatever we do to the river will have a consequence. Warren suggested starting at the top making sure the bush is strong and healthy and working our way down the river. Tom advised the intensity of the water going down the river has increased due to climate change. Tom advised his farm has increased from 100 cows to 320 cows in the 30 years he has owned the property and his neighbouring farm has also doubled in size the number of cows. He noted there are more freshwater crayfish in the creek since the Wilson's dam has been installed as there is now a stable low flow regime to help support life for fish species. Tom gave a presentation and highlighted photos to illustrate river maintenance as follows:

- 18 March 2014
 - A flame tree has made the perfect barrier in the stream, natives can also achieve the same effect.
 - Trees combined with weed and creepers direct the river flow to undermine the banks.
 - Barriers force the river water to overflow the banks stopping the natural flood force from keeping the river flood defined.
- 16 June 2014
 - After cleaning most of the river blockages there was 170mm rainfall event, the river stayed well inside its natural banks with little riverbank erosion.
 - Some debris including some quite large trees were dislodged and washed down forming blockages again. It was noted weeds e.g. wild ginger will also be an ongoing problem.
 - This section of the river with natural bush borders has been fenced for nearly 30 years under the current ownership, the density of bush including large trees made the access extremely difficult. Tom advised the remains of the old river fences were also discovered during the clean-up.
 - Recently 265mm of rain fell within a three day period already on saturated ground. This event did not raise the river level more than two thirds of the way up the bank. This shows that an uncongested river can cope with its natural catchment.

Tom advised that in the past this river has a history of flooding its banks and moving cross the open farmland. He concluded by stating he believed that the river floor depth and width is moulded and sculpted by watershed events in its catchment. If the river is clean of debris such as snags and fallen trees, the river will grow with the changing environment.

Peter supported Tom's view of clearing the river further upstream. He felt that downstream and the directional flow of the river also needs to be addressed.

Juliane supported soft engineering options over hard engineering options. She felt a flood corridor and retiring land could be beneficial.

Lynnie supported clearing the stream blockage. Regarding the directional flow, she felt that it should be looked at. She supported riparian planting and noted NRC has a booklet available for the public on riparian planting. Lynnie would like to have some recommendations from some specialists to take back to DOC.

Georgina agreed in general. She felt a river inspection to quantify the actual cost over the potential benefit needs to be undertaken. The canopy level above the flood plain needs to be addressed. Maintenance is the key. Craig noted that any planting undertaken needs to be done with care.

Joseph noted that by clearing the streams it will increase the flow and velocity of flood flows and therefore increase erosion – so there is a trade off as to the benefits. He suggested trimming and limbing the trees is a good option, and allowing the river to overtop its banks naturally in area where it is not causing flood risk.

Bruce advised that staff will prepare a presentation on the potential cost of proposed work which will be addressed at the next Ruakaka River Liaison Committee meeting. Craig noted the Ruakaka River Liaison Committee requires science and data to back up any proposed options. Tom requested science be provided by staff on the river to show climate change and separate out what is river growth and what is erosion. Craig noted Ruakaka River Liaison Committee representatives need to relay relevant information back to their communities. Craig acknowledged there are conflicting demands which will need to be taken into account.

Craig thanked everyone for their input which was greatly valued.

The meeting closed at 12.30 p.m.

The next meeting date will be advised in due course.

Minutes of the meeting of the Awanui River Liaison Committee, held on Friday 1 August 2014 at the Te Ahu Centre, Church Road, Kaitaia, commencing at 10.30 a.m.

Committee Members present:

Dennis Bowman	(NRC - Councillor)
Joe Carr	(NRC - Councillor)
Fiona King	(Kaitaia Drainage Board)
Gary May	(Southern Area)
Joe King	(Eastern Area)
Michael Masters	(Western Area)
Mate Radich	(FNDC Councillor)
Marie Berghan	(Kaitaia Business Assn)
Kaio Hooper	(Ngai Takoto - DOC)
Ken Subritzky	(Northern Area)
Anihera Herbert-Graves	(Ngati Kahu)
David Collard	(FNDC Councillor)

Also Present:

Bruce Howse	(NRC)
Joe Camuso	(NRC)
Peter Wiessing	(NRC)
Wendy Jecentho	(NRC)
Amrit Lal	(Switzer Trust)
Clive Patterson	(Switzer Trust)
John Kooge	(NZTA)
Brian Dawson	(Farmer)
David van Bysterneldt	(Farmer)
David Gray	(Farmer)
Nick Vinac	(Farmer)
Velko Vinac	(Farmer)
Walter Masters	(Farmer)
Ken Garton	(Farmer)
Tim Garton	(Contractor)
Matt Hudson	(Farmer)
Ron Fenwick	(Supervisor)

APOLOGIES

Resolved: That the apologies from Lester Bridson, Marius Gabriels, Whiti Awarau and Adelle Gardner be received.

Mrs King : Mr Masters

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Mrs King wished to add to the minutes that the Paparore Banks had always been in the Awanui Scheme Asset list but that the Paparore landowners had been omitted from the rated area. She requested that consultation be undertaken with the affected landowners and the omission corrected.

Resolved: That the Paparore Banks landowners are consulted with over their addition to the scheme and that the rates omission is rectified.

Mrs King : Mr Radich

Mrs King also requested confirmation that the Committee's request for instruction to FNDC's planning department, regarding consultation with NRC on consent conditions within the Scheme area, had been undertaken.

Resolved: That the amended minutes of the last Awanui Flood Management Liaison Group meeting held on 30 August 2013 be confirmed.

Mrs King : Mr Radich

MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising

CHAIRMAN

Councillor Bowman advised that Councillor Carr had agreed to continue as Chairman given his experience on this committee over the last six years.

Resolved: That Councillor Carr is confirmed as Chairman for the Awanui Flood Scheme Liaison Committee.

Mr May : Mr Masters

JULY FLOOD EVENT

Peter Wiessing presented hydrographs from the July flood event and explained that the duration of this event had caused large areas of impounded water particularly in the Tangonge and Puckey's outfall ponding areas. He advised that the flood scheme had coped very well with the 240mm of rain received over the duration of the event and reported that there were no breaches or overtopping as peak flow was below scheme capacity. Total rainfall for July was 354.5mm recorded in Kaitiaia.

General discussion followed with Brian Dawson, representing the Tangonge farmers, advising that this event had been the worst for 12 years. It had been hugely costly to farmers who found they would now have to re-grass large areas after water lay on pasture for up to 17 days. He advised that in the past flood water had remained on pasture for less time. This extended flooding of pasture had meant farmers were forced to buy in feed or relocate stock and this had made this event massive in terms of financial cost to farmers.

The message from all the farmers present was that they could cope with flood peaks but needed an urgent solution to draining impounded water. A number of suggestions were discussed and included modified (multiple) floodgates, earlier and later water directed down Whangatane Spillway, modifications to Waihoe floodgate, more water directed down the Waipap cut and removal of more mangroves in the upper Rangaunu Harbour.

WORKS PROGRAMME

Joe Camuso presented on the works undertaken during the 2013/2014 year including the Tarawhataroa grade control structures that were designed to protect the bed of the Tarawhataroa Stream. He advised that the grade control structures had proved to be effective in the July event.

Mr Wiessing summarised the 2013/2014 works programme reporting that \$334,277 had been spent on scheduled annual maintenance and general maintenance. A

further \$50,000 of capital expenditure for floodgate and stopbank renewal and grade control had been spent bringing the total spend, on works, to \$384,277.

Mr Wiessing circulated the proposed works programme for the 2014 / 2015 year with an estimated cost of \$303,000. This was made up of:

Scheduled annual maintenance	\$48,000
General Maintenance	\$255,000

He also advised that an additional \$50,000 capital expenditure would be spent on flood gate and stopbank renewal and grade control over the coming year.

BUDGET UPDATE

Budget figures for 2013/2014 and for 2014/2015 were circulated to the committee.

Discussion followed on a number of items, these included interest costs, scheme upgrade capital expenditure and the forecast deficit.

Mr Howse advised that the planned budget of \$721,000 was required to keep the scheme on track and that NRC staff were very aware of community expectations that scheme costs needed to be affordable.

Resolved: That the Committee approves the provisional 2014 /2015 annual budget.

Mr Radich : Mrs King

SCHEME IMPROVEMENTS OPTIONS INVESTIGATION

Bruce Howse advised that consultants Tonkin & Taylor had completed the preliminary design drawings and earthwork volume calculations for the stopbank and spillway works proposed for the Awanui River and the Whangatane Spillway and that this had been previously circulated to the committee. Mr Howse advised that stopbank volumes had been assessed based on a 500mm freeboard for crest levels above the predicted scheme 1:100year ARI flood level.

Mr Howse gave an update on progress advising that cost estimates had been completed for the stage 1 & 2 physical works.

The flood maps prepared from the GHD computer model were displayed but Mr Howse advised that staff had identified an error relating to backflow in the Waihoe Channel. GHD have been advised to correct the error and are re-running the model. Staff will undertake a further review prior to accepting the model upgrade and producing final flood maps.

Discussion followed on the options presented in the Scheme Improvements Options and the programme for investigation, consents and works. Mr Howse advised that it was intended to commence physical works in the 2016/2017 works season. He advised that the upgrade would require changes to rating across the entire catchment. Mrs King requested that the proportion between urban and rural rates be addressed as part of this rates revision.

The committee advised that they would like to see some works get underway on the Whangatane Spillway sooner and requested that staff now initiate the process to allow partial improvement. The committee felt that it was important to make changes to the spillway in stages so effects can be monitored. There was general agreement

that the spillway weir should be lowered by 500mm to enable earlier water flow. It was acknowledged that the construction of a stock access bridge on the boundary of Malcolm Matthews and Roger Matthews properties would be required.

It was agreed to hold a meeting in October to consult with affected Whangatane landowners.

Resolved: That staff initiate the process to allow for partial improvement to the Whangatane Spillway that would involve lowering the bed at the entrance by 500mm and constructing one stock access bridge. Effects should be assessed by council staff to make sure that peak flows are not increased significantly.

Mr May : Mr Radich

LONG TERM PLAN

Mr Howse confirmed that consultation with ratepayers would be undertaken and options with costs for the planned scheme upgrade would be included in the long term plan allowing submissions on planned works and rates changes.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Anihera Herbert-Graves of Ngati Kahu drew the committee's attention to the large slump on the hill above Allen Bell Drive. Peter Wiessing advised that he had visited the site with Marius Gabriels of FNDC and had offered NRC services for advice on soil stabilisation. The Chairman advised that this would be a matter for the Far North District Council urban stormwater department as it did not directly affect the Awanui Flood Scheme.
- Kaio Hooper updated the committee on the Lake Tangonge project currently being worked on by Ngai Takoto in conjunction the DOC and NRC. He gave a brief history of the area and advised that the Trustees were planning a planting project whereby native species, that were more tolerant to impounded water, would be planted. He advised however that any actions would be determined by a final report from the hydrologist who had been engaged by Ngai Takoto. Mr Hooper advised the committee that he would give them an update once the final report from the hydrologist had been received.

Meeting closed 1.35pm

DRAFT Notes of the workshop of the Kaihu River Liaison Committee
held on Tuesday, 5th August 2014 at
The Town Hall, Dargaville commencing at 9.30am

Due to a lack of committee members, the quorum was not met.

Cr Bain therefore declared the meeting scheduled for 5 August 2014 cancelled, and reconvened as a workshop.

It was acknowledged that Mr Newlove and Mr Fox have both advised the NRC that it was not their intention to serve another term on the committee, and as such their membership on the committee has ended. Letters were to be sent to Mr Newlove and Mr Fox acknowledging this and thanking them for their contribution and long service on the committee.

Present – Committee Members:

Cr John Bain	Committee Chair
Des Subritzky	Te Houhanga Marae representative

In Attendance:

Bruce Howse	NRC Senior Programme Manager – Land/Rivers
Joseph Camuso	NRC Rivers Programme Manager
Gary Treadgold	NRC Area Manager - Dargaville

1. APOLOGIES

Sharon Murray	Te Roroa Iwi Representative
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MOVED: Apologies be accepted.

Moved:	Des Subritzky
Seconder:	John Bain (c)

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

MOVED: That the minutes of the previous meeting held 14 August 2013 are accepted as correct.

Moved:	Des Subritzky
Seconder:	John Bain (c)

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.a Berm Management:

It was decided that NRC continue to monitor the situation with regards the berm management.

4. BUDGET UPDATE:

Budget update tabled by Mr Howse. No issues raised.

5. KAIHU RIVER MAINTENANCE DRAFT PROGRAMME 2013/14

Programme of works tabled by Mr Camuso. No issues raised.

5a. JUNE 2014 FLOOD UPDATE

Mr Howse produced hydrographs for the June and July events, comparing the stage and volumes of each flood.

6. DAMS INVESTIGATION

It was noted that Northland Inc have applied to Ministry for Primary Industries for funding to carry out a regional irrigation feasibility study. It was decided to await progress with this study prior to progressing dam investigations in the Kaihu catchment.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Nil.

WORKSHOP CLOSED: 9.53am

WAITANGI RIVER LIAISON COMMITTEE

Report of the meeting of the Waitangi River Liaison Committee, held on
Wednesday 6 August 2014
Woodlands Motel and Conference Venue commencing at 1.30 pm

Present :

Committee Members

Joe Carr	Chair – Northland Regional Council
Albie Apiata	Iwi representative
Rhonda Gordon	Ratepayer representative – Waitangi River catchment
Chris Richmond	Living Waters representative (on behalf)
Dover Samuels	Councillor – Northland Regional Councillor
John Kooge	NZTA
Ross Baker	Top Energy

Also in Attendance

Bruce Howse	Northland Regional Council
Joseph Camuso	Northland Regional Council
Nick Gordon	Northland Regional Council
Nola Sooner	Northland Regional Council
Trevor Bedggood	Member of the public
Paul Baker	Member of the public

Apologies: There were no apologies.

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE

Joe Carr reported that NRC Council confirmed membership of the River Liaison Committees has been rolled over for the next three year period and recorded appreciation to all committee members for their contribution.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: That the Minutes of 27 March 2014 be received.

Rhonda Gordon : Albie Apiata

MATTERS ARISING

Strategic Linkages

Deferred - Georgina confirmed at the previous meeting she would liaise with David Greig to look into this matter further and would provide an update at the next meeting. **Action: David Greig/Georgina Newmann**

NRC Website

Trevor advised that he had checked the NRC website and indicated that not his entire farm was included within the flood map extent. Joseph noted the LiDAR

survey may not have included all of Trevor's property and confirmed he would liaise with Trevor to clarify this. **Action: Joseph Camuso**

WAITANGI RIVER WORKS UPDATE

Joseph summarized the Waitangi River Works Programme 2013-2014. He noted the following:

- Waitangi River – Drill and kill targeted willows (completed) / Waitangi River – dead willow removal and burning (2/3 completed) / Haruru Falls – water plant (completed) / Waitangi River, Lily Pond and Haruru Falls gravel extraction (Expression of Interest from 2013 has yielded some interest from – FNDC contractors and they have tested the gravel for FNDC projects (pending) as well as private contractors.
- Waiaruhe River – State Highway 10 Bridge (Targeted willow drill and kill)
- Waiaruhe River – Willow removal Top Energy (Targeted willow drill and kill)
- Lily Pond - Gravel extraction
- Haruru Falls – Gravel extraction
- Waitangi River – flood level survey for Puketona Junction

Joe Carr requested NRC Staff to inform FNDC's Infrastructure Department about the potential for free gravel which is suitable bedding for pipe work in the ground.

Action: Joseph Camuso

Joseph requested representatives to inform him of anyone who would like to remove gravel from the gravel traps. Ross advised Bill Haigh's recommendation was not to extract the gravel but instead a spraying and poisoning willows and removing debris was the best use of money for reducing flood levels. He confirmed this action was successful and Top Energy believes it helped to prevent flooding of their premises. Ross emphasised that gravel extraction could undermine banks. Ross noted Bill indicated that other than removal of the island established around wild weeds and trees, he could see little to be gained from removing sand/gravel banks along the Top Energy site at this stage. He concluded by noting that it was recommended a thorough topographical survey of the river over the relevant 600m length (linking with existing LiDAR data) would reveal whether there are opportunities for making the flood carrying capacity of the river more efficient. It was expected there would be some low costs opportunities for smoothing of flood berms and managing flood time relief spill over onto part of the grazed land and that more significant improvements may be somewhat more complex and expensive.

WORKS PROGRAMME 2014-2015

- Various – Waitangi River – Drill and kill targeted willows remaining elements
- Various – Waitangi River – dead willow removal – burning – requires fire ban to be lifted.
- Haruru Falls – remove logs – remove logs from basin (piggy backed on the Falls Motel rock work)
- Haruru Falls and Lily Pond– gravel extraction – EOI with FNDC for cycle tracks

Joseph advised the total cost estimated is \$18,500.

Joe Carr requested Doug to undertake a site visit along the river – contact Trevor and Paul. **Action: Doug Foster**

It was recorded that the Works Programme 2014-2015 was approved by consensus to go ahead.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Waitangi Water Quality Catchment Meeting

Joe Carr advised there is a Waitangi Water Quality Catchment meeting to be held tomorrow night which everyone is welcome to attend.

Native Planting

Chris advised Living Waters is available to provide assistance if anyone wishes to revegetate with native plants.

Field Trip

Joe Carr invited attendees to join him after the close of this meeting today on a field trip from upstream of Puketona Junction to below the Haruru Falls - items of interest to be discussed are gravel load in the river and route security.

The meeting closed at 2.20 p.m.

The next meeting date will be advised in due course.

NRC Contacts

Local: Doug Foster, Land Management Officer
Kaitia Office 09 408 6600 / 027 476 7983

River Management Team: Joseph Camuso, River Management Engineer
Whangarei Office 09 4701200 / 027 438 4639

Report of the meeting of the Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee, held on
Wednesday 6 August 2014
Woodlands Motel and Conference Venue, 126 Kerikeri Road, Kerikeri
commencing at 10.30 a.m.

Present – Committee Members:

Joe Carr	(Chairperson)
Dover Samuels	NRC Councillor
Fred Terry	Lower Puketotara and Kerikeri catchment
John Dawn	Bay Care representative
Peter Kennedy	Waipapa Catchment
David Stewart-Jones	Middle Kerikeri catchment area

Also in Attendance:

NRC staff:	Bruce Howse, Joseph Camuso, Nick Gordon, Nola Sooner
Murray Wright	Member of the public
Bill Hunter	Member of the public

APOLOGIES Hamish Sheard, Peter Thorpe

Resolved: That the apologies from Hamish Sheard and Peter Thorpe be accepted.

Peter Kennedy : Joe Carr

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: That the Minutes of 27 March 2014 be accepted.

Peter Kennedy : David Stewart-Jones

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

2013-2014 WORKS PROGRAMME UPDATE

Joseph provided an update on the Works Programme 2013-2014. He covered the following areas:

- Whiriwhiritoa Stream
- Proposed Works at the Stone Store Before
- Removal of gravel bank
- Removal of Bridge Abutment

* Dover Samuels arrived

2014-2015 WORKS PROGRAMME

Joseph summarised the 2014-2015 Works Programme. He covered the following matters and requested the committee contact either Doug Foster or Joseph if they have identified additional works:

- Proposed Annual Work Programme for the Kerikeri River
- Various Tree and Log removal
- State Highway 10 Bridge – tree removal

Murray advised that a major Puriri tree has been identified to be removed above State Highway 10 Bridge.

Resolved: That approval is given for the 2014-2015 Works Programme to proceed.

Fred Terry : Joe Carr

AMURI PLACE TO SPRINGBANK SCHOOL – FLOOD MITIGATION

Bruce provided the history of ongoing flooding issues within this area. He noted that from NRC's analysis, remedial work done on the Springbank School has mitigated any adverse effects of previous work and NRC does not feel this is causing any detrimental flooding on neighbouring landowners. However, discussions with landowners has resulted in NRC coming up with a design to reduce the flooding for the affected landowners. Bruce asked the Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee to consider if they felt that the targeted rate should pay for the resource consent costs.

The committee agreed that the cost of the resource consent should be paid by the affected landowners. It was noted that all landowners need to be on board before resource consent is applied for. Bruce advised that an upstream landowner has indicated that he is not happy with the proposed way forward and is unwilling to pay for any of the works to be done.

Resolved: That the Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee will not consider contributing to resource consents until all affected parties are committed to undertaking the necessary work as put forward by Northland Regional Council staff.

Fred Terry : Dover Samuels

2013-2014 AND 2014-2015 BUDGET

Bruce presented the 2013-14 budget result and the 2014-15 budget.

Resolved: That NRC staff are requested to seek clarification on Northland Regional Council's Treasury Policy on interest charged on borrowed funds and interest received on accrued funds and report back to the Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee.

Peter Kennedy : Fred Terry

DETENTION DAM UPDATE

Joseph advised a model simulation with the dam in place was undertaken. He summarised the 100yr CC ARI Extent – Baseline vs Detention maps.

Joseph noted there is a 230mm decrease at the State Highway. The detention dam provides the most benefit to the Waipapa Industrial Estate and downstream of the State Highway there is very little benefit.

Bill spoke on behalf of the Kerikeri Irrigation Company and their strong interest in being involved in providing more water storage dams within this catchment.

* Bill Hunter left the meeting.

Resolved: That NRC staff requests the Environmental Management Committee to approve the Kerikeri Irrigation Company Ltd (Bill Hunter) being appointed as a member of the Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee. **Action: Bruce Howse**

Joe Carr : Dover Samuels

Fred noted that the lack of water storage within this area is starting to become an area of concern.

David asked for the River Liaison Committee to concentrate on achieving things that can be done straight away rather than putting things in the “too hard basket”.

It was agreed this committee supports in principle the water storage plan and acknowledged the flooding in the Waipapa commercial area but noted that in order for it to be viable it will probably need the inclusion of other stakeholders e.g. Kerikeri Irrigation Company, FNDC,

Bruce noted that if the dam was changed to multi-purpose it would affect capacity and the costs would increase.

Bruce noted NRC staff could undertake a fairly basic approach in respect of investigating further the potential for a multi-purpose dam which would be around \$20,000, or undertake a preliminary design approach which would be more expensive and include some ground testing at around \$100,000.

Resolved: That the Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee requests staff to contact Jackie Robson, Strategic Engineer, Far North District Council regarding the development of a viable storage/multi purpose dam K3A and agrees to the provision of \$20,000 from the Kerikeri-Waipapa reserve funds to enable this and requests FNDC's presence as Committee members at future meetings of the Kerikeri – Waipapa River Liaison Committee.

Fred Terry : Dover Samuels

Fred confirmed he will raise this matter with Cr John Vujcich, FNDC.

Joe Carr asked should we still progress with proceeding towards resource consenting with an objective to go ahead with the work. Bruce noted we could still progress lodging the resource consent application within the next month without going ahead with the works. He noted if a decision was made not to proceed with lodging the resource consent application

there is the risk could be that the affected landowner could develop the land which would lead to increased costs.

Resolved: That the Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee requests NRC to proceed with lodging a resource consent application and designation for the proposed spillway scheme on the basis of a metal access track for access across the spillway.

John Dawn : Peter Kennedy

Joe asked for staff to investigate the lowering of the channel over a couple of waterfalls below SH 10 Bridge that was raised by Murray Wright. NRC staff to meet with Murray Wright, landowner to discuss further. **Action: Joseph Camuso**

It was agreed NRC staff would also investigate the effect of the detention dam on the dimensions of the spillway scheme.

The Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee requested that the construction of the spillway scheme project, which is provided for as capital works in the 2014-15 NRC Annual Plan, be deferred for a 12 month period.

GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business.

Meeting closed at 12.25 p.m.

Post Meeting Note: Joe Carr reported that NRC Council has confirmed membership of the River Liaison Committees has been rolled over for the next three year period and recorded appreciation to committee members for their contribution.

NRC Contacts

Local: Doug Foster, Land Management Officer
Kaitaia Office 09 408 6600 / 027 476 7983

River Management Team: Joseph Camuso, River Management Engineer
Whangarei Office 09 4701200 / 027 438 4639

Report of the meeting of the Kaeo River – Whangaroa Catchment Liaison Committee, held
on Tuesday 12 August 2014
Union Church Hall, Leigh Street, Kaeo commencing at 10.30 a.m.

Present – Committee Members:

Craig Brown	Chair
Joe Carr	(ex officio)
Dover Samuels	NRC Councillor
Geoff Stone	(Community representative - Taupo Bay, Pupuke, Totara North, Matangirau, Tauranga Bay, Mahinepua, Te Ngairi and ratepayers outside of the Kaeo River catchment)
John Richardson	(Area representative - the middle catchment area from the Waiare Gorge to Waiare Road – SH 10 intersection)
Ngaere Manning	(Ratepayer representative – flood plain and catchment area from Waiare Road to Whangaroa Harbour to the Kaeo River – Whangaroa Catchment)
Michael Hayes	(Whangaroa Ward farming representative)
Bruce Mills	(Representing Business and commercial interests within Kaeo and FNDC Community Board)
John Kooge	(representing Transit - NZTA)
Fiona Robinson	(representing the rural ratepayers of the Kaeo River catchment area upstream of the Waiare Gorge)
Fi Harema	Whangaroa Healthcare Services Trust

Also in Attendance:

NRC staff:	Bruce Howse, Joseph Camuso, Nola Sooner (minute taker)
Bill Hutchinson	Northland Civil Defence
Ian Hayes	Landowner
Warren Martin	Landowner
Malcolm Burkitt	Landowner
Bryan Burkitt	Landowner
Nick Hayes	Landowner
Jeanette Jackson	Landowner
Yvonne Robinson	Landowner

1. APOLOGIES Dianne Maxwell, Dennis Bowman

Resolved: That the apologies received for absence from Dianne Maxwell and Dennis Bowman be accepted.

Dover Samuels : John Richardson

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: That the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 5 December 2013 be accepted.

Bruce Mills : John Richardson

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

STAGE 1 FLOOD SCHEME WORKS UPDATE

Joseph summarized the graphs tabled which showed the recent flood events in June and July 2014.

Joseph provided a Kaeo Stage 1 Deflection Bank Update.

It was noted that shingle is building up at the corner of the school bank, staff confirmed they are fully aware of shingle buildup. Craig requested staff to keep an eye on the shingle buildup.

Resolved: That the Committee record appreciation to those involved for their work to date and the significant effort made to manage floods in the Kaeo Valley with a special thank you to be extended to the landowners who have made this possible.

Geoff Stone : Craig Brown

COMMITTEE'S VIEW ON STAGE 2A

Craig asked the Committee on its view with progressing with the Stage 2 works.

Warren expressed concern over the cost of completing Stage 2. Michael noted there is still work to be done in the Waikare Creek area. Craig emphasised staff will ensure that all work is completed on Stage 1 prior to looking at Stage 2. Joe Carr noted that there may be some work that could be done to enhance Stage 1. Michael reported continual maintenance is a key concern. Joseph confirmed that at this stage only conceptual ideas have been completed for Stage 2A, which involves river realignment and Waikare Creek works to moving the confluence of the Kaeo River and Waikare Creek downstream, reducing the backwater effect in Kaeo Township.

Resolved: That Stage 2 is put into abeyance and Stage 1 monitored for effectiveness.
Michael Hayes : Bruce Mills

CDEM/COMMUNITY RESPONSE PLAN

Bill Hutchinson summarized his role as Civil Defence Coordinator, Far North District Council.

Bill Hutchinson summarized the Community Response Plan for the area. He advised Community Response Plans (CRPs) have been developed in partnership with local communities to provide localised emergency procedures and advanced warning of what to do when threatened or impacted by natural, weather, biological or manmade disasters.

Bill noted with concern that community input is lacking in the newly compiled document. Bill stated he is looking for someone to champion this and update the plan. Craig emphasised the community needs to be in a position to take care of itself and have the contacts in place should an emergency situation arise. Craig requested community representatives to ensure the word is spread amongst the community to appoint a Champion and help to complete the Community Response Plan.

In response to a query, John Kooge advised that members of the public should ring 0800 111 655 if they want to find out which roads are accessible during an emergency.

BUDGET 2013-2014 RESULT

Bruce Howse summarized the budget result for 2013-2014, noting the need to carry forward funds of approximately \$70,000 to 2014-2015 to complete the remaining tidy-up works associated with the Stage 1 capital works.

BUDGET 2014-2015

Bruce Howse presented the budget for 2014-2015.

Resolved: That the Budget for 2014-2015 be put to NRC Council for approval.

. Craig Brown : Bruce Mills

RIVER MAINTENANCE WORKS UPDATE

Joseph Camuso summarised proposed river maintenance works for the 2014-2015 financial year. He advised \$51,300 has been allocated for the Kaeo 2014-2015 proposed maintenance programme. It was noted there is a contingency included of \$ 8,000.

Joseph summarised the breakdown as follows:

Section 1 Gravel management opposite School \$15,000

Stage 1 scheme – maintenance of scheme \$10,000

Section 2 – Tree clearance
(removal of large poplars in river behind pub) \$ 2,000

Section 3 – Outer catchments \$15,000

- Taupo Bay – follow up on Elephant Grass
- Tauranga Bay – gravel management
- Other catchments as identified

Fiona asked if the Council can contribute to the cost of removal of shingle. Craig noted everyone accepts that gravel in the river has been and will continue to be an ongoing problem after floods. He noted the emphasis on shingle removal should be on where it has the greatest impediment to the water flow and where it has the greatest impact on the River Scheme. Staff were requested to investigate further and identify the best way forward.

Action: Joseph Camuso

Bruce advised the River Management Plan sets out gravel options and issues. It was agreed an item on catchment sediment and sources will be provided to the Committee.

Action: Bruce Howse

Resolved: That approval is given to proceed with the Kaeo 2014-2015 proposed maintenance programme.

. Joe Carr : Bruce Mills

FUNDING ASSISTANCE FOR VULNERABLE HOMES UPDATE

Bruce Howse provided an update on progress with the funding assistance.

Bruce Howse confirmed NRC will continue to work with the remaining home owners where an agreement is in place or a potential risk reduction solution can be identified and implemented in accordance with the Grant and the Kaeo Flood Risk Reduction Strategy.

UPDATE RE 50 Y11 STUDENTS FROM WBHS

Geoff Stone provided a brief update on a recent visit by 50 Year 11 students from Whangarei Boys High School around the flood works in Kaeo.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Whispers Publication

Bruce Mills offered to liaise with Fiona and include an update within the next Whispers (local publication) covering key points raised within this meeting. **Action: Bruce Mills**

Next Meeting

Date to be advised in due course.

Meeting closed at 12.38 pm

NRC Contacts

Local: Doug Foster, Land Management Officer
Kaitaia Office 09 408 6600 / 027 476 7983

River Management Team: Joseph Camuso, River Management Engineer
Whangarei Office 09 470 1200 / 027 438 4639

**ISSUE: Environmental Monitoring for the period
1 – 31 July 2014**

ID: A667256

To: Environmental Management Committee Meeting, 25 August 2014

From: Colin Dall, Consents/Monitoring Senior Programme Manager

Date: 11 August 2014

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

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on council's monitoring and compliance work for the period 1 July – 31 July 2014. It concludes with the recommendation that the report be received.

Attachment 1 shows a graph of the number and type of environmental incidents received during the reporting period compared with the 10 year mean for that period, and a graph of the number of compliance assessments made during the reporting period summarised by type and compliance grading.

Attachment 2 contains tables giving details of activities which have been monitored and found to have more than minor environmental effects, and a table summarising the State of Environment monitoring undertaken during the reporting period.

Legal Compliance and Significance Assessment:

The receiving of this report is provided for in the council's 2012-22 Long Term Plan, meets the council's obligations under section 35 of the Resource Management Act 1991, and is in line 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 the report does not seek a decision other than that information be received.

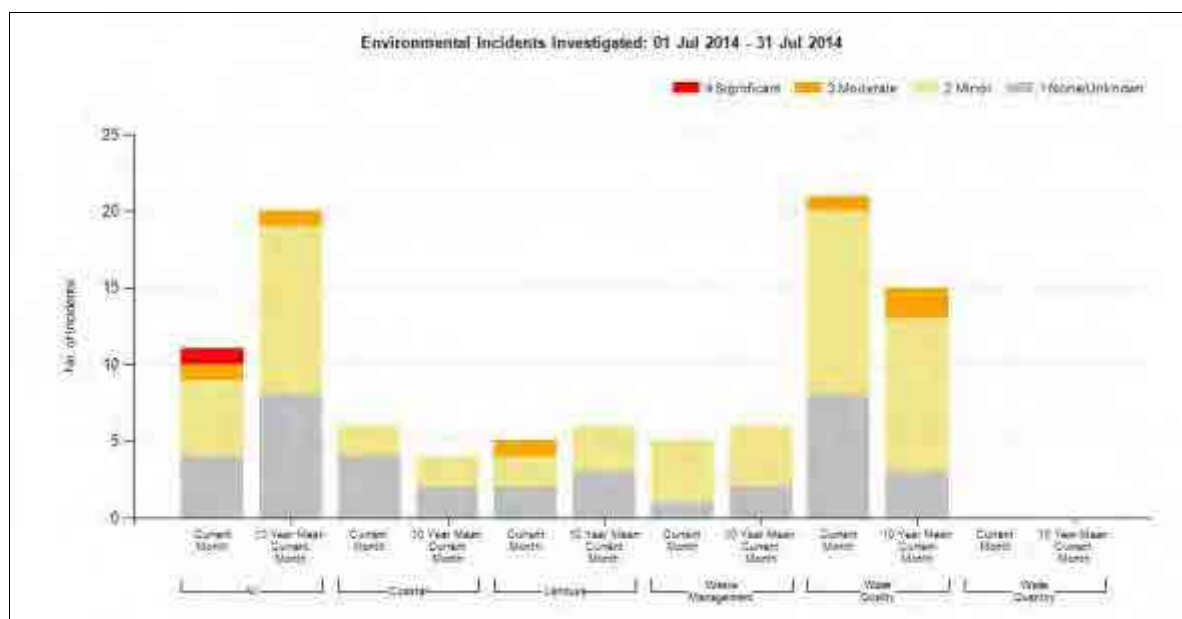
Recommendation:

-
1. That the Environmental Monitoring report for the period 1 – 31 July 2014 from Colin Dall, Consents/Monitoring Senior Programme Manager, be received.
-

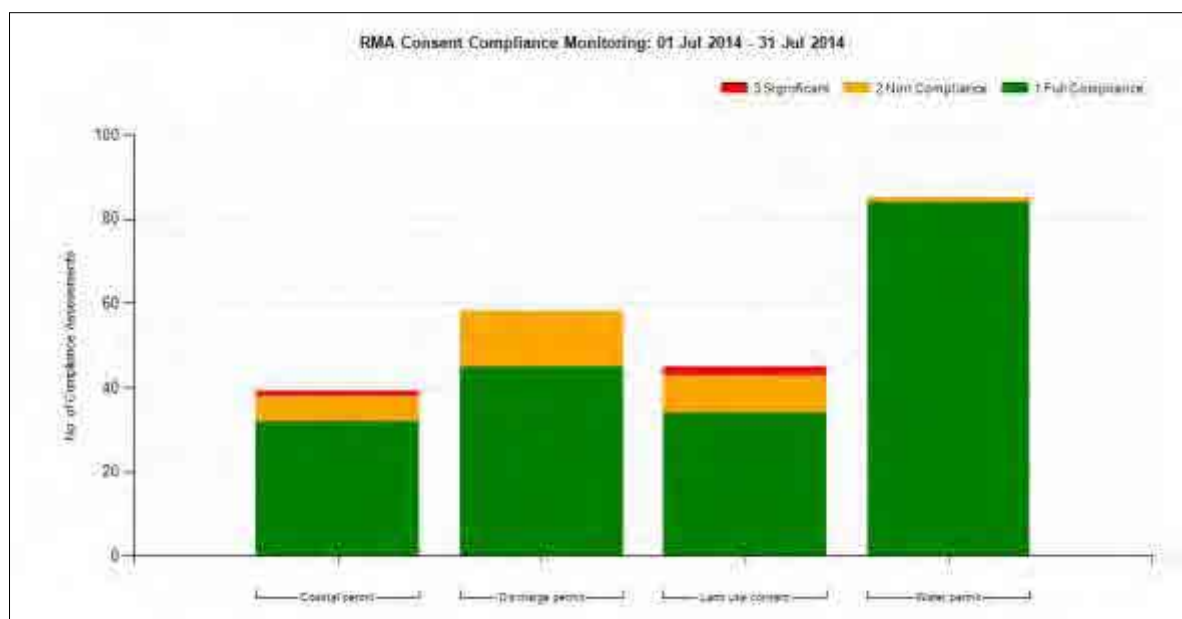
Attachment 1 to Item 13

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Environmental Incidents Investigated – July 2014



Resource Consent Compliance Monitoring – July 2014



Attachment 2 to Item 13

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ABBREVIATIONS KEY

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

DISCHARGES TO AIR – No significant non-compliant events were recorded during the period 1 July – 31 July 2014.

DISCHARGES TO WATER OR LAND – No significant non-compliant events were recorded during the period 1 July – 31 July 2014.

FARM DAIRY EFFLUENT DISCHARGES – CONSENTED – No significant non-compliant events were recorded during the period 1 July – 31 July 2014.

FARM DAIRY EFFLUENT DISCHARGES – NON-CONSENTED – No significant non-compliant events were recorded during the period 1 July – 31 July 2014.

WATER TAKES – No significant non-compliant events were recorded during the period 1 July – 31 July 2014.

COASTAL ACTIVITIES

Date	Consent Reference No.	Name	Description	Notes	Environmental Impact
24/07/2014	REG.030179.01	Ruakaka Parish Residents & Ratepayers Association Incorporated	Removal of mangroves and ongoing juvenile mangrove management @ Ruakaka Estuary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some mangroves greater than 75mm in diameter were cut down in breach of Resource Consent AUT.03179.01.01. 	Minor

LAND USE ACTIVITIES

Date	Consent Reference No.	Name	Description	Notes	Environmental Impact
01/04/2014	REG.009529.01	Hancock Forest Management (NZ) Limited	Gammons Forest @ Gammons Road, Mangakahia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient sediment controls resulted in potential for uncontrolled discharges from tracks. 	Unknown

Attachment 2 to Item 13

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01/07/2014	REG.002005.02	Central Mountfield Quarry Limited	Quarry @ Mountfield Road, Waipū	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-compliance with conditions of RC. 	Minor
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ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS

Date	Reference No.	Description	Notes	Environmental Impact
7/07/2014	REQ.574242	Burning rubbish @ Lake Rd, Okaihau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incident investigation confirmed open burning of rubber, plastic, treated timber, computers and household rubbish. The fire was large. The person responsible for lighting the fire had left the property. Formal enforcement action taken. 	Significant
14/07/2014	REQ.574278	Burning at industrial premise @ Port Rd, Whāngārei	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incident investigation confirmed non-compliance with the relevant rule of the RAQP. Warning letter sent to company responsible advising rules on burning. 	Moderate
22/07/2014	REQ.574373	Sewage spill @ Watea, Haruru Falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to recent extreme weather conditions in the area the spill had not been detected immediately. Water samples taken from the river did not indicate significantly elevated faecal coliform levels. 	Moderate
30/07/2014	REQ.574425	Discharges to land and CMA @ Rangihua Rd, Bay of Islands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A gully that had been filled in with soil had eroded and discharged onto land. Sediment consequently discharged into the CMA. Formal enforcement action taken. 	Moderate

SOE MONITORING – AIR, LAKES AND WATER

Classification	Date	Project	Notes
Air Quality	7/07/2014	Whāngārei Airshed – Ambient Air Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous ambient air monitoring results for PM₁₀, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide at the Robert Street site, Whāngārei, indicated compliance with the National Environmental

Attachment 2 to Item 13

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			<p>Standard in June 2014.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine monthly audit calibration on particulate, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide monitors at Robert Street, Whāngārei.
	23/07/2014	Marsden Point Airshed – Ambient Air Monitoring.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous ambient air monitoring results for PM₁₀ at Bream Bay College, Ruakaka, indicated compliance with the National Environmental Standard in June 2014. • Routine monthly audit calibration on particulate monitor at Bream Bay College.
Coastal – Water	26/06/2014	Kaipara Harbour Water Quality Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nine water quality sites sampled in the Kaipara Harbour. • Results Pending.
	17/07/2014	Bay of Islands Water Quality Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sixteen water quality sites sampled in the Bay of Islands. • Results pending.
	17/07/2014	Whāngārei Harbour Water Quality – Harbour Boat Run	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seventeen water quality sites sampled in the Whāngārei Harbour. • Results pending.
Regional Water Quality Monitoring Network (RWQMN)	16/07/2014	RWQMN – Western	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine monthly water quality monitoring of the Kaihu, Waipoua, Waimamaku, Punakitere, Utakura, Mangakahia and Opouteke Rivers. • Water clarity was poor due to recent flooding in most rivers.

ISSUE: Kiwi Coast – Reconnecting Northland

ID: A667495

To: Environmental Management Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Tony Phipps, Operations Director

Date: 12 August 2014

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

Report - Presentation

Following a request from the Committee Chairman, a presentation on the work being carried out under the umbrella organization “Kiwi Coast” will be given by Ngaire Tyson, Biodiversity Coordinator Northland for the NZ Landcare Trust.

Kiwi Coast

The Kiwi Coast is an initiative that seeks to engage established community-led conservation projects, iwi and hapu, interested landowners, farmers, forestry companies and agencies to share in the vision of increasing kiwi numbers, creating safe ecological corridors and improving the general biodiversity values of eastern Northland. Its goals are:

- To support the recovery of local kiwi populations along the east coast of Northland.
- To celebrate the presence of Northland brown kiwi in Northland as a taonga.
- To reduce pests that threaten kiwi.
- To facilitate the safe movement of kiwi and other native species throughout the Kiwi Coast.
- To encourage the restoration of the ecological health and integrity of kiwi habitats, including native forest, scrublands, streams, dunelands and wetlands.
- To encourage the natural return and spread of lost species such as kaka, kakariki and bellbird / korimako, some of which visit, but no longer reside in the area.
- To encourage people to engage in kaitiakitanga / stewardship to protect and nurture Northland's biodiversity for future generations.



Over 30 existing community and agency-led conservation groups have combined and been joined by three new community groups to share in the Kiwi Coast initiative. Its successful first year is charted in its recently released annual report.¹

Northland Regional Council are supporting Kiwi Coast community groups through Biosecurity Fund (E-Fund) grants to some community pest control areas (CPCAs).

Reconnecting Northland

Kiwi Coast is supported by Reconnecting Northland², which has provided funding for a part-time coordinator as well as funding resources for project implementation.

Reconnecting Northland is a collaboration between WWF-New Zealand and NZ Landcare Trust, funded by The Tindall Foundation, ASB Community Trust and HSBC Water Programme. The programme is guided by Northland-based staff and a steering group. NRC Operations Director Tony Phipps is currently on the steering group.



Projects that Reconnecting Northland is involved in include:

- Kiwi Coast
- Wānanga project – Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group
- Warawara animal pest control project (reported to the June EMC meeting).

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

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 76-82 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 the report does not seek a decision other than that information be received.

Recommendations:

-
1. That the report Kiwi Coast – Reconnecting Northland by Tony Phipps, Operations Director dated 12 August 2014, be received.
 2. That the presentation provided by Ngaire Tyson on Kiwi Coast be received.
-

¹ <http://www.landcare.org.nz/News-Features/News/Kiwi-Coast-Online>

² <http://reconnectingnorthland.org.nz/>

ISSUE: Severe Weather Event – 8-12 July 2014

ID: A668769

To: Environmental Management Committee, August 2014

From: Dale Hansen, Water Resources/Hydrology Programme Manager

Date: 14 August 2014

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

Executive Summary:

This was a long duration rainfall event; over four days. Between 8 July and 12 July 2014 Northland suffered a persistent barrage of rain and strong winds, leading to widespread flooding and wind damage. The strongest winds started during the 8 July with gusts of almost 150km/h recorded at the weather station at Tutukaka Harbour, with average wind speeds exceeding gale force for almost every hour for three days. Rainfall amounts of 300mm to 530mm were recorded in eastern and central areas from Kaeo to Whangarei, far exceeding the normal rainfall amounts expected for July.

The following report provides a brief summary of the event's impact on the region.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The council 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 matter is considered to be of low significance, as the report is only provided to be received for information.

Recommendation:

That the report Severe Weather Event – 8-12 July 2014 by Dale Hansen, Water Resources/Hydrology Programme Manager and dated 14 August 2014, be received.

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Report

From midday on 8 July 2014 and for the following three days an area of low pressure was firmly wedged in position to the northwest of the Northland while to the southeast of New Zealand a broad area of high pressure remained centered off the east coast of the South Island. The slow-moving low had travelled over warmer seas in the north to reach Northland, gathering a lot of moisture on its journey and moving over the relatively colder sea near northern New Zealand, becoming destabilised in the lowest layers of the atmosphere. This destabilisation was enough of a trigger to produce heavy falls of rain.

The low intensified over Northland as the blocking high remained stable; however, a selection of fronts to the northwest of Northland and an area of low pressure near Tasmania tracking towards New Zealand across the Tasman Sea indicated that there is still more heavy rain to come.

This long duration rain event was significant in relation to recent storms over the past three decades and can be compared to those rainfall amounts and consequential effects produced by long duration storms such as Cyclone Bola in March 1988.

Response to MetService Warning

- Warning formation disseminated in conjunction with available weather models and further detailed information provided by the MetService. Warnings were issued by CDEM.
- Detailed information provided by the MetService forecasters to CDEM throughout the event.
- Rainfall and river flow monitoring using the council's extensive telemetry network was upgraded to capture data at more frequent intervals.
- Regular updates were to be provided to the CDMG.

Event Rainfall

- There were two distinct rainfall patterns within this storm event, the first resulting from the low pressure system producing high hourly rainfall and heavy, steady rain from 8 to 11 July. This was followed by a more severe band of high intense rainfall on 12 July adding further problems to an already flooded region. The wind was nonstop at gale force over a prolonged period resulting in many power outages.
- The eastern and central areas from Kaeo to Whangarei were the hardest hit, particularly the Bay of Islands and the eastern hills north of Whangarei with rainfall amounts accumulating over four days from 300mm to 530mm.
- Lesser amounts between 70mm to 180mm were recorded in western and southern areas.
- Four day rainfall amounts in the upper Waitangi catchment, Otiria and Puhipuhi were equivalent to one in 40 to 60 year rainfall events.
- Rainfall return periods in other east coastal areas from Kaeo to Glenbervie were equal to or greater than 1 in 20 years and 1 in 10 years in the Whangarei districts.

River Levels and Flooding

This long duration rainfall event produced vast volumes of water rather than record peak flows, resulting in extensive surface water flooding in low lying areas and severe flooding over vast areas of farmland.

ITEM: 15

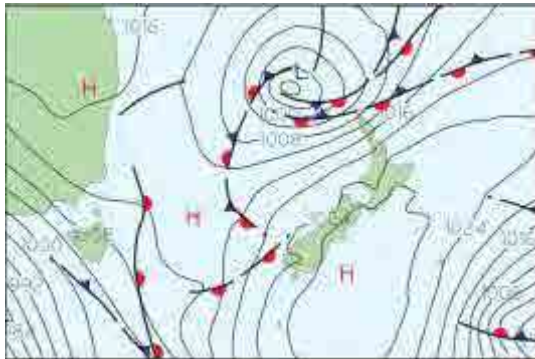
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- There were numerous rural and main road closures resulting from slips, washouts and slumps restricting movement throughout the region.
- Large volumes of water spilled out from the Otiria Stream and Kawakawa River catchments resulting vast areas of flooding at Moerewa and Kawakawa.
- Similarly, the Hikurangi Swamp became inundated with large volumes of water from the upper catchments (530mm recorded at Puhipuhi).
- The overspill from the river channel stopbanks into the 'pockets' ended midnight on 12 June and water remained in the majority of 'pockets' for 14 days and approximately 20 days in the lower pockets.
- The large volume of flood waters from the Hikurangi Swamp and the Mangakahia River catchment resulted in further severe flooding throughout the Northern Wairoa River through Tangiteroria, Pukehuia, Kirikopuni and Tangowahine. Large tides from the Kaipara had some effect on holding this volume of water over these areas for a longer period of time. Flood water remained in these areas for six to seven days.

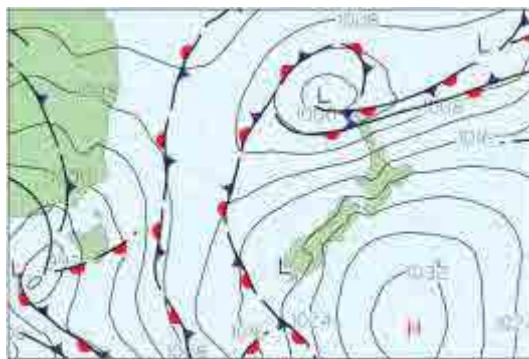
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Analysis Charts 8 to 12 July 2014 (Charts courtesy of the MetService)



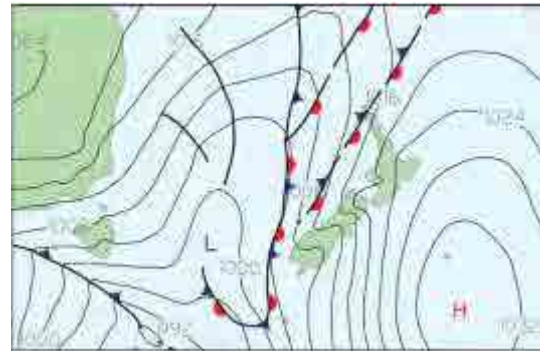
Tuesday 8 July 2014



Wednesday 9 July 2014



Thursday 10 July 2014

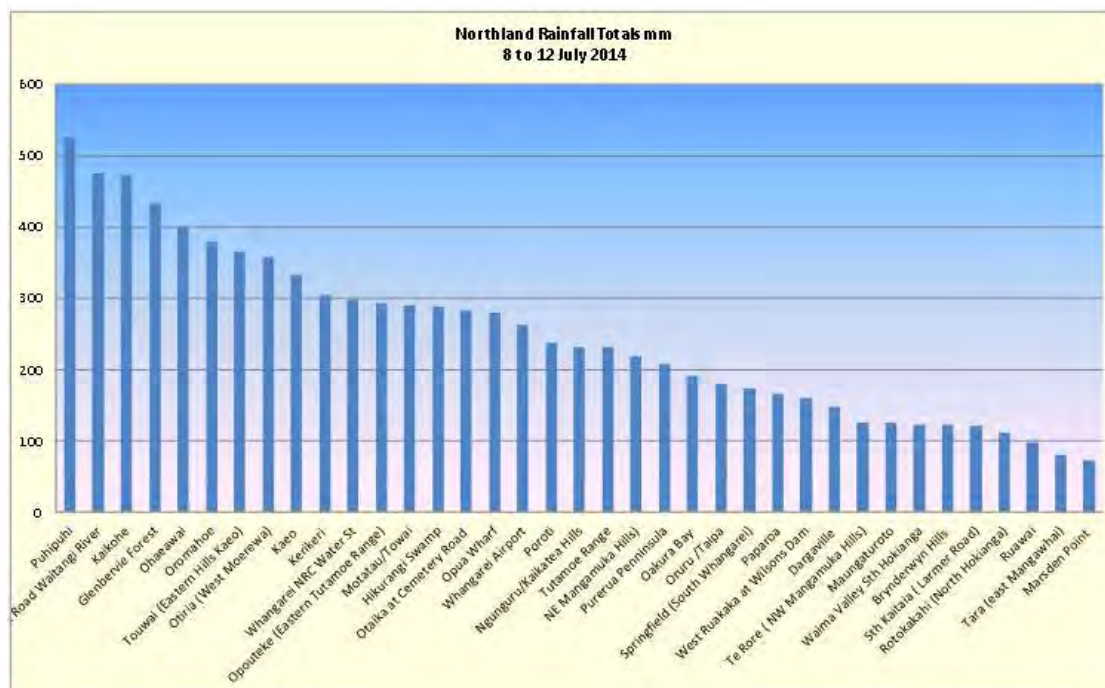


Friday 11 July 2014

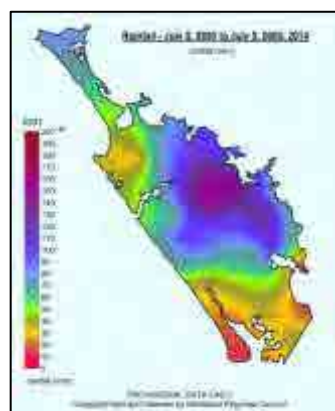


Saturday 12 July 2014

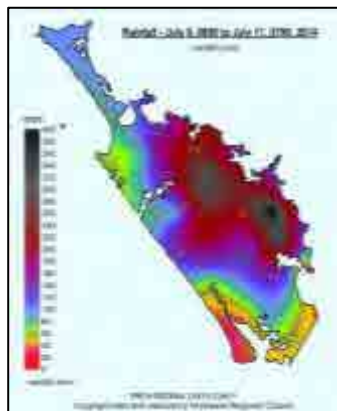
Rainfall Amounts at Various Northland Stations



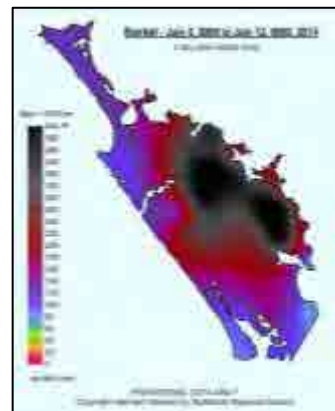
Rainfall Maps from Showing Accumulated Rainfall from Start to Finish of Event



8 to 9 July (1 day)

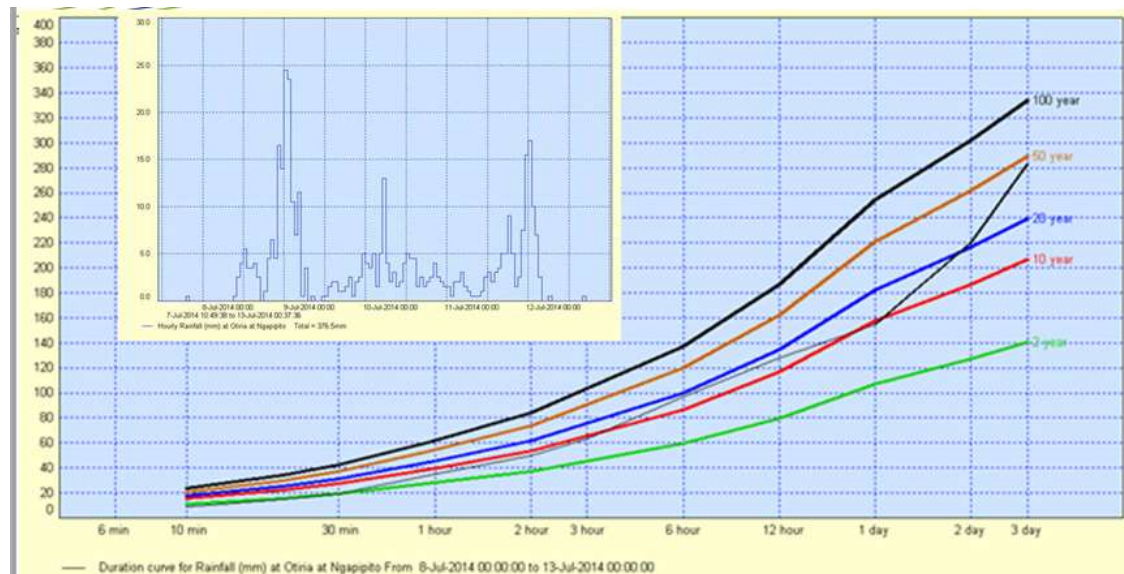


8 to 11 July (3 days)



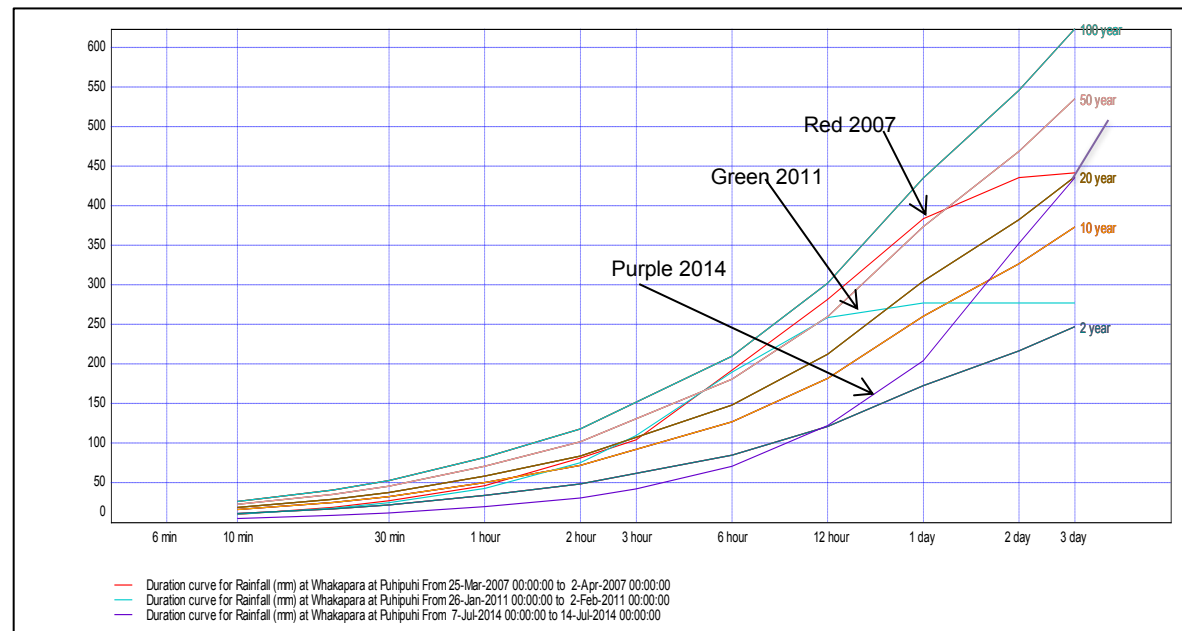
8 to 12 July (4 days)

Hourly Rainfall and Return Period Curves for Otiria (Moerewa) July 2014



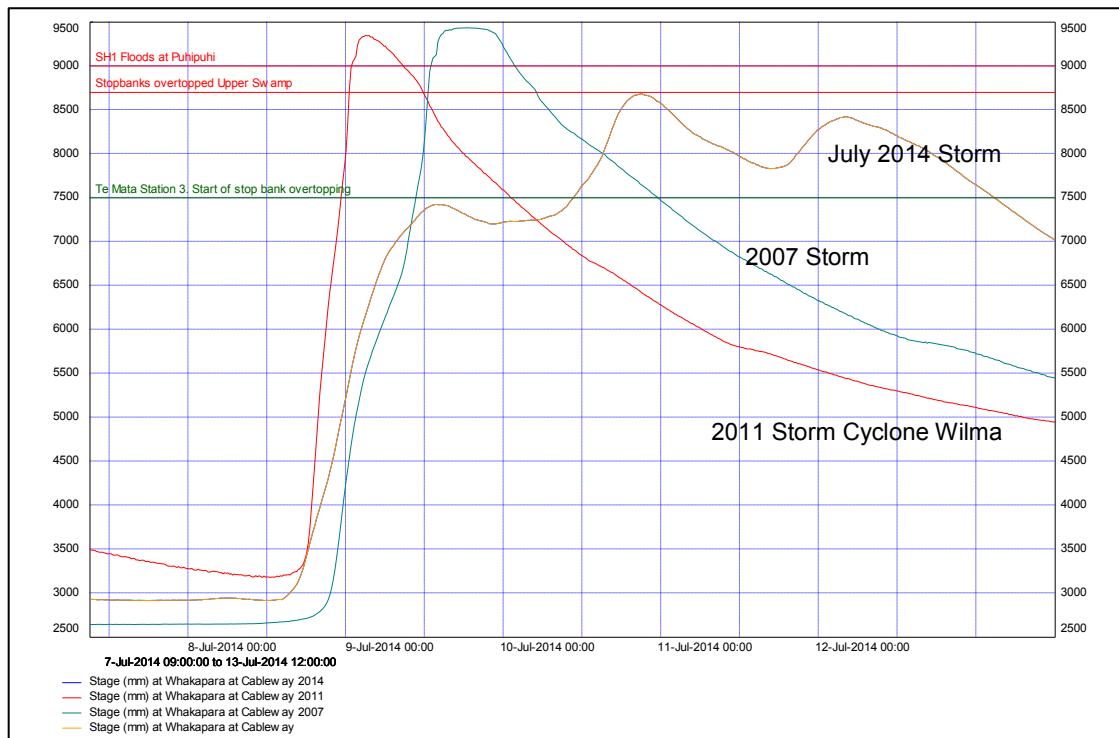
- Graph shows return periods for 3 day event.
- Rainfall amounts for 3 days (271mm) has a return period of near 1:50years
- Rainfall amounts for 4 days (375mm) has a return period of greater than 1:50, interpolated to 4 days would place this event at or above a 1:60 year

Rainfall Return Periods for Puhipuhi Raingauge Compared to Recent Storm Events



- 2007 rainfall event exceeded 1:50 year for the 6 hr, 12 hr and 24hr durations.
- 2011 rainfall event exceeded 1:50 year for the 6 hr and 12 hr durations.
- 2014 rainfall event: 1:20 year for 3 day duration and approximately 1:30/40 for the 4 day duration.

Water Level Plots Whakapara River– Comparison to Recent Large Historical Events



- The 2007 and 2011 storms were single, short duration rainfall events with record peak flows.
- The July 2014 was of longer duration with multiple lower peak flows but a vast volume of water.

Northern Wairoa River - Kirikopuni Area - After the Floodwaters Receded



- The brown sediments overlying the farmland areas indicate the extent of flooding.