

AGENDA

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Monday 31 August 2015 9.30am

**NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Agenda

Meeting to be held in the Council Chambers, 36 Water Street, Whangarei on Monday 31 August 2015 commencing at 9:30am

MEMBERSHIP OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Cr J Carr, Chairman

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

OPEN MEETING

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ISSUE: Confirmation of Minutes – 29 June 2015

ID: A771923

To: Environmental Management Committee, 31 August 2015

From: Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary

Date: 14 August 2015

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"/> Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to present the minutes of the Environmental Management Committee meeting held on 29 June 2015 (**attached**) for confirmation.

Legal compliance:

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

Recommendations:

That the minutes of the Environmental Management Committee meeting held on 29 June 2015 be received.

**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 29 June 2015, commencing at 9.30 am

Present:

Northland Regional Council

Cr Joe Carr (Chairman)
Cr Craig Brown (Deputy Chairman)
Cr Bill Shepherd (ex officio)

Far North District Council

Cr Ann Court

Whangarei District Council

Cr Tricia Cutforth

Kaipara District Council

Richard Booth

Department of Conservation

Ms Sue Reed-Thomas

Forest Industry

Geoff Gover

Māori Interests

Keir Volkerling

Environmental Interest Groups

Martin Hunt

In Attendance:

NRC Staff - Full Meeting:

Land/Rivers Senior Programme Manager
Consents/Monitoring Manager
Rivers Team Administrator

NRC Staff - Part Meeting:

Chief Executive Officer
Operations Director
Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager
Compliance Monitoring Senior Programme Manager
Economist
Land Management Programme Manager
Resource Management Planning and Policy Senior
Programme Manager
Rivers Team Programme Manager
Land Management Advisor x 2
Monitoring Programme Manager – Coastal
Programme Manager/Policy Specialist – Tangata
Whenua

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 9.30 am.

Apologies

Moved (Carr/Brown)

That the apology from Cr Paul Dimery and Alan Clarkson for absence, Cr Monty Knight for leave of absence and Sue Reed-Thomas for lateness be received.

Carried

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest made at any stage of the meeting.

Confirmation of Minutes: Environmental Management Committee Meeting – 28 April 2015 (Item 1.0)

Report from Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary.

A756828

Moved (Brown/Hunt)

1. That the minutes of the Environmental Management Committee meeting held on 28 April 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Matters arising from 1.0:

Go Slow - Cr J Carr advised that Northland Regional Council had considered an application for funding for approximately \$5,000 and determined it was not appropriate for Northland Regional Council to fund what is considered to be a human health issue in this case. Cr C Brown had suggested applications be made to the politically elected Northland District Health Board.

Waioira Northland Water Progress (Item 2.0)

Report from Natalie Glover, Waioira Northland Water Project Manager.

A752532

Moved (Brown/Gover)

1. That the report Waioira Northland Water progress by Natalie Blandford, Waioira Northland Water Project Manager and dated 4 June 2015, be received.
2. That Susan Karels be appointed to the community representative vacancy on the Mangere catchment group.
3. That Cr Sharon Morgan be appointed to the Whangarei District Council representative vacancy on the Mangere catchment group.
4. That the Ngunguru Catchment Group Proposed Terms of Reference be accepted.

Carried

Matters arising from 2.0:

The Land/Rivers Senior Programme Manager offered to bring to the next Environmental Management Committee meeting an item setting out the tangibles on what is being achieved for each catchment and related budgets.

The Consents/Monitoring Manager confirmed he will present an agenda item to the next Environmental Management Committee meeting on Swamp Kauri.

Environment Fund and Farm Water Quality Improvement Plan Update (Item 3.0)

Report from Duncan Kervell, Land Programme Manager, Don McKenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager and Bruce Howse, Land/Rivers Senior Programme Manager.

A737098

Moved (Carr/Brown)

That the report Environment Fund & Farm Water Quality Improvement Plan Update by Duncan Kervell, Land Programme Manager, Don McKenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager and Bruce Howse, Land/Rivers Senior Programme Manager, and dated 8 June 2015 be received.

Carried

Moved (Cutforth/Carr)

That the committee approve up to \$138,166 to fund pest control as part of the Environment fund allocation for 2015-2016.

Carried

Moved (Brown/Hunt)

That the committee approve \$13,000 of funding from the Land Management reserve to fund the testing of the new design of wild cat trap against National Animal Ethics Standards.

Carried

Moved (Booth/Brown)

That the committee approve the proposed change to contribute up to 50% of the fencing costs on dairy properties (up from 30%), on fencing projects taking effect on 1 July 2015.

Carried

Matters arising from 3.0:

The Land/Rivers Senior Programme Manager advised most of the fencing targeted is not required by the Dairy Accord.

River Management Update (Item 4.0)

**Report from Joseph Camuso, Rivers Programme Manager.
A753970**

Moved (Brown/Carr)

1. That the report Rivers Management Update by Joseph Camuso, Rivers Programme Manager and dated 4 June 2015 be received.

Carried

Matters arising from 4.0:

Cr J Carr requested that an update on Kawakawa and Taumarere be included within the next River Management Update.

Appreciation was recorded to staff for their outstanding effort in nearing completion of the Kotuku Dam project.

Community wastewater treatment plant discharges – current compliance status (updated) (Item 5.0)

**Report from Tess Dacre, Compliance Monitoring Senior Programme Manager.
A628807**

Moved (Carr/Cutforth)

That the report Community wastewater treatment plant discharges – current compliance status (updated) from Tess Dacre, Compliance Monitoring Programme Manager, dated 4 June 2015 be received.

Carried

Environmental Monitoring for the period 1 April –31 May 2015 (Item 6.0)

**Report from Colin Dall, Consents/Monitoring Manager.
A753899**

Moved (Brown/Hunt)

That the report 'Environmental Monitoring for the Period 1 April - 31 May 2015 from Colin Dall, Consents/Monitoring Manager, dated 8 May 2015, be received.

Carried

Biosecurity Responses Update (Item 7.0)

**Report from Don McKenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager.
A751869**

Moved (Carr/Reed-Thomas)

That the report Biosecurity Responses update by Don McKenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager and dated 26 May 2015, be received.

Carried

Update on the Mair Bank Pipi and Ngunguru Shellfish Mortality (Item 8.0)

**Report by Ricky Eyre, Monitoring Programme Manager - Coastal.
A754469**

Moved (Brown/Gover)

1. That the report "Update on the Mair Bank Pipi and Ngunguru Shellfish Mortality" by Ricky Eyre, Monitoring Programme Manager - Coastal, dated 5 June 2015, be received.
2. That the Northland Regional Council write to the Minister of Primary Industries and NIWA requesting that the ministry develop a coordinated strategy to investigate mass shellfish mortality events and to take the lead role in the investigation of the Mair Bank pipi decline.

Carried

Matters arising from 8.0:

Cr J Carr noted NIWA's involvement is important from a scientific view point. A request was made for a further update report on the Mair Bank Pipi and Ngunguru Shellfish Mortality at the next Environmental Management Committee meeting.

Formal enforcement: Principles & processes (Item 9.0)

**Report by Tess Dacre, Compliance Monitoring Senior Programme Manager.
A754190**

Moved (Booth/Hunt)

That the report Formal Enforcement: Principles & processes from Tess Dacre, Compliance Monitoring Programme Manager, dated 4 June 2015 be received.

Carried

Kauri Dieback Vectors (Item 10.0)

**Report by Kane McElrea, Biosecurity Programme Manager.
A736725**

Moved (Brown/Gover)

That the report Kauri Dieback Vectors by Kane McElrea, Biosecurity Programme Manager and dated 15 May 2015 be received.

Carried

Matters arising from 10.0:

The Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager advised wild pigs and deer are continually being released illegally in Northland forests. He noted the proposed withdrawal of the OSPRI funding contribution from the Northland wild deer programme is concerning. He confirmed that without controlling and monitoring vectors, and a thorough testing program, TB could be rife in our vectors before being picked up in herds.

Moved (Carr/Brown)

That Cr J Carr and Cr B Shepherd are given the responsibility to write a response to National Bovine TB Plan Review Secretariat in respect of the Plan Review and take into account the comments received from Mr A Clarkson.

Carried

Tangata Whenua Freshwater Values – presentation (Item 11.0)

**Report by Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary.
A756843**

Moved (Reed-Thomas/Shepherd)

That the introductory report and presentation from Keir Volkerling be received.

Carried

Matters arising from 11.0:

Mr K Volkerling gave a PowerPoint presentation on “Northland Tangata Whenua Fresh Water Values Study”. He introduced Jane White, Senior Analyst for Environmental Economics Unit and Mike Hayward, Manager Environmental Economics Unit representing MPI who have attended in support. Mr K Volkerling emphasised it is important the values drive the project. Cr J Carr thanked Mr K Volkerling for his informative and succinct presentation.

Reconnecting Northland – presentation (Item 12.0)
Report by Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary.
A756847

Moved (Hunt/Brown)

That the introductory report and presentation from David Mules, Reconnecting Northland Programme Manager be received.

Carried

Matters arising from 12.0:

Mr David Mules, Reconnecting Northland Programme Manager was welcomed to the meeting. He gave a PowerPoint presentation on “Reconnecting Northland”. He highlighted the following key points:

- How can we make the most of this unique opportunity to make the most of our biodiversity and Reconnecting Northland and maximise the benefits available to us?
- How do we continue to recognise our strong synergies and complement each other's efforts?

Cr J Carr thanked Mr D Mules for his informative and extensive presentation.

Agenda items for next Environmental Management Committee Meeting – 31 August 2015 (Item 13.0)
Report by Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary.
A756852

Moved (Cutforth/Brown)

That the Environmental Management Committee members suggest agenda items for inclusion into the agenda for the next Environmental Management Committee meeting on 31 August 2015.

Carried

Matters arising from 12.0:

Mair Bank Pipi and Ngunguru Shellfish Mortality

Moved (Cutforth/Brown)

That staff are requested to provide another report on the Mair Bank Pipi and Ngunguru Shellfish Mortality to the next Environmental Management Committee meeting with MPI representatives to be invited to attend.

Carried

Conclusion

The meeting closed at 12.44 pm.

ISSUE: Waiora Northland Water Progress

ID: A765891

To: Environmental Management Committee, 31 August 2015

From: Natalie Blandford, Waiora Northland Water Project Manager

Date: 6 August 2015

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 type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress with Waiora Northland Water and contributing programmes between 5 June and 6 August 2015.

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 report is therefore of low significance in terms of council's significance policy.

Recommendation:

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1. That the report Waiora Northland Water progress by Natalie Blandford, Waiora Northland Water Project Manager and dated 6 August 2015, be received.
 2. That the nominations of Andy Warren and Jeremy Waldegrave for the two forestry positions and Matt Long for one of two farming positions on the Ngunguru Catchment Working Group be accepted.
-

Report:

Councillors attended a workshop on Waiora Northland Water 4 August 2015, in which staff covered aspects of the council-wide programme and work underway in the priority catchments.

NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT FOR FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT (NPS FM) IMPLEMENTATION

New Regional Plan

Over the last couple of months, the Regional Policy Committee has been working on the management of water quality and quantity for the draft Regional Plan. The Dairy Industry Liaison Group, the RMA Northland Forestry Development Group and Northland Drystock Industry Liaison Group have also been sharing their practical water management expertise with Council. Regional Policy Committee will be working through options for water quality and quantity management and associated cost benefit analysis until release of the draft regional plan scheduled for mid-2016. The regional plan will provide the region-wide framework for water management and address the compulsory elements of the NPS FM (ecosystem health and human health). The draft regional plan structure will also provide for inclusion of catchment specific provisions established via the priority catchment groups.

Northland Economic Impact JV Studies

Ministry for Primary Industries joint venture project progress includes the following:

- Identifying the potential economic costs and environmental outcomes of meeting sediment and E.coli objectives and limits in freshwater and estuarine environments using Whāngārei Harbour:
 - NIWA have completed their modelling of E.Coli in the Whāngārei Harbour Catchment. This data, along with that of the Sediment Budget, is being incorporated into an economic model to assess the costs of meeting various mitigation scenarios. The sediment model and draft economic model from this work was presented to Whāngārei Harbour catchment group in June and July for information and feedback on the scenarios.
- Tangata Whenua Values Studies Project:
 - Keir Volkerling in partnership with MPI and MfE is finalising the report that describes Northland's Tangata Whenua values and associated indicators/attributes. Council, MPI, MfE, participants of the three Hui held in April, and key stakeholders have given their feedback on the report, which is due for release by the end of August.

Engagement with Ministry for the Environment

A number of staff attended an MfE sponsored one-day "Super Communicator" workshop held 6 August 2015 in Whāngārei. The workshop - designed for regional council technical staff working in the "freshwater space" who interact with the public - will be delivered at centres across New Zealand during August and September.

MfE released a report "Criteria for choosing collaboration" in June 2015. The report identifies the critical criteria for when to use a collaborative planning process for natural resource management and is available on the MfE website¹.

¹ Criteria for choosing collaboration

http://www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/Fresh%20water/CawRpt%202708_Criteria%20for%20choosing%20collaboration.pdf

PCE report on NPS FM

The Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment (PCE) released the '*Managing Water Quality: Examining the 2014 National Policy Statement (June 2015)*' report during June 2015. A separate item in this agenda provides a summary of the recommendations from the report and their alignment with the approach taken by council to implement the NPS through Waioara Northland Water.

Te Mana o Te Wai Fund Application

Minister for the Environment Dr Nick Smith is still deliberating on which applications will be awarded funding from the Te Mana o Te Wai Fund. Three Northland applications were submitted to the Fund which closed 30 April 2015, including two aiming to improve dune lake water quality in Pouto, Kai Iwi and Te Hiku and one application improving river water quality in the Whangaroa catchment.

PRIORITY CATCHMENTS

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

Catchment group activity

Catchment groups have largely completed an important step to drafting their freshwater objectives, in which catchment uses and values were matched with their indicators – for example ecosystem health with water clarity.

During August/September, catchment groups will be presented with draft objectives to evaluate. Scenario building will follow from September to December – in which catchment groups adjust the elements of various staff-prepared scenarios designed to achieve the draft objectives. From February to April 2016, catchment groups will be working on draft catchment plans – essentially concise spatial maps of the catchment showing actions at particular locations and their timeframes for implementation. The catchment plans will also contain their own set of rules if a cost/benefit analysis demonstrates the need to diverge from the regional plan approach. The regional and catchment specific components of the plan will go through the Regional Policy Committee and Environmental Management Committees before being released as a draft in mid-2016.

Catchment group programme of work to prepare catchment plans

Timeframes	Activity
August – September	Evaluate draft objectives
September – December	Scenario building
February – April 2016	Draft catchment plans
Mid-2016	Draft regional and catchment plans released

Catchment Group Participant Survey

Catchment management staff are constantly looking for ways to improve processes, engage differently and manage expectations. Landcare Research has independent funding to survey the priority catchment groups in this regard and completed their initial survey of group participants in July. They have already begun to report interim results back to the groups. Surveys will be repeated at the end of the process to enable comparisons to be made.

Doubtless Bay

Freshwater uses and values within the Doubtless Bay catchment have now been matched with measurable attributes. The next task will be to agree draft objectives and develop scenarios to achieve them.

A further ten farm owners have requested Farm Water Quality Improvement Plans and are awaiting Environment Fund money to become available. This will bring the number of FWQIPs in the Doubtless Bay catchment to 21. Willows and poplars have been distributed and planted for this planting season.

Sediment source sampling is due to get underway next month which will involve collecting representative land use samples from contributing streambeds. The results will allow the group and council to direct resources to soil conservation where it is most needed.

The next workshop is scheduled for 23 September 2015.

Mangere

Staff gave a presentation to Mangere catchment group on water allocation at their 8 July workshop. The group also finalised the uses and values/attributes and indicators matching exercise that will lead on to draft objectives for freshwater management.

As well as catchment planning work, Mangere catchment group have been developing their collaboration with Kokopu School – an Enviroschool, which provides the venue for catchment group meetings.

School children and catchment group members are planning a riparian planting day for Wednesday 19 August at a Mangere catchment group member's drystock property, where they will install 600 riparian plants sourced from Waimarie Nursery and funded by Reconnecting Northland.

After planting the trees, everyone will return to Kokopu School for a tour of their new WaiNursery and a bestowal of the Mangere River Award² to Kokopu School as the hub of their community. The aim is to recognise the community of the Mangere catchment for their kaitiaki or guardianship actions that led to the award.

To boost further riparian planting in Mangere catchment in 12 months' time, DairyNZ has brokered the donation of 200 riparian plants from Papakarahi Landcare Nursery to supplement the plants being nurtured in Kokopu School's new WaiNursery facility.

The next catchment group workshop is scheduled for 26 August 2015.

² The Mangere River Award was received from The Morgan Foundation in November 2014 by Northland Regional Council for Dissolved Reactive Phosphorus reduction in the catchment.

Whāngārei

Whāngārei catchment group held a meeting 16 June 2015 (minutes are appended) and a workshop on 28 July 2015.

The group has finalised the attributes that match with their uses and values and are ready to consider draft objectives and the scenario building exercise. Presentations to the group were made by NIWA (Mal Green) and Landcare Research (Adam Daigneault) scientists involved in the Whāngārei Harbour Sediment and E.Coli study. The final outputs from this work will assist the group in setting realistic objectives for sediment.

The catchment group also allocated funding from the Whāngārei District Council to assist with restoration at three sites chosen by the group: erosion planting at Onerahi; remediation of a fish barrier on the Waiarohia; and assistance in improving swimming water quality at the Whāngārei Falls (Otuihau).

Staff are scheduled to make a brief presentation about the Waiora Northland Water programme and the Whāngārei catchment to the Whāngārei Strategic Alliance on 21 August.

The next catchment group workshop is scheduled for 15 September 2015.

Waitangi

Waitangi catchment group held a meeting 11 June 2015 (minutes of the meeting are appended) and a workshop 28 July 2015.

The group have now identified the most appropriate indicators for their freshwater uses and values, and like the other priority catchment groups, is looking forward to discussing draft freshwater objectives and the scenario building exercise from September/October 2015.

At their July workshop, Waitangi catchment group members dedicated the session to learning about water allocation management in their catchment.

Waitangi Catchment Group Lead Duncan Kervell also presented the group with the timeline to prepare the draft catchment management plan. Members were advised that the high volume of work may require extra unscheduled "Kitchen Table" meetings for both the group and representative parties to help them to engage with their representative communities. One example of this is where local hapu representatives will come together to meet with the Catchment Lead who will help them to prepare a presentation to introduce their Tangata Whenua values to the group.

The next catchment group workshop is scheduled for 3 September 2015.

Pouto

At the last catchment group workshop held 20 July, the members decided to form the Pouto Landcare Group, which will be open to the wider public, and focus on developing riparian planting projects in the catchment. The group will be supported in their efforts by the Landcare Trust.

Department of Conservation supported members of the catchment group and the local community to hold planting days at Lake Waingata and Lake Kahuparere in June 2015. The final planting day of the season is to take place on Friday 14 August at Lake Rototuna.

The catchment group awaits the delivery of technical reports on nutrient limitation and the

impact of nutrients on ecological status, to inform their further discussion about scenarios for water quality improvement.

Council Hydrology department staff will be attending the next workshop of the catchment group scheduled for 21 September 2015, to present information about groundwater management.

Ngunguru

Staff have initiated the recruitment process for the Ngunguru catchment working group, being set up to address erosion and sedimentation issues in the catchment from a local perspective.

A number of environmental groups, who have heard about the group through word of mouth, have shown particular interest in the catchment group concept.

At their July meeting, the RMA Northland Forestry Development Group nominated Andy Warren and Jeremy Waldegrave for the two forestry positions on the group. Matt Long has been nominated for one of the farming positions on the group.

Staff will report nominations for District Council, Tangata Whenua, farming, Department of Conservation, Conservation Board, Environmental Interests, Ratepayers and Community positions to the next committee meeting for confirmation.

To ensure availability of representatives, staff anticipate holding the group's inaugural meeting in early October 2015.

CONTRIBUTING PROGRAMMES

Northland lakes Ecological Status Survey 2015

The report of this year's pest plant surveillance and ecological assessment survey of 16 lakes which was carried out in May, will be available in August.

Update on the Aupouri Aquifer Review

The Council commissioned Lincoln Agritech Ltd to review existing information available on the Aupouri Aquifer and to model how much water can be taken from areas along the peninsula without causing saltwater intrusion.

The report divides the aquifer into nine subzones based on a number of factors, including land use, groundwater flow direction, topography and areas of high demand. A numerical model of the aquifer was then used to assess how much water could be taken from each subzone without causing saltwater intrusion into the aquifer along the coast.

The levels of uncertainty in the modelling results for each zone were also assessed. The report makes technical recommendations for future monitoring and management of the aquifer and will be used to inform future decisions on allocation limits and groundwater levels as well as improving our existing monitoring of the Aupouri Aquifer.

Kai Iwi Lakes

Hydrology

Council's hydrology team completed drilling of the three new bores at Lake Kai Iwi on 23 June 2015 and will compile a summary report on groundwater flow and nutrient sources to

the lake from results of the initial groundwater level monitoring and water quality sampling over the next six months.

Biosecurity

During the reporting period, staff and contractors carried out the following pest control:

- Possum poisoning operation using Cholecalciferol administered through bait stations
- Possum control on private land surrounding the lakes
- Aerial spraying of Pampas grass over 50ha around Lake Waikare and Taharoa
- Wilding pine control around Lake Waikare, and Northern side of Lake Taharoa towards main camp ground

Industry liaison

Drystock Industry Liaison Group

The third meeting of the industry liaison group is scheduled for Tuesday, 22 September 2015.

The group will discuss topics including: reducing erosion on highly erodible land under pasture (with the support of a national fund); an update on assessing alternative stock exclusion scenarios; and an overview of recommended freshwater management units (FMUs) for Northland. Membership of the group has grown and now includes:

Industry:

Roger Ludbrook – Federated Farmers (Chair)
Alan Clarkson – EMC Farming Rep
Louise Wilson – Federated Farmers
Alison Whiteford – Beef&Lamb NZ
Matthew Keltie – Landcorp Farming Ltd
John Blackwell – Federated Farmers
James Parsons (Chairman, Beef and Lamb NZ)
Rawson Wright (Farmer; Pouto Catchment Group;
Kaipara Harbour Joint Political Committee)
Jeffrey Martin (Farmer; Northland Farmers Council
of Beef and Lamb NZ)

NRC:

Cr Bill Shepherd
Duncan Kervell – Land Management
Anita Semenoff – Land Management
Bruce Griffin – Land Management
Justin Murfitt – Planning and Policy
Ben Tait – Planning and Policy

Dairy Industry Liaison Group

The Dairy Industry Liaison Group met 6 July 2015 and heard from Council about a review of the effectiveness and efficiency of its FDE rules, discussed monitoring, compliance, the future of discharges for the dairy industry, and some options to improve the management framework.

Options for a revised rule framework for dairy effluent discharges will be discussed at the next meeting on Monday 24 August 2015.

Forestry

RMA Northland Forestry Development Group met on Tuesday 21 July 2015 and discussed - among other topics - the new regional plan being developed for Northland, the new National

Environmental Standard being developed for Plantation Forestry and the review of the Forestry Earthworks and Harvesting Guidelines for Northland.

Ashlee Lawrence and Don McKenzie from Council's Biosecurity team gave a presentation on Wild Ginger in Northland.

The group nominated Andy Warren and Jeremy Waldegrave as the forestry representatives for the Ngunguru Catchment Group.

The next meeting of the Group is scheduled for Tuesday 15 September 2015.

Environmental Education

Following the April fencing skills training, three EnviroSchools WaiFencing assessment days were held on 16, 22 and 23 June 2015.

WaiFencing is a component of the EnviroSchools WaiRestoration project and is aimed at boosting participants' qualifications and future employment opportunities as well as better protecting the region's waterways from stock.

Senior students from Dargaville High School, Kamo High School and Tauraroa Area School worked on the council's Flyger Road property, whilst students from Kaikohe Christian School, Kaitaia College, Northland College and Te Rangi Aniwaniwa worked on the Northland College dairy farm. The students were assessed on fencing knots and ties, electric fencing, fencing equipment, fencing theory and running a multi-wire fence line.



Kamo High School WaiFencing students battening a fence at council's Flyger Road property



Dargaville High School WaiFencing crew

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes from the Whāngārei Harbour Catchment Group Meeting,
Sub-Committee of the Environmental Management Committee
held at NRC, 36 Water Street, Whāngārei
on Tuesday 16 June 2015 commencing at 6.30 pm

Present

Andrew Warren	Forestry representative
Brian McLachlan	WDC Council representative
Freya Lynch	Dairy farming representative
Jack Price	Commercial fishing representative
Jeremy Busck	Environmental interests representative
Jon Clotworthy	Beef and sheep farming representative
Margaret Kay	Community representative
Mira Norris	Hapu/iwi representative
Murray Owen	Beef and sheep farming representative

In Attendance

Darryl Jones	NRC
Joanna Wilson	WDC
Helen Moodie	DairyNZ
Dee du Toit (Minutes)	WDC
Suzie Greenhalgh	Land Care Research
Jan Powell	NDHB
Malcolm Green	NIWA Hamilton

Suzie Greenhalgh provided an opportunity, before and during the dinner that preceded the catchment group meeting, for members to complete a catchment group survey. This survey is a chance for members to comment on the process to date in order to ensure that all of the relevant information and procedures are in place to support the stakeholder group.

1. Apologies

Adrian Tonks, Dane Karapu, Glenn Mortimer, Julianne Chetham, Kim Jones, Murray Byles, Neville Erceg, Nicki Wakefield, Paul Dimery

Brian McLachlan acted as chair for the meeting in Glenn's absence.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes were accepted.



3. Feedback from Member Networks

The group was made aware of the upcoming Waitaia Awa Community Planting Day on Thursday 18 June 2015.

A Drains to Harbour (DTH) Stormwater Community Day was held at the Town Basin on Saturday 13 June 2015. Feedback shows an increase in public awareness since the last survey in 2007. The group is supportive of Drains to Harbour to continue in schools, and to consider targeting the commercial sector.

Concerns were raised about WDC Resource Consent for wastewater discharge. Primary concern is around a proposed lowering of the water quality standard. **Action: Darryl to investigate with Consents.** Support for work happening at the wastewater treatment site.

Concerns were raised about additional moorings in the harbour when there is already an issue with moorings and silt.

Group may be interested in devices that catch rubbish from stormwater (enviropods). One was used in drains in the community day which was a good educational tool.

4. Actions Undertaken

Significant non-compliance found in four Pohe Island boatsheds (WDC & NRC).

Councils are trying to improve water quality for swimming at the Whangarei Falls. Additional source tracking and monitoring is being done by NRC and two Northtec students will be walking the streams over the next few months to locate pressure points. An update will be given at the next meeting.

The Auckland University Geography department will be running a human geography course up here. If anyone has any research topic suggestions get in touch with Jo.

The restoration sites chosen: Whangarei Falls, Onerahi & Waiarohia Stream were investigated for funding allocation: approximately \$1500 for Onerahi for erosion planting; Waiarohia Stream need \$10 000 for fish barrier remediation and approximately \$18 500 to go to Whangarei Falls. Discussion about how the money for the Whangarei Falls would be spent and options will be discussed with the group once the investigation has been done. There was also a discussion around water fowl and how to manage this issue. **Action: Jo & Darryl to speak to Fish and Game.**

5. Presentation – Whāngārei Harbour Sediment Budget

Malcolm Green from NIWA presented on the Northland Sediment Study. It should be noted that the numbers included in the presentation were purely hypothetical. The following questions were raised:

- What is the expected timeframe? Study to be completed within a couple of months.
- Is a 1mm annual Sediment Accumulation Rate (SAR) achievable or should we aim for a more realistic target? We may have to explore a tiered approach. 1mm/year seems to be a good starting point. Should help with targeting areas.
- Is the 1mm SAR for Porirua based on our specific soils? No, here we are taking a more strategic approach and building the model first. Did it back to front in Porirua. The Model is a tool for thinking what you want to achieve, how you're going to achieve it and what it will cost.
- What is the cost? Model will take per ha production costs, look at revenue, cost of production and then a sediment load. If we were to trigger mitigation costs the model would hypothesise a cost benefit analysis.
- How do you account for the big city in the middle of it? This has been built into SEDNETNZ model. Previous study done on sediment in Whangarei Harbour, part of the reason why the catchment was chosen.
- From your experience in terms of estuarine systems, are there some thoughts on the ecological impacts of a 1mm/yr SAR? Guessing a little bit, but guess is somewhere in the middle is useful and practical. Graph links ecosystem health to sedimentation rate by PhD student. Issue is not sedimentation rate but health of the ecosystem. 1 is halfway between what is now and what it used to be.

6. Discussion – Linking Attributes to Uses and Values

Clarification was sought around the difference between an attribute and a performance measure. MCI is up for discussion as to whether it was an attribute or performance measure. Some can be both.

Discussion around missing attributes for each of the uses/values. Points raised were:

1. Some of the attributes have positive impacts on some uses/values and negative impacts on others
2. Access needed for multiple, fish life needed for multiple (is fish life attribute or performance measure) – agreed.

3. Human Health and Recreation and Water Supply, bit of duplication
4. Simplification of overlapping, lots of duplication

It was agreed that the attributes list will be condensed and overlapping and duplicated attributes combined before prioritisation begins. **Action: Darryl to condense list and circulate.**

7. General Business

Discussion about attendance. Nothing set down in specifics in the Terms of Reference about this.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Next Meeting: 28 July 2015

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of the Waitangi Catchment Group workshop
Sub-Committee of the Environmental Management Committee
held at the Okaihau Golf Club
Thursday, 11 June 2015
commencing at 6.30pm

Present:

Donald Jack
Terence Brocx
Daryl Way
Neil Cates
Rio Greening
Hone Tiatoa
Bill Hunter

Albie Apiata
Darryl Honey
Marty Robinson

Drystock Farming Interests
Dairy Farming Interests
Waimate North Landcare
Transfield (Industry Interests)
Ngati Korohue
Lake Omapere Trust
Kerikeri Irrigation

Waitangi River Liaison Group
Tourism Interest
Bay of Islands/Whangaroa
Community Board (FNDC)

In Attendance:

Duncan Kervell
Natalie Glover
Suzie Greenhalgh
Helen Moodie

Northland Regional Council
Northland Regional Council
Landcare Research
DairyNZ

Apologies:

Nicole Simonotti
Arnold Maunsell
Roger Ludbrook
Liz Kingsford
Alec Jack
Cr Joe Carr

Sue Johnsen
Maurice Williamson

Living Waters
Ngati Hineira
Dry Stock Farming Interests
Forestry Interests
Public Interests
Northland Regional Council
(Interim Chair)
Dairy Farming Interests
Public Interests

KARAKIA MIHIMIHI Hone Tiatoa

Don Jack opened the meeting at 7pm

Don welcomed Susie Greenhalgh from Landcare Research

Item 1 Apologies

Don Jack thanked those who kept coming and said it was a shame there were a lot who weren't able to participate this evening as we were getting to the real important decisions.

Item 2 Confirmation of minutes

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

Item 3 Round up – Duncan Kervell

- Need to live with some uncertainty. "Nothing more certain than Uncertainty"
- Prioritise gaps in knowledge. Can we make decisions on some uncertainty?
There is a need to go back through the minutes and review gaps in knowledge that have been identified – decide what we can 'live with' and carry on, or what further work is needed and to prioritise this.
- Bugs in streams - ecological aspects of water quality.
- Indicator species within the streams showing stream health.
- Sediment source tracking from last time, a useful tool for a good understanding of where and how much sediment is flowing through the system.
- Will provide copies of the NIWA presentation to those that want it.

DISCUSSION POINTS:

1. Helen went over how far we've come.
2. Asked people to get into groups to discuss what they understood from NIWA presentation by Max Gibbs and Andrew Swales.
3. Workshop with Natalie: matching uses and values to attributes and indicators.

Please Note: Staff will take identified uses and values and attributes and draft some high level 'objectives' for the group to consider. The group to confirm these objectives (Sept/Oct 2015).

Future Steps

4. Next step after this is staff will go away again and develop a range of 'scenarios' – actions and policies to achieve objectives (November 2015).
5. At this point we will need to talk with the wider catchment. Please note: The group are keen that there be 'no surprises' in the drafts. Also need to have the first draft prepared in plain English that the group easily recognises. Accept that this may need to be rewritten into 'plain speak'

GENERAL BUSINESS

No general business.

APOLOGIES FOR NEXT WORKSHOP

Marty Robinson

CLOSING KARAKIA: Albie

The meeting concluded at 21:05pm.

**ISSUE: Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment
Report on the NPS Freshwater Management**

ID: A766885

To: Environmental Management Committee, 31 August 2015

From: Bruce Howse, Group Manager Environmental Services

Date: 28 July 2015

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislative function	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Executive Summary:

This report provides a summary of the recommendations from the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment (PCE) report '*Managing Water Quality: Examining the 2014 National Policy Statement (June 2015)*'.

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. This report is provided for information only and is therefore of low significance in terms of council's significance policy.

Recommendation(s):

-
1. That the report Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment Report on the NPS Freshwater Management by Bruce Howse, Group Manager Environmental Services and dated 28 July 2015, be received.
-

Report:

The Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment (PCE) released the '*Managing Water Quality: Examining the 2014 National Policy Statement (June 2015)*' report during June 2015.

<http://www.pce.parliament.nz/publications/all-publications/managing-water-quality-examining-the-2014-national-policy-statement/>

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The report assesses six aspects of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS), focused on elements the PCE considers are absent or unclear in the NPS.

The six aspects and the PCE recommendations are **attached** to this report.

In summary these include:

1. A clearer focus on maintaining and improving water quality.
2. Setting clearer criteria for Councils to use when selecting Freshwater Management Units (FMU).
3. Exceptions only to apply to existing infrastructure when this is the reason for a FMU being below the bottom line (infrastructure not being just a contributory factor).
4. Prioritise the setting of objectives and limits for water bodies/catchments that are particularly vulnerable and under increasing pressure, and to set interim measures to prevent degradation in the meantime.
5. Include Macroinvertebrate Community Index (MCI) as a compulsory attribute for measuring ecosystem health.
6. Bring estuaries into the NPS.

These recommendations are aligned with both providing greater certainty and clarity around aspects of the NPS and making the NPS better at protecting waterbodies. Perhaps the most significant of these changes for Council would be the inclusion of estuaries into the NPS, given the number of estuaries located throughout Northland.

An independent review of the implementation and effectiveness of the NPS is scheduled to be completed by 1 July 2016, and at present there is no certainty as to which, if any, of the PCE recommendations will be acted on as part of that review.

As such it is not possible to determine what, if any, changes may be required to council's NPS implementation programme (Waioira Northland Water/WNW) should the review of the NPS recommend changes aligned with those of the PCE.

However, the PCE recommendations certainly do not run contrary to the approach taken by council to implement the NPS to date (through WNW and other initiatives such as the Proposed Regional Policy Statement and our water quality monitoring programme).

For example;

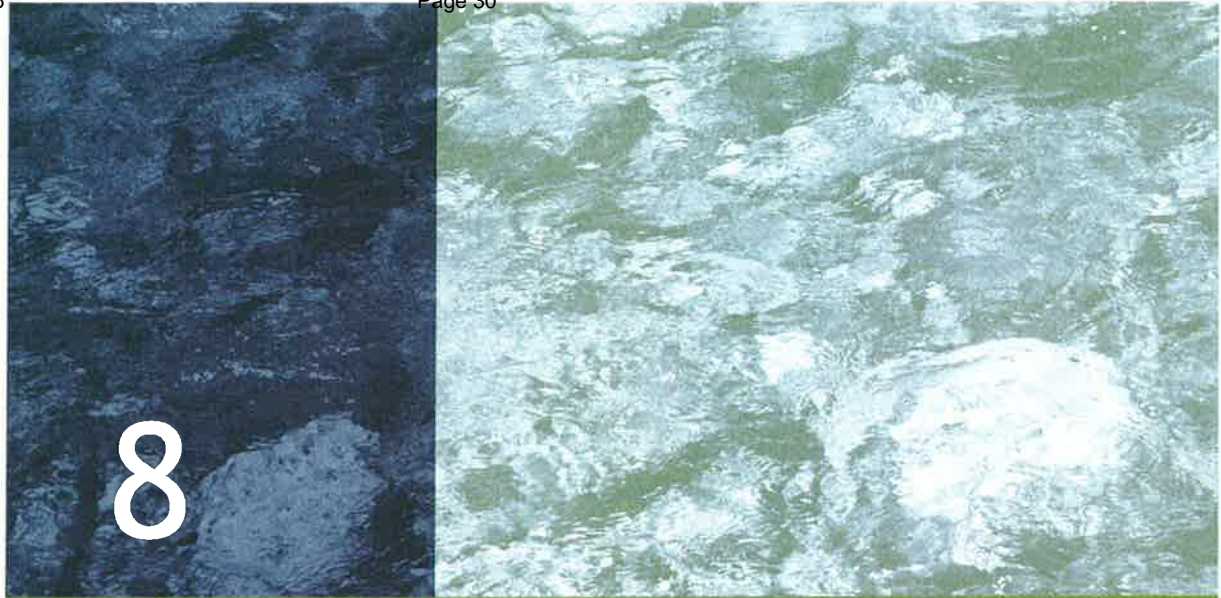
- We have not adopted an 'overs and unders' approach to overall water quality management (i.e. we do not expressly contemplate allowing a decline in water quality in one area to be offset by improvement in another).
- Our approach to establishing Freshwater Management Units (FMU), while still to be confirmed, will be fit for purpose to give effect to the NPS in the context of Northland's unique environment.
- We have not identified any need to provide exceptions to bottom lines on the basis of infrastructure.

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- The WNW programme adopts a combination of priority and interim approaches as per PCE recommendation 4 (E.g. priority catchment and region-wide approaches to water management).
- Council currently monitors MCI and the addition of this as a compulsory attribute in the NPS would not mean a significant shift / increase in resourcing to provide data.
- The WNW programme, our Proposed Regional Policy Statement and monitoring programmes recognise the significance of estuaries as receiving environments in Northland. Sediment and faecal contaminants are the primary concern and the need to integrate fresh and coastal water objectives in Northland is recognised (e.g. Proposed RPS Objective 3.2).

In conclusion, the PCE provides a useful commentary on the NPS. While the PCE recommendations do not include specific detail, on the face of it Waioara Northland Water appears well aligned with the general direction outlined by the PCE. Should the PCE recommendations be reflected in changes to the NPS, we are well placed to implement such direction without need for dramatic amendment to the Waioara Northland Water programme.



Conclusion and recommendations

In 2014 the National Objectives Framework (NOF) was added to the National Policy Statement (NPS) for managing fresh water. This was a major step forward for the management of water quality in New Zealand.

The framework sets some important bottom lines for water quality and specifies how councils should implement the NPS. It was originally proposed by the Land and Water Forum – a collaborative stakeholder-led group which made recommendations for changes to New Zealand's management of fresh water.

As it stands, key elements of the NPS are absent or unclear. This makes it difficult for regional councils who must implement the NPS. It is also difficult to know whether better water quality will actually result.

In many intensively farmed catchments water quality is already poor. Farmers need certainty too. Those making decisions on how to use and develop their land need to know what the NPS will mean for them.

Water quality is scientifically complex and developing policy is not easy. Six recommendations from the Commissioner follow. Some are aimed at providing greater clarity and certainty. Others are aimed at making the NPS better at protecting our many rivers, lakes, wetlands, aquifers, and estuaries.

Recommendation 1: Maintaining and improving water quality

Objective A2 in the NPS states that *“the overall quality of fresh water within a region”* is to be *“maintained or improved”*.

There is no definition of what it means to maintain or improve the water quality of a particular water body or an FMU. However, the Land and Water Forum has proposed a definition that is consistent with the National Objectives Framework.

A far more intractable problem is the maintenance or improvement of water quality *“overall”* within a region. Allowing degradation of water quality in some parts of a region to be balanced by improvements elsewhere – the ‘unders and overs’ approach – has been found by the Environment Court to be at odds with the law on several grounds. Moreover, gains and losses in water quality across a region simply cannot be added together in any satisfactory way.

I recommend that:

The Minister for the Environment amends the NPS as follows.

- a. Defining *“maintain”* to mean staying within the same band, and *“improve”* to mean moving to a higher band within the National Objectives Framework.
- b. Deleting the word *“overall”* from Objective A2.

Recommendation 2: Freshwater Management Units

The NPS requires councils to divide or group water bodies in their regions into water management zones termed ‘freshwater management units’ (FMUs). As there are no guiding principles within the NPS, clear criteria should be set for selecting FMUs.

I recommend that:

The Minister for the Environment directs his officials to provide a set of clear criteria for regional councils to use when selecting FMUs.

Recommendation 3: Exceptions to national bottom lines

The defining feature of the NPS is the setting of 'bottom lines' for water quality. However, exceptions are allowed. Regional councils can let water bodies stay below 'bottom lines' if existing infrastructure is a contributing factor.

It will be important to ensure that exceptions are only made where the existing infrastructure is the reason for an FMU being below the bottom line – simply contributing to it being below is not enough.

Further, the existing infrastructure to be listed in Appendix 3 should have been in place by 2014.

I recommend that:

- a. The Minister for the Environment amend the NPS so that an exception can only be made for existing infrastructure if that infrastructure is the reason for the FMU being below the bottom line.
- b. The Minister for the Environment direct officials to make it clear in Appendix 3 that 'existing' means existing in 2014.

Recommendation 4: Taking a strategic approach

In many water bodies, delaying action until the NPS can be fully implemented will lead to water quality falling, making the task of improving it that much harder and more costly. It is critically important that councils prioritise their water quality efforts and expenditure so immediate problems and pressure points are tackled.

One significant and growing pressure is the increasing nutrient pollution from the intensification of agriculture and the conversion of many sheep and beef farms and some forests to dairy farms.

I recommend that:

The Minister for the Environment amends the NPS to require regional councils to prioritise the setting of objectives and limits for water bodies and catchments that are particularly vulnerable and under increasing pressure, and to set interim measures to prevent degradation in the meantime.

Recommendation 5: Measuring ecosystem health – a bio-indicator

Ecosystem health is one of the two compulsory values in the NPS. Bio-indicators are used to measure the overall health of ecosystems.

The life-supporting capacity of fresh water is commonly measured by a bio-indicator called the Macroinvertebrate Community Index (MCI). It should be added to the National Objectives Framework in the NPS.

I recommend that:

The Minister for the Environment amends the NPS to include MCI as a compulsory attribute for measuring ecosystem health.

Recommendation 6: Estuaries

The NPS applies to lakes, rivers, wetlands and groundwater, but not to estuaries, although many of New Zealand's estuaries are under great pressure. Under the NPS, catchments are to be managed in an integrated way – this cannot be done if estuaries are excluded.

Bringing estuaries into the NPS would require councils to set objectives and limits above bottom lines for these vulnerable water bodies.

I recommend that:

The Minister for the Environment direct his officials to prioritise the work required to bring estuaries into the NPS.

ISSUE: Environment Fund & Farm Water Quality Improvement Plan Update

ID: A764066

To: Environmental Management Committee, 31 August 2015

From: Duncan Kervell, Land Programme Manager and Bruce Howse, Group Manager Environmental Services

Date: 10 August 2015

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"/> Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Executive Summary:

- Year to date **\$592,753.77** of the Environment Fund budget has been allocated to a total of **136** projects.
- The June delegated authority was \$114,380.67 for 22 projects which will be funded from the 2015/16 Environment Fund budget.
- The July delegated authority was \$171,613.60 for 42 projects.
- The August delegated authority was \$143,593.50 for 28 projects.
- Biosecurity projects was \$138,166.00 for 44 projects.
- Soil Conservation was \$25,000.00.

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(s):

1. That the report Environment Fund & Farm Water Quality Improvement Plan Update by Duncan Kervell, Land Programme Manager and Bruce Howse, Group Manager Environmental Services, and dated 10 August 2015 be received.
2. That approval is given to over allocate the 2015/16 Environment Fund budget by up to \$100,000. In the event that withdrawals are less than the budget, then the budget deficit would need to be met from the Land Management Reserve and an adjustment made to the following years budget allocation.

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3. That delegated authority be given to Duncan Kervell, Land Programme Manager, to co-sign the environment fund delegated authority approvals with the NRC Chairman.

Environment Fund Update 2015/16

The delegated authorities for June, July and August are **attached**. The June allocation is for the 2015/16 Environment fund budget.

Year to date \$592,753.77 of the Environment Fund budget has been allocated (to a total of 136 projects).

Table 2. Environment Fund funding allocation for 2015/16

Delegated Authority	Land/Biosecurity	NO of Projects	Allocation	Budget
1 – June 2015	Land	22	\$ 114,380.67	
2 – June 2015	Biosecurity	44	\$ 138,166.00	
3 – July 2015	Land	42	\$ 171,613.60	
4 – August 2015	Land	28	\$ 143,593.50	
Soil Conservation			\$ 25,000.00	
Allocation to date			\$ 592,753.77	
Budget	Land			\$ 725,000
	Biosecurity			\$ 75,000
Total Budget				\$800,000.00
Less allocation to date				\$ 592,753.77
Balance Remaining				\$ 207,246.23

Withdrawal of Projects

During the course of the 2014/15 year \$95,460.80 of approved funding was withdrawn by applicants due to their inability to complete agreed works. Most withdrawals occurred towards the end of the financial year.

To address this situation it is recommended that we over allocate the fund budget by up to \$100,000 during 2015/16. In the event that withdrawals are less than the budget, then the budget deficit would need to be met from the Land Management Reserve and an adjustment made to the following years budget allocation. It is noted that in the 2015/25 LTP the Environment Fund budget for the first three years of the LTP has increased to \$800,000 per annum by funding an additional \$125,000 per annum from the Land Management Reserve.

Delegated Authority

Approval of Environment Fund projects for less than \$20,000 is via delegated authority to the NRC Chairman and the Group Manager Environmental Services who co-sign the delegated approval form for projects after evaluation of each projects merit. It is recommended that this delegation be extended to include the Land Programme Manager with the co-approval of the NRC Chairman or the Environmental Management Committee Chair remaining in place.

Farm Water Quality Improvement Plans (FWQIP) 1 July 2015 to 10 August 2015

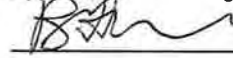
Year to date a total of 32 FWQIP's have been commenced , 6 FWQIP's have been completed, with a further 60 in progress.

Status of FWQIP	Farm Type	Far North	Kaipara	Whāngārei	Total
Plans commenced : 1 July 2015 to 10 August 2015	Drystock	10	10	5	25
	Lifestyle	4	0	2	6
	Dairy	0	0	1	1
		14	10	8	32
Plans completed: 1 July 2015 to 10 August 2015	Drystock	2	1	1	4
	Lifestyle	0	0	0	0
	Dairy	1	0	1	1
		3	1	2	6
Plans still in progress	Drystock	8	20	12	40
	Lifestyle	4	0	3	7
	Dairy	0	9	4	13
		12	29	19	60

Delegated Authority Recommendations - June 2015

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.037398.02.01	246	LOD	Graham Hodgson	2014	\$ 7,000.00	Beef	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 9,438.00
APP.037095.02.01	96	LOD	David Asplin	2014	\$ 1,722.00	Beef	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 1,900.00
APP.036829.02.01	236	DEJ	Hugh Tennent	2014	\$ 3,468.00	Beef	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 5,045.00
APP.037064.02.01	268	DEJ	Eric and Jacqueline Read	2014	\$ 3,510.00	Beef	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 2,430.00
APP.037539	315	DEJ	James and Haylee Ward	N/A		Sheep & Beef	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 4,462.00
APP.037540	316	DEJ	John Murray Pasley	N/A		Beef	Biodiversity		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 2,327.00
APP.037669	330	DEJ	Gary and Tanya Maree Whale	N/A		Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 4,335.00
APP.037689	333	DEJ	David and Jo Floyd	N/A		Beef	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 1,085.00
APP.036818.02.01	233	DEJ	MC & HM Smith	2014	\$ 3,591.00	Beef	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 2,180.00
APP.037688	295	KWE	Derek Victor Birt	N/A		Sheep & Beef	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 13,615.00
APP.037694	326	KWE	Jonathan Charles Mortimer Davie	N/A		Beef	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 990.00
APP.037697	321	KWE	Andrea Orchard (Orcan Ltd)	N/A		Beef	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing & Planting	\$ 5,400.00
APP.037698	87	KWE	Kenneth Charles Hames	2010-14	\$ 18,042.99	Beef	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 5,473.00
APP.037705	328	KWE	Martin & Pam Shead	N/A		Sheep & Beef	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing & Planting	\$ 4,860.00
APP.037703	88	KWE	Oruawharo Incorporation	2011-2012	\$ 14,050.00	Beef	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 2,205.00
APP.037716	329	KWE	Max Kenneth Tilby	N/A		Beef	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 1,325.00
APP.037601	320	ROM	Jacqueline Lawrence	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 1,350.00
APP.037726	N/A	ASE	Whangaroa Golf Club	N/A		Golf Club	Water Quality		Far North	Planting	\$ 1,000.00
APP.037740	N/A	ASE	Wilson Conservation & Farming Ltd	N/A		Beef	Water Quality		Far North	Planting	\$ 1,000.00
APP.036451.02.01	N/A	DUK	Landcorp Farming Limited (Omamari Station)	2014	\$ 11,223.00	Sheep & Beef	Biodiversity		Far North	Fencing	\$ 12,162.67
APP.037742	N/A	DUK	Landcorp Farming Limited (Mangatōa Station)	N/A		Sheep & Beef	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 18,798.00
APP.037016.02.01	N/A	PEG	Barbara Searle: DOC	2014	\$ 4,000.00	DOC Land	Water Quality		Kaipara	Planting	\$ 13,000.00
TOTAL											\$ 114,380.67

Approved Under Delegated Authority


Bruce Howse
Land & Rivers Senior Programme Manager

Date: 9/8/15

Summary Sighted by Councillor


Bill Shepherd
Chairman - Northland Regional Council

Date: 09/05/15

Delegated Authority Recommendations - July 2015

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 036835.02.01	237	ASE	Norman Wilde	2014	\$ 3,880.00	Drystock	Water Quality	Doubtless Bay	Far North	Fencing	\$ 3,864.00
APP 036931.02.01	250	ASE	Sutton Drystock Farms Limited	2014	\$ 6,794.00	Drystock	Water Quality	Doubtless Bay	Far North	Fencing	\$ 13,400.00
APP 036932.02.01	251	ASE	Otengi Farms Limited	2014	\$ 5,550.00	Drystock	Coastal	Doubtless Bay	Far North	Planting	\$ 1,000.00
APP 036674.03.01	157	ASE	Nqamia Farms Limited	2013 & 14	\$ 13,994.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 13,968.00
APP 037027.02.01	258	ASE	Michael and Ursula Eyer	2014	\$ 3,400.00	Drystock	Top 150 Wetlands		Far North	Planting	\$ 1,125.00
APP 037646	325	ASE	IJ & GM Muir Trust	N/A		Dairy	Water Quality	Doubtless Bay	Far North	Fencing	\$ 5,000.00
APP 037456.02.01	305	ASE	Gwiliam MacPherson	2014	\$ 2,850.00	Dairy	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 5,000.00
APP 037808	274	ASE	Clive and Jorja Walden	N/A		Dairy	Water Quality	Doubtless Bay	Far North	Fencing	\$ 5,000.00
APP 036655.02.01	221	ASE	Richard John and Kay Garton	2014	\$ 2,025.00	Drystock	Water Quality	Doubtless Bay	Far North	Fencing & Planting	\$ 3,887.50
APP 037807	181	ASE	Johnny Jones	2015	\$ 6,690.00	Drystock	Biodiversity		Far North	Fencing	\$ 3,762.50
APP 037530.02.01	314	ASE	Jeff Anderson	2014	\$ 1,830.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 6,725.00
APP 037803	165	ASE	Tripark Farms Limited	2013&14	\$ 6,006.50	Drystock	Water Quality	Doubtless Bay	Far North	Fencing	\$ 2,825.00
APP 036635.02.01	153	ASE	William Leef	2013	\$ 1,254.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 3,675.00
APP 037809	345	ASE	Erica and Lindsay Whyte	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Doubtless Bay	Far North	Planting	\$ 2,500.00
APP 037008.02.01	261	ASE	Glendale Farms (Des Simpkin)	2014	\$ 5,010.00	Drystock	Top 150 Wetlands		Far North	Fencing	\$ 5,220.00
APP 037644	322	ASE	M Corboy & G Pembrake Partnership	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 6,000.00
APP 037640	323	ASE	Morgan Enterprises Limited	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Doubtless Bay	Far North	Fencing	\$ 4,035.00
APP 036760.02.01	44	LOD	Neville Donaldson	2014	\$ 5,325.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 7,896.00
APP 037057.02.01	263	LOD	Graeme David Darroch	2014	\$ 1,570.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 1,810.10
APP 037594	307	LOD	Mark Hepburn Family Trust	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 644.00
APP 037616	N/A	LOD	Pehiaweri Maori Church & Marae Inc	N/A		Church/Marae	Biodiversity		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 1,235.00
APP 036991.02.01	253	LOD	Chris Lapish	N/A		Lifestyle	Biodiversity		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 2,550.00
APP 037207.02.01	278	LOD	Aaron Bradley	2014	\$ 3,297.50	Drystock	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing & Planting	\$ 8,079.00
APP 037516.02.01	183	DEJ	Brandon and Kiri Edwards	2014	\$ 3,276.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 14,660.00
APP 037232.02.01	147	DEJ	Craig and Greta Harman	2011-2014	\$ 34,816.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 14,774.00
APP 037775	336	DEJ	Neville and Donna Russell	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality/Biodiversity		Whangarei	Fencing & Planting	\$ 1,550.00
APP 037792	343	DEJ	Colleen Crowe (Crowe FT Partnership)	N/A		Dairy run-off	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 1,206.00
APP 037670	331	DEJ	Kenneth Perrin	N/A		Dairy	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing & Planting	\$ 2,562.00
APP 037216.02.01	271	DEJ	Lawrence Sommerville (Windy Ridge Farms)	2014	\$ 2,783.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 1,990.00
APP 036929.02.01	249	DEJ	Alan and Jill Moscrip	2014	\$ 3,585.00	Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing & Planting	\$ 4,645.00

APP 151838.04.01	12	DEJ	Cherry Lane Farm Limited	2012-2013	\$ 11,780.00	Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 4,450.00
APP 150788.08.01	N/A	LAS	Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust	2012-2014	\$ 3,054.00		Coastal/Coastcare		Whangarei	Dune restoration	\$ 880.00
APP.150788.09.01	N/A	LAS	Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust	2012-2014	\$ 3,054.00		Coastal/Coastcare		Whangarei Far North	Dune restoration	\$ 510.00
APP.037733	N/A	LAS	Opus International Consultants	N/A			Coastal/Coastcare		Whangarei	Dune restoration	\$ 3,808.00
APP.037732	N/A	LAS	Mangawhai Heads Coastcare Group	N/A			Coastal/Coastcare		Kaipara	Dune restoration	\$ 4,798.00
APP.037734	N/A	LAS	Rosemary Dunning	N/A			Coastal/Coastcare		Far North	Dune restoration	\$ 379.50
APP.036235.02.01	140	BRG	Ben Smith	N/A		Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Planting	\$ 1,000.00
APP 151386.05.01	137	BRG	Hanerau Farms Limited	2011-2014	\$ 10,665.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Kaipara	Planting	\$ 1,000.00
APP.036159.02.01	141	BRG	Avoca Lime Company (2010) Limited	2014	\$ 2,310.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Whangarei	Planting	\$ 1,000.00
APP.036160	159	BRG	Poua Topu A Trust	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality		Kaipara	Planting	\$ 1,000.00
APP.037023.03.01	262	BRG	Allister McCahon (Upson Downs Limited)	2014	\$ 5,700.00	Dairy	Biodiversity		Kaipara	Planting	\$ 1,300.00
APP.036614.02.01	315	DUK	Katrina Upperton & Stephen McManus	2014	\$ 4,030.00	Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Planting	\$ 1,000.00
										TOTAL	\$ 170,713.60

Approved Under Delegated Authority



Bill Shepherd
Chairman - Northland Regional Council

Date: 15/07/15



Bruce Howse

Date: 15/7/15

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.037874	358	ASE	Gigi Gilchrist	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality	Doubtless Bay	Far North	Fencing	\$ 4,800.00
APP.037823	241	ASE	Matthew Porter	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 1,947.00
APP.036933.02.01	245	ASE	Tony Lunjevich	2014	\$ 4,936.50	Dairy Support	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 5,000.00
APP.037872	357	ASE	Wayne Tau	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 8,250.00
APP.037876	181	ASE	Johnny Jones C/- Bushland Trust	N/A		Drystock	Biodiversity		Far North	Planting	\$ 5,000.00
APP.037853	351	LOD	DJ & RJ MacMillan	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 7,140.00
APP.037852	356	LOD	Barry Struan Young	N/A		Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 5,000.00
APP.037831	348	DEJ	Omapere Rangihamama Trust	N/A		Drystock	Top 150 Wetland		Far North	Fencing	\$ 18,524.00
APP.037832	349	DEJ	John Sanson & Myrtle Ann Sanson	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 871.00
APP.037743	203	KWE	Mayflower Farms Limited	2013	\$ 5,553.00	Dairy	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 4,032.00
APP.037867	359	KWE	Lee-Ann Hamilton	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 3,552.00
APP.037818	338	KWE	Miro Zaleta & Janet Redmond	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 6,435.00
APP.037820	337	KWE	Nick & Bev Bristowe	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 3,269.00
APP.037864	346	PGR	Gill Vanasche	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 3,285.00
APP.037826	347	PGR	Pete Bond	N/A		Drystock	Top 150 Wetland		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 5,880.00
APP.037847	354	DUK	Brett Fasher	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing & Planting	\$ 7,468.00
APP.037834	350	DUK	Landcorp Farming Limited	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality		Far North	Fencing	\$ 18,980.50
APP.037580	311	ROM	Greg Henderson	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 2,070.00
APP.037848	355	ROM	Richard and Carley Tobin	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 465.00
APP.037579	310	ROM	Antony Ellis	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 4,620.00
APP.036166.03.01	114	ROM	ITR Ag Limited	2013 - 2014	\$ 4,715.00	Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 1,320.00
APP.036745.02.01		LAS	Tern Point Recreation & Conservation Society	2014	\$ 2,000.00	Coastal	Dunes		Kaipara	Planting	\$ 3,310.00
APP.037735		LAS	Russell Landcare Trust	N/A		Coastal	Dunes		Far North	Planting	\$ 3,856.00

APP.037736		LAS	Tauranga Bay Community Association	2012-24	\$ 1,691.00	Coastal	Dunes		Far North	Planting	\$ 2,220.00
APP.037101.02.01		LAS	Te Runanga O Te Rarawa	N/A		Coastal	Dunes		Far North	Fencing & Planting	\$ 5,147.00
APP.037816		LAS	Tatjana Windhager	N/A		Coastal	Dunes		Whangarei	Planting	\$ 1,067.00
APP.037863	340	KWE	Russell Kemp	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality		Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 5,710.00
APP.036974.02.01	41	ROM	Gumtown Holdings Limited	2014	\$ 3,120.00	Dairy	Water Quality		Whangarei	Fencing	\$ 4,375.00
										TOTAL	\$ 143,593.50

Approved Under Delegated Authority



Bruce Howse

Land & Rivers Senior Programme Manager

Date:

Summary Sighted by Councillor



Bill Shepherd

Chairman - Northland Regional Council

Date: 12/08/15

ISSUE: River Management Update

ID: A769338

To: Environmental Management Committee, 31 August 2015

From: Joseph Camuso, Rivers Programme Manager

Date: 6 August 2015

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"/> Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Executive Summary:

Construction of the Kotuku dam and work on obtaining resource consents for the Kerikeri and Awanui Scheme works continue to be the priority. Planning for the annual maintenance works for the Awanui, Kaeo, Kerikeri, Kaihu and Whangarei Urban Rivers are underway as well as the minor rivers work programme.

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 River Management Update by Joseph Camuso, Rivers Programme Manager and dated 6 August 2015 be received.
-

Report

**Whangarei
Kotuku Dam Update**

The majority of the work over the past month has been focused on the right hand emergency spillway. The works have encountered earth movement that has required a redesign for retaining walls. The embankment level has been held at approximately RL66.5 for ease of truck movements across the top of the dam. For reference the invert of the service spillway is RL49.



Kotuku dam 6 August 2015, work continuing on the right hand emergency spillway.

The landscaping tender for the Kotuku Dam revegetation has been awarded and this work is expected to be completed within the next few weeks. Hydro-seeding of the left spillway and majority of the dam embankment has produced a good grass strike.

Awanui

Progress is continuing on the resource consent applications for modifying the intake of the Whangatane Spillway. Further information requests have been responded to and the application has now been notified to affected / interested parties (limited notification). The submissions period closes on 25 August. Detailed design of the works is progressing, and expected to be completed in August.

The annual scheme maintenance works are being drafted and will be presented to the Liaison Committee for comment at the upcoming meeting on 9 September.

Kaeo-Whangaroa

Site visits with liaison committee representatives will be held in August to develop this season's works programme. Country TV have interviewed Kaeo residents, Cr Brown and staff regarding the Kaeo flood risk reduction works; the documentary is scheduled to air on 9 September on Sky TV.

Kerikeri-Waipapa

Additional information has been provided to the Hearing Commissioners for the Kerikeri-Waipapa flood scheme resource consent applications. This includes further evidence and a flood model peer review report.

The hearing for the joint resource consent and notice of requirement applications will reconvene on 21 August, with a decision expected around 11 September. We have been informed that the spillway landowner intends to lodge an appeal to the resource consent if the commissioners decide to grant consent. This, in combination with the same landowners appeal to the s23 PWA notice served by NRC to acquire the land, means that construction of the spillway will most likely need to be deferred beyond the

proposed 2015/16 construction season. This is due to the timeframe required for any appeal to be heard in the environment court. The environment court judge has indicated that should an appeal on the resource consent be lodged by the landowner, then the s23 PWA notice appeal would best be heard at the same time.

The Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee meeting was held on 10 August – refer to attached Minutes.

Lake Omapere

Machine cleaning of the Lake Omapere outlet has been completed. NRC hydrology team gauged the flow rates before and after cleaning. The flow rate before cleaning was measured at 0.526 cubic meters per second (cms), and 0.682 cms after cleaning. This represents approximately 30% increase in flow at this level.

Kawakawa – Taumarere

Staff attended a Civil Defence meeting in Moerewa focusing on flood mitigation. A presentation was given on the flood risk reduction options and the stream cleaning maintenance works that have been progressed over the last few years. It is expected that after decisions are made on the Awanui and Kerikeri resource consents, staff will be able to assign more time to progressing the Taumarere catchment flood mitigation options. The response from those attending the meeting was that they would welcome Council intervention at the earliest opportunity. On 13 August staff met with NZTA and FNDC. Both parties are keen to progress options for flood mitigation for Moerewa/Otiria.

Kaihu

Aerial spraying of the Rice Grass on the lower Kaihu has been completed. A liaison committee meeting was held on 11 August – refer to attached Minutes. The Kaihu River model upgrade is progressing. A survey is due to be completed by the end of August, by which time staff also expect to receive the processed LIDAR data for the Wairoa River corridor. Both these surveys will then be incorporated in the flood model for the Dargaville area.

Waitangi

Gravel maintenance work has been completed at Lily Pond. The Waitangi River Liaison Committee meeting was held on 10 August – refer to attached Minutes.

Minor Works

River	Description of Work Programmed for Current Season	Proposed Start Date/Status
Awanui	Bells Hill cut-off drain re-grading	Completed
	Bells Hill Modelling revision and management option report	Underway
	Bells Hill Drain Cleaning/Inclinometer reading	Summer
	Horizontal Drain installation	Summer
Waitangi	Lilly Pond remove Large Pines, Puriri, Willows	Summer
Waiaruhe	Tree Removal Puketona Junction Near Top Energy depot	Completed
Waiomio	Willows/Debris Removal	Summer

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Otiria/Moerewa	Willow removal upstream Pokapu Bridge - mulch/prune sides of high pass spillway	Summer
	Turntable Hill Extraction - Liaise with OPUS/NZTA for cost share	
Ohuri Mangatoa Stream	Machine clean weeds 300 meters downstream of Duddy's Road to reduce road flooding	Summer
	SH12 Kaikohe, corner sediment extraction	Summer
Waima	Timber Extraction along SH 12 breaching roadside stopbanks	Summer
	Open Left Span of SH Bridge	Summer
Ngunguru	Willows/Debris Removal	Summer
Otaika	Willows/Sediment Removal	Summer

Report of the meeting of the Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee, held on
Monday 10 August 2015
Woodlands Motel and Conference Venue, 126 Kerikeri Road, Kerikeri
commencing at 10.00 a.m.

Present – Committee Members:

Joe Carr	(Chairperson)
Dover Samuels	NRC Councillor
Fred Terry	Lower Puketotara and Kerikeri catchment
John Dawn	Living Waters Bay of Islands Wai Ora representative
Bill Hunter	Kerikeri Irrigation Company
Peter Kennedy	Waipapa catchment
David Stewart-Jones	Middle Kerikeri catchment area
Hugh Rihari	Iwi representative

Also in Attendance:

NRC staff:	Joseph Camuso, Toby Kay, Doug Foster, Nola Sooner
FNDC staff:	Tammy Wooster, Greg Wilson, Andrew McPhee, Craig Ambler
Murray Wright	Member of the public
Des Simpkin	Member of the public
Doug France	Member of the public
Tom Baker	Member of the public
John Kooge	NZTA

APOLOGIES Hamish Sheard, Bruce Howse

Resolved: That the apologies from Hamish Sheard and Bruce Howse be accepted.

Joe Carr : Dover Samuels

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: That the Minutes of 17 October 2014 be accepted.

Dover Samuels : John Dawn

MATTERS ARISING

Dover noted it is important to encourage Committee members to attend River Liaison Committee meetings. It was confirmed the staff have made a presentation on the Kerikeri flood scheme to the Far North District Council staff.

BUDGET

Resolved: That the 2015-2016 Budget for the Kerikeri-Waipapa River Management Scheme be accepted.

Dover Samuels : John Dawn

Joseph summarised the 2015-2016 budget for the Kerikeri-Waipapa River Management Scheme for the benefit of attendees.

David referred to the \$50 targeted rate collected from ratepayers – he thought the monies were to be used for maintenance but expressed concern that the monies have been used for consultants. Joseph confirmed capital expenditure is separate from operational expenditure.

Capital Works budget – Joseph confirmed this budget is used for resource consenting, consultants and legal fees for the spillway design. David expressed concern that the maintenance of rivers may get neglected. Joe advised that a huge amount of Northland rates comes into this catchment via the modelling and LiDAR capture. He agreed that staff should not lose sight of the river maintenance works.

2014-2015 WORKS PROGRAMME UPDATE

Doug Foster summarized the 2014-2015 Works Programme Update and covered the following topics:

- Stream blockages
- Stone Store Basin
- Wairoa Stream Spillway

2015-2016 WORKS PROGRAMME

Doug summarized the 2015-2016 Works Programme and covered the following topics:

- Wairoa Stream Spillway
- Stream blockages

Doug welcomed feedback from attendees on any other works that need to be undertaken.

DETENTION DAM UPDATE

Toby provided an update on the Detention Dam. He summarized the following:

- Kerikeri Dam K3A – Rileys concept design and costing
- Dam K3A Location Plan
- Induction at dam crest level 105m OTP
- Kerikeri Dam K3A Storage Curve from LiDAR
- Dam set up with water supply take
- Flow hydrographs K3A Dam
- Overview of Dam Construction Costs – total = \$13,766,000 which assumes suitable foundation conditions, availability of suitable borrow material, stable reservoir slopes.
- Staging of assessments
- Other aspects to be considered:

- Establishing the need for water supply or other potential uses.
- Predicting future need taking into consideration climate change effects on security of water supply
- Establishing the allocation to specific uses (will affect design levels)
- Consultation with land owners (limited consultation to date reveals mixed views).

Hugh asked if the area could be used for recreational purposes – Toby noted it would be possible and advised @ RL 98 OTP metres is the size of the overflow. Dover recommended that staff take notice of the overriding effect on increasing costs with river maintenance works. Toby advised a number of studies would be required including a preliminary geotechnical study if the Kerikeri Dam K3A design is to progress. Toby confirmed the public works, environmental cost, landscaping and land purchase costs have not been included. In response to Bill's query, Toby confirmed that with these additional costs, it could escalate to \$20+M. Joseph advised this is strictly an engineer's estimate for construction costs on a conceptual design that the committee requested. Dover requested the real costs be put forward to this River Liaison Committee. Toby advised that the real costs would not be able to be put forward until a series of studies including a more detailed geological assessment, valuations including compensation to landowners etc. is completed. Joe Carr noted what we need to evaluate is what expense related to the benefit that a detention dam is affordable then add in route security for the state highway and then the value of the stored water. Fred asked if the base design can carry incremental development in the future so that future costs and drawings on the dam can be included if required for flexibility. Joseph noted that the this study has been included in the Northland strategic water management study.

Resolved: That the Detention Dam Update report be accepted and the following be undertaken:

- Identify and quantify the benefits – whether we proceed at all or downsize relative to the benefits and the catchment that is going to pay.
- List the potential stakeholders and the benefit to those stakeholders
- Accelerated irrigation fund – how much of that fund is available for investigation of this project.
- Incremental construction – whether it is viable
- Protect the opportunity for future
- Assess the impact on the Highway

Joe Carr : David Stewart-Jones

SPILLWAY RESOURCE CONSENT UPDATE

Toby summarized the Spillway resource consent update and covered the following topics:

- Overview
- Progress made since the 27th May hearing at FNDC
 - Further evidence provided
 - Peer review of the flood model
 - Review and negotiation over proposed consent conditions
 - Consultation with owners of 1878 State Highway 10
 - Consultation over mitigation option at Peacock Gardens
 - Consultation over mitigation option at Tuatahi Place

NORTHLAND STRATEGIC WATER MANAGEMENT STUDY

The Northland strategic water management study was accepted as read. Joseph provided a summary of the background and overview of the Northland strategic water management study.

PRESENTATION ON DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW PROCESS

Greg Wilson, Team Leader of District Plan Team, Far North District Council gave a presentation on the district plan review process. He covered the following topics:

- Outline of District Plan
- Plan review process
- Locality and site issues
- Compilation of issues and identification of next steps

Joe Carr noted the plan review is due in Year 2019. He referred to the planning template and would like to see the three District Councils across Northland agree to the planning template model in order to achieve consistency.

Dover expressed concern over the costs charged by FNDC to ratepayers for the planning processes.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

Meeting closed at 12.20 pm

NRC Contacts

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

River Management Team: Joseph Camuso, Rivers Programme Manager
Whangarei Office 09 4701200 / 027 438 4639

WAITANGI RIVER LIAISON COMMITTEE

Report of the meeting of the Waitangi River Liaison Committee, held on
Monday 10 August 2015

Woodlands Motel and Conference Venue commencing at 1.00 pm

Present :

Committee Members

Joe Carr	Chair – Northland Regional Council
Albie Apiata	Iwi representative
Rhonda Gordon	Ratepayer representative – Waitangi River catchment
Dover Samuels	Northland Regional Council
John Kooge	NZTA
Ross Baker	Top Energy
Di Maxwell	FNDC

Also in Attendance

Toby Kay	Northland Regional Council
Joseph Camuso	Northland Regional Council
Doug Foster	Northland Regional Council
Nola Sooner	Northland Regional Council
Greg Wilson	FNDC
Craig Ambler	FNDC
Richard Kolkman	Opus/NZTA
Brooke Jamieson	Heritage NZ
Darryl Honey	Member of the public
Trevor Bedggood	Member of the public
David Smith	Member of the public

Apologies: Chris Richmond (Living Waters representative),
Marty Robinson, David Jennings

Resolved: That the apologies for absence from Chris Richmond, Marty Robinson and David Jennings be accepted.

Dover Samuels : Rhonda Gordon

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE

Joe Carr reported that David Jennings has tendered his resignation from the Waitangi River Liaison Committee. His resignation was accepted with regret.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: That the Minutes of 6 August 2014 be received.

Dover Samuels : Rhonda Gordon

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

WAITANGI RIVER WORKS UPDATE 2014-2015

Doug Foster provided an update on the Waitangi River Works 2014-2015. He covered the following topics:

- Removal and disposal of willows
- Resource consent for bank protection works
- Gravel management

WORKS PROGRAMME 2015-2016

The Works Programme 2015-2016 was accepted by consensus. Doug summarised the works programme 2015-2016 and covered the following topics:

- Removal of tree blockages
- Removal of water wheel structure under State Highway 10 bridge.

Ross asked what is the current year's budget. Doug advised the Waitangi River area does not have a specific budget it is funded through the regional rate and that any works undertaken would be paid from the region wide minor river works budget.

Joe Carr queried if NRC has any plant stock suitable for the Waiaruhe River to increase stabilisation. Doug noted this could be looked at – subsidised willows are available – a special case would have to be made if they are to be provided free of charge. Joe Carr stated we need to have a NRC funded bank stabilization programme using plants from the NRC nursery.

Darryl and David expressed their concerns about erosion of stumps of trees that roll down into the river. Joe Carr noted it is the landowner's responsibility to remove trees that roll down into the river. Darryl asked if it becomes a hazard, whose responsibility is it to remove the stumps? Dover felt if there is any mitigation for any legal issues, this River Liaison Committee is not the correct forum to address it. He noted erosion will always take place. Trevor reported last winter he lost 7,000 cubic metres of soil, ½ hectare of land and 6 Totaras that fell into the river.

Doug advised with appropriate management staff can stabilise river banks but it comes at a cost. Ross reported Top Energy have a man made rock wall as a solution which cost \$400,000 to install. Joe Carr noted pulling back banks and using vegetation as stabilisation is cost effective.

OPUS RE WAIARUHE RIVER BRIDGE CONCRETE WHEELHOUSE REMOVAL ASSESSMENT

John Kooge summarized NZTA's position. Richard advised the bridge has never been seriously affected by floods since 1941. He advised that the water mill was a private structure which was probably put in by a landowner. It was noted it is a heritage listed structure. Richard felt the bridge structure itself has a lot of capacity and the area of that wheelhouse is not that significant (2-5% effect on river flow). It is approx 2.5 metres in height.

Brooke Jamieson, Heritage NZ summarized the report provided by Bill Edwards and advised this mill was built prior to 1938 on the estate of AE Bedggood – it is the third mill linked to the Bedggood family. Bill has been contacted by Mrs Choat who remembers it powering local farms. It is one of those hidden treasures and is a significant heritage site. It was recorded in 2002 in the historical sites. Bill's report

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concluded there has been no archaeological investigation of the site and further information needs to be gathered on the technological and engineering features of the Mill. He strongly advocates for the retention of the structure and associated features because of its national and local significance.

Joe Carr noted the Historic Places Trust believe the site is a historic feature but it has no protection. The Waitangi River Liaison Committee acknowledged however that the site is a historic feature.

Ross noted Opus' report addresses the effect on the bridge only. He felt there is a need to understand the hydraulics of the river. Joseph noted the structure sits upstream of the bridge so the watermill has less effect on flow than if it were blocking cross sectional area at the bridge footprint. Greg advised that through a planned review process at FNDC, the wheelhouse may become a protected site. John noted that NZTA and Historic Trust meet on a three monthly basis and this bridge/mill structure will be on the agenda for the next meeting. It was agreed to defer this agenda item to allow time for further information to be obtained. **Action: NRC, FNDC, NZTA, NZ Historic Places Trust**

NORTHLAND STRATEGIC WATER MANAGEMENT STUDY

Joseph summarized the background and overview of the Northland strategic water management study.

PRESENTATION ON DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW PROCESS

Greg Wilson, Team Leader of District Plan Team, Far North District Council gave a presentation on the district plan review process. He covered the following topics:

- Outline of District Plan
- Plan review process
- Locality and site issues
- Compilation of issues and identification of next steps

Greg Wilson noted the plan review is due in Year 2019. He referred to the planning template and would like to see the three District Councils across Northland agree to the planning template model in order to achieve consistency. Greg noted it is better to have a fixed approach rather than a staggered approach. Dover recommended keeping the District Plan simple for ease of reading.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 3.05 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, Rivers Programme Manager
Whangarei Office 09 4701200 / 027 438 4639

DRAFT Minutes of the workshop of the Kaihu River Liaison Committee
held on Wednesday, 11 August 2015 at
NRC Office, Dargaville commencing at 2.00pm

Present – Committee Members:

Cr John Bain	Committee Chair
Mike Lyford	Ratepayer representative Area 2 ((Class B Floodplain)

In Attendance:

Bruce Howse	NRC Environmental Group Manager
Joseph Camuso	NRC Rivers Programme Manager
Gary Treadgold	NRC Area Manager - Dargaville
Ray Bryant	
Allister McCahon	

Chairman Bain called the meeting to order. Given a quorum was not possible, the meeting was held as a workshop.

1. APOLOGIES

Ian Lupton	Ratepayer Representative Area 2 (Floodplain – Rotu Bottleneck to Dargaville)
Sharon Murray	Te Roroa Iwi representative
Des Subritzky	Te Houhanga Marae representative

MOVED: Apologies be accepted.

Moved:	Mike Lyford
Seconder:	John Bain (c)

2. WORKSHOP NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Notes of previous workshop reviewed. All items will be carried forward.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM NOTES

None

4. BUDGET UPDATE

Budget presented by Mr Camuso. Stopbank maintenance is below budget, and other costs lower than expected. Life to date budget currently has a surplus of \$96,176

5. WORKS PROGRAMME UPDATE

Contract maintenance schedule confirmed as presented. Tender now with work to start November 2015. Gravel extraction to be studied/looked into for the Kaihu village work relief.

LOG EXTRACTION

Tender to remove trees for sale, for saw logs or pulp. The stumps are to remain to stabilise the banks. Slash to be burnt on site in autumn. If the poplar stumps coppice, then the poles could be used on other sites.

Replanting to provide stream bank stability using natives this needs to be research further. Contact appropriate NRC staff to get recommendations. Perhaps mass plant river banks with flax.

NORTHLAND STRATEGIC WATER MANAGEMENT STUDY

A joint venture consisting of OPUS Consultants, Aqualink and BERL has been selected to deliver the overall study. The first stage will be a Northland Strategic Water Management Study. This will take a region wide focus, investigating the following:

1. Current irrigation in Northland
2. Potential demand for water
3. Availability of water
4. Economics of water management options in Northland
5. Options to improve water management in Northland

The final report will be delivered in late October. Mr Howse gave a summary of the process, which will lead onto other more detailed studies and then potentially feed into water management schemes.

Mr McCahon spoke on the Kauri Coast Water, which is progressing. More community involvement is required however, and there is a meeting organised by Sharon Murray scheduled for 18 August 2015 to discuss further the local and regional issues.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

WEEDS ON THE KAIHU RIVER

Member of the Kaihu community concerned with weeds that are spreading along the banks. This to be brought up at the meeting on 18 August 2015.

IAN LUPTON QUESTIONS

A brief discussion regarding questions tabled for Mr Lupton. Mr Camuso added that one of Ian's concerns is corrections for water level gauges, Joseph confirmed that NRC Hydrology has OTP datum corrections for the gauges that would correct water level to one datum.

SEDIMENT FERTILITY SAMPLING

The council to organise. Mr Treadgold to discuss further with management. NRC to record salinity levels at Tangiteroria and Dargaville.

NEXT MEETING: TBA

MEETING CLOSED: 3.05pm

**ISSUE: Environmental Monitoring for the period
1 – 31 July 2015**

ID: A769165

To: Environmental Management Committee Meeting, 31 August 2015

From: Colin Dall, Group Manager Regulatory Services

Date: 6 August 2015

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"/>	Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not Triggered		

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on council's monitoring and compliance work for the period 1 – 31 July 2015. 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.

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:

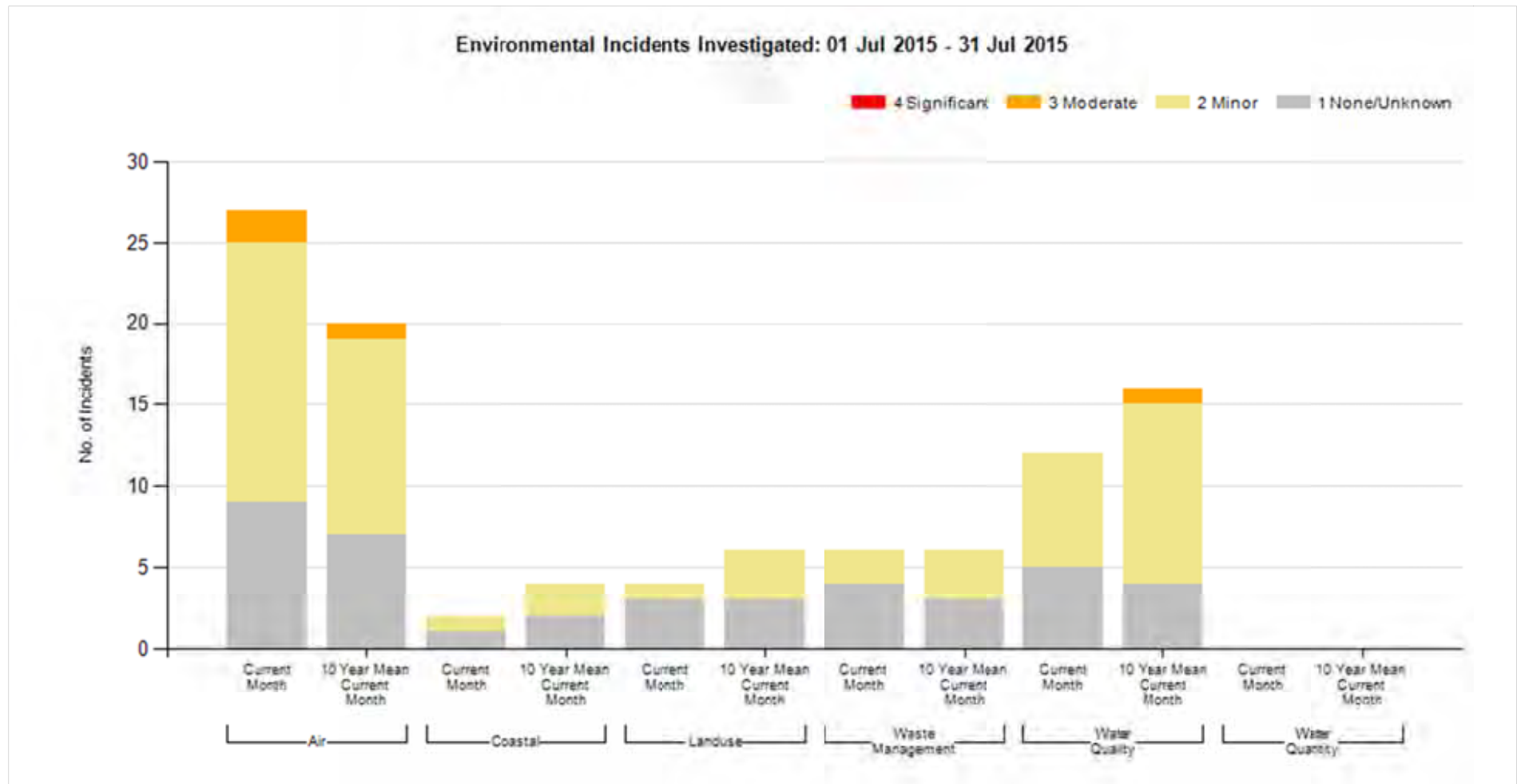
The receiving of this report is provided for in the council's 2015-25 Long Term Plan, meets the council's obligations under section 35 of the Resource Management Act 1991, and is in line with the council's decision making process and sections 76-82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

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.

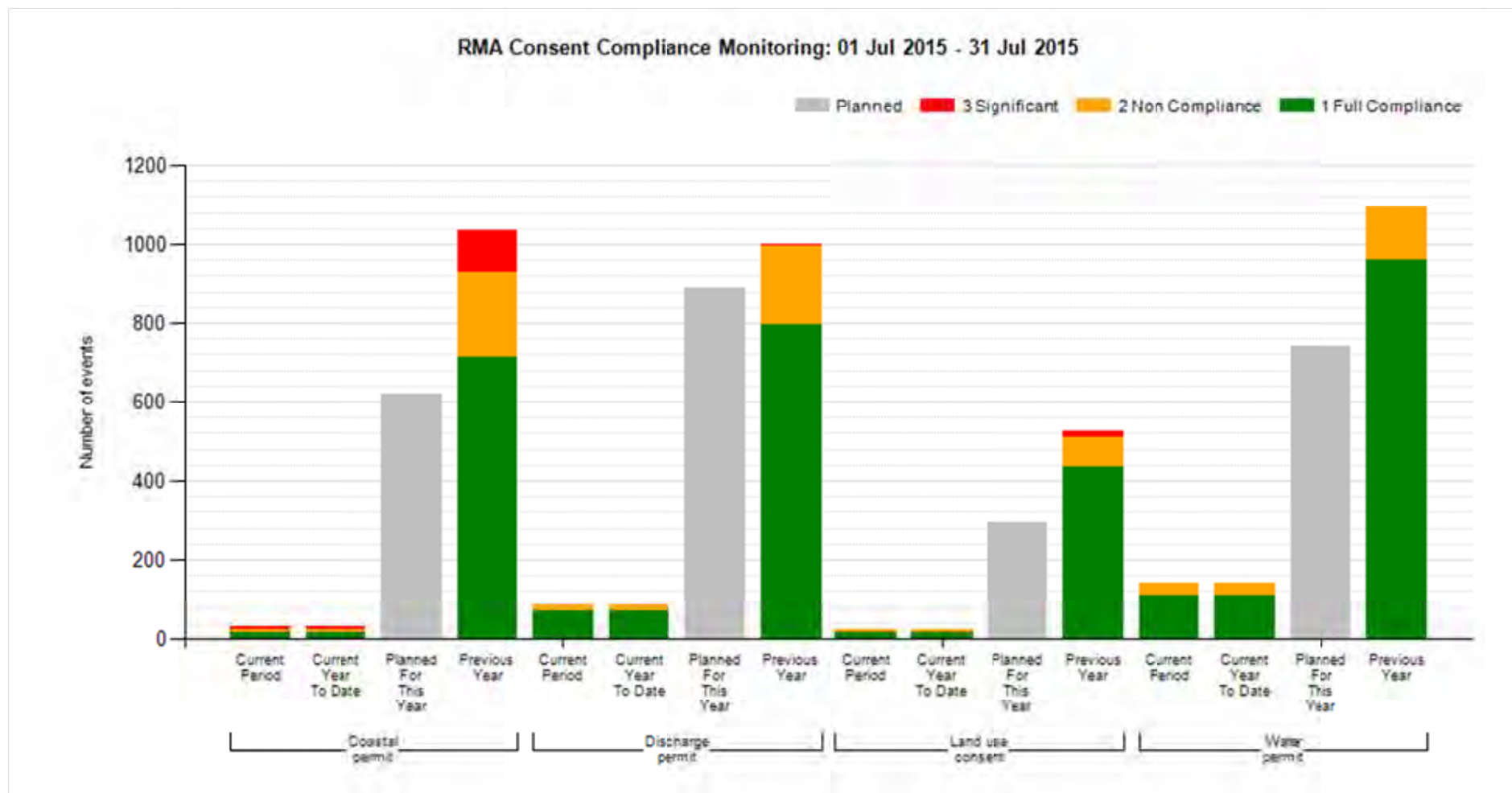
Recommendation:

-
1. That the Environmental Monitoring report for the period 1 – 31 July 2015 from Colin Dall, Group Manager Regulatory Services, dated 6 August 2015 be received.
-

Environmental Incidents Investigated: 1 – 31 July 2015



Resource Consent Compliance Monitoring: 1 – 31 July 2015



Attachment 2 to Item 6

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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 Limited
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		

COASTAL ACTIVITIES

Date	Consent Reference No.	Name	Description	Notes
16/07/2015	REG.014047.01	Howell J J	Oyster farm lease No. 42 @ Waikare Inlet, Bay of Islands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An off-site area of the farm had not been removed in accordance with a signed agreement with council. Formal enforcement action taken.

ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS

Date	Reference No.	Description	Notes	Environmental Impact
22/07/2015	REQ.577743	Sawdust discharge to air @ Union East St, Whāngārei	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incident investigation confirmed dust nuisance beyond the property boundary. The discharge was due to the failure of emission control equipment. The problem was rectified by the CH within a reasonable period of time. 	Moderate

Attachment 2 to Item 6

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SOE MONITORING – AIR, LAKES AND WATER

Classification	Date	Project	Notes
Air Quality	2/07/2015	Whāngārei Airshed – Ambient Air Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous ambient air monitoring results for PM₁₀, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide at Robert Street, Whāngārei, indicated compliance with the National Environmental Standard during June 2015. Routine monthly audit calibration on particulate, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide monitors at Robert Street was carried out.
	28/07/2015	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 during June 2015.
	22/07/2015	Kaitāia Airshed – Ambient Air Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous ambient air monitoring results for PM₁₀ at North Road, Kaitāia, indicated compliance with the National Environmental Standard in June 2015.
Catchment Investigation	7/07/2015	Waiora Northland Water – Doubtless Bay Catchment Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine water quality monitoring of the Oruaiti, Stony, Kenana, Oruru, Paranui, Peria, Parapara and Aurere Streams.
	8/07/2015	Waiora Northland Water – Waitangi Catchment Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine water quality monitoring of the Mania, Pekapeka, Waiaruhe, Waipapa, Watercress and Waitangi Rivers.
	27/07/2015	Waiora Northland Water – Whāngārei Harbour Catchment Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine water quality monitoring of the Hātea, Mangakino, Waitaua, Waiarohia, Raumanga, Puwera and Otaika Rivers.
Coastal - Water	1/07/2015	Kaipara Harbour Water Quality Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eight water quality sites sampled in the Kaipara Harbour. Results pending.
	16/07/2015	Whāngārei Harbour Water Quality Programme – Harbour Boat Run	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seventeen water quality sites sampled in the Whāngārei Harbour. Results pending.
	16/07/2015	Bay of Islands / Kerikeri Coastal Water Quality Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sixteen water quality sites sampled in the Bay of Islands. Results pending.
Groundwater	21/07/2015	Mangawhai – Nitrate Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine monthly groundwater monitoring at Mangawhai.
	23/07/2015	Maungakaramaea Project – Nitrate Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine monthly groundwater monitoring at Maungakaramaea.

Attachment 2 to Item 6

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	23/07/2015	Whatitiri – Nitrate Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine monthly groundwater monitoring at Whatitiri.
Lake Water Quality Monitoring Network (LWQMN)	17/06/2015	LWQMN – Lake Ōmāpere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine monthly water quality monitoring of Lake Ōmāpere and its outlet.
River Water Quality Monitoring Network (RWQMN)	15/07/2015	RWQMN – Northern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine monthly water quality monitoring of the Mangamuka, Awanui, Oruru and Kaeo Rivers.
	15/07/2015	RWQMN – Western	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine monthly water quality monitoring of the Kaihu, Waipoua, Waimamaku, Punakitere, Utakura, Mangakahia and Opouteke Rivers.
	15/07/2015	RWQMN – Southern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine monthly water quality monitoring of the Ruakaka, Hakaru, Manganui, Waipao, Waiarohia and Otaika Rivers, including two sites on the Mangere River.

ISSUE: Biosecurity Update

ID: A770226

To: Environmental Management Committee, 31 August 2015

From: Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager

Date: 27 August 2015

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"/> Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Executive Summary:

This report covers activities to control pests at Kai Iwi lakes, and update on kauri dieback disease, marine pests and a koi carp response at Waipu.

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(s):

-
1. That the report Biosecurity Update by Don Mckenzie and dated 27 August 2015, be received.
-

Report

Kai iwi Lakes

Animal and weed pest control:

- Following work in 2014 to control pampas grass further spraying has been completed over approximately 31 hectares. This work will directly benefit native regeneration and assist with access to enable wilding pines to be removed.
- A possum poisoning operation is underway using bait stations and two repeat fills of non-toxic prefeed will be followed by possum poison. Cholecalciferol possum poison is being used and this bait incorporates high levels of vitamin D3 which possums are unable to tolerate.
- Wilding pine control around Lake Waikare has been completed by Te Roroa contractors and several thousand young pines have been removed.

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- Wilding pine control around Lake Taharoa utilising Te Roroa contractors is also underway. Control of larger wilding pines behind Pine Beach campground is planned using a “drill and fill (with herbicide) technique .
- Acacia removal is being carried out around Lake Kai Iwi by KDC staff, contractors and volunteers. Lake Kai Iwi is now clearly visible when driving into the domain and this weed control work will continue over the coming year.
- Extra mustelid and feral cat traps have been ordered and will be set up throughout the domain to control predators of kiwi and other native bird species.
- Argentine ants were discovered near Promenade Point campground in May 2015. An argentine ant monitoring survey will be carried out later in spring to determine how wide spread these ants are. Following the survey a plan will be developed to manage the infestation.
- NRC land management staff are continuing to work with landowners within the catchment to address water quality issues by assisting with fencing of waterways, wetlands and lakes.

Kauri dieback

Northland has been awarded up to \$50k from the kauri dieback joint agencies to fund additional ground truthing of suspect sites where signs of the disease are apparent from aerial survey and the funding will also pay for further soil sampling where required.

The Tindall and Aotearoa foundation have sponsored fencing on private land where the disease has been confirmed and where fencing can help to reduce the risk of disease spread. Staff have put forward three applications on behalf of landowners totalling more than \$22k at Puketotara, Kaiwaka and Arapohue.

In addition to AH Reed park and Mt Manaia walkway two more foot cleaning stations are also underway one for Mair Park and another for Dundas road track in Whāngārei. Staff are also working with Matakōhe museum to develop a purpose built cleaning station directly adjacent to the museum’s front door ensuring visitors interact with the station and engage with the messaging. The cleaning stations are sometimes a target for vandals and an improved vandal- proof design is currently being tested and used in Northland over the coming months.

Marine

A navy dive vessel was observed to have fanworm on its hull in Northland and the incident reported to staff. The hull has been cleaned and they have been fined \$500 via an RMA infringement notice. NZ Defence Force staff have demonstrated a willingness to comply and are aware of the risks of transporting marine pests thus we hope that the fine will ensure there are no repeat incidents.

Another audit will be undertaken at Marsden cove marina following the results of the last round of diving which showed fanworm numbers were still above the maximum allowable threshold. Marsden cove marina have engaged divers who have been working to reduce numbers and another audit will be conducted before the end of August.

A meeting of Northland slipways, haul out facilities and marinas was held during July and an update provided on marine pest actions over the last year. Key messages included that although fanworm is still in Whāngārei Harbour, other northern harbours

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remain fanworm free. Marinas and structure owners are applying a risk assessment to visiting vessels and this action, along with the compliance checks of vessel hulls is providing greater awareness of the rules and reduced risk of marine pest transfer. Thirty -eight notices of direction have been issued to vessel owners to clean their hulls over the last twelve months and over 3000 vessel hulls are expected to be checked during the coming summer months. Plans for a clean hull pass are also being discussed with marina owners and ship repair facilities.

Koi Carp

A population of koi carp are in the process of being trapped and removed from a pond located within the Waipu golf club grounds. Club representatives are working with council Biosecurity staff and the Department of Conservation to eradicate the pest fish and prevent further illegal liberations. It is unlikely that trapping alone will ensure all koi are caught however reducing the numbers will help lower the risk of these fish being transferred elsewhere and additional measures including poisoning and draining of the pond are being considered to ensure the whole population is eliminated.

ISSUE: The Impacts of Black Swan and Canada Geese on Far North Habitats

ID: A771107

To: Environmental Management Committee, 31 August 2015

From: Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager

Date: 27 August 2015

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"/>	Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not Triggered		

Executive Summary:

Increasing numbers of Black Swan and Canada geese occupying shallow dune lakes and Far North harbours has prompted Far North community and iwi representatives to call for a reduction in their populations. Concerns have been raised about the bird's potential impact on waterways, kai, selected fisheries, human health and farm productivity. There has been little research on the wider impacts of these birds in Northland, particularly when they act in combination and with other wildfowl such as Paradise Shelduck. Knowledge gaps could be addressed by a research by management approach.

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.

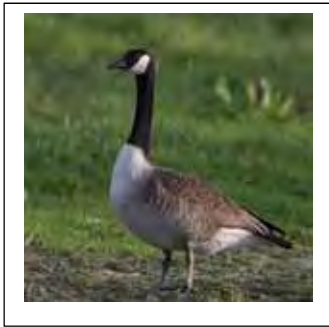
Recommendation(s):

-
1. That the report "The impacts of Black Swan and Canada Geese on Far North Habitats" by Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager and dated 27 August 2015, be received.
 2. That the committee support an action plan to be developed with Far North Iwi, Northland Fish and Game and other stakeholders aimed at reducing wildfowl numbers at vulnerable Far North habitats.
 3. A scope of works is developed with relevant science providers to cost a full research plan aimed at understanding the impacts of selected wildfowl on Far North habitats, farming and human health.
-

Report

Black Swan and Canada geese prefer open bodies of water and will characteristically graze in open pasture. Both species are found across the Northland Region and populations are concentrated in the Far North on lakes, farm dams, and sheltered harbours.

Population status and impacts



Trend counts conducted by Northland Fish and Game show that by 2008 the Canada geese population had doubled during the previous 20 years to approximately 20000 across the North Island. Fish and Game recorded 2066 Canada geese from Northland in 2008 and their population has been increasing rapidly.

Trend count surveys of Black Swan in 2008 recorded 10326 birds across the region- whilst Houhora and Parengarenga Harbours support between 1600-2500 birds. The Northland Black Swan population remains stable according to recent advice received from Fish and Game. The birds are also known to occupy dune lakes and there have been recent reports of high numbers of Black Swan and Canada geese on Lake Waihopo and Lake Waiporohita.



Both species graze on pasture during the day and will fly to nearby dune lakes and harbours on dusk where they settle for the night. Numerous flocks of Canada geese and Black Swan have been reported on Far North harbours and dune lakes and it is not uncommon to residents to observe incoming flocks of around 70 birds arriving at dusk to settle on the harbours. Communities have expressed their concern over the bird's nutrient contribution to waterways and faecal contamination while farmers are particularly concerned there may be a loss of production due to the birds grazing. Staff have also received reports from hunters who have observed juvenile flounder in the gut of Black Swan which has raised questions about the birds impact on flounder (and other) fisheries. These communities include the Pouto catchment group who have concerns for the lakes.

The Te Tai Tokerau Maori advisory Committee (TTMAC) have also raised specific concerns, particularly for the Parengarenga harbour where they fear Black Swans (and Canada geese) are impacting on local kai such as tio,(oyster), tuangi, (cockle) and kutai (mussel) and suggest the birds could be harvested for kai, and the feathers used for weaving.

Science advice

Research advice provided by the Cawthron Institute in 2009 identified sources of faecal contamination in Houhora Harbour and concluded that ruminant livestock (cows, sheep, deer) are the dominant source of faecal material produced in the catchment and that substantially less *E.coli* and enterococci are released by Black Swans when compared to dairy farms or humans (refer attached section from

Cawthron Report No: 1646 "Advice on Identifying Sources of Faecal Contamination in Houhora Harbour). The report also suggested that the birds close proximity to oyster harvest areas on the harbour may be contributing to oyster contamination.

A report by Landcare research in 2008 described Black Swan and Canada geese feeding patterns in Northland and pointed out that no studies have been undertaken on the grazing impact and competition with livestock. Similarly we are not aware of any recent studies on the nutrient contribution of Black Swan and Canada geese to dune lake systems and harbours, or their potential impacts on local fisheries.

Discussion

Concerns over the impacts these birds are having on natural systems have been expressed by northland communities for the past decade, yet there have been very few studies that have addressed or helped clarify the potential wider impacts of these birds. The two species occupy similar habitat and may be acting in combination to damage pasture and impact on natural values. In addition staff are aware of high numbers of Paradise Shelduck (putangitangi) in the Far North which also combine with Canada geese and Black Swan to eat pasture and defecate in lakes and harbours.

Further studies could be undertaken to address the long standing concerns over the combined impacts of these wildfowl. This research would involve a dietary study and provide evidence of what native plant and fish may be at risk from predation or grazing and also to examine their collective nutrient contribution to dune lakes and harbours. Analysis of water nutrient status at flock aggregation sites in harbours and lakes could be compared to bird free sites and the perceived loss of farm production due to the birds pasture grazing should also be assessed.

It is also important to note that Black Swan and Paradise Shelduck, unlike Canada geese, are a protected species under the Wildlife Act and can only be harvested during the game bird season or in accordance with a management plan approved by Fish and Game. Thus, whilst culling of Canada geese may be undertaken at any time of the year, the approval of Fish and Game to undertake specific autopsies of Black Swan and Paradise Shelduck or conduct culls out of the game bird season will be required.

The loss of dune lake water quality is of serious concern and if waterfowl were implicated in this decline then urgent action will be required. However it may be some time before the full results of a wider research trial is known and a more regular presence at vulnerable, more remote dune lakes combined with actions aimed at reducing populations at these sites would be prudent given the values at stake.

Taking a precautionary approach to the issue could involve a research by management project whereby a survey is undertaken to assess the birds' population status in the Far North and their preferred habitats. This could be combined with a cull to establish dietary patterns and grass consumption rates of both species. A more long term investigation should be planned to understand the wider impacts of nutrient contribution and possible effects on the population status of fish species such as flounder or submerged dune lake plants.

Northland Fish & Game have been contacted about this issue and their response is attached.

14th August 2015

Don McKenzie
Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager
Northland Regional Council

Dear Don,

Your email was vague about why you want to cull Black swan. I am not sure what the main issue is with Black Swan that you want to cull the birds. It appears that the NRC is attempting to appease the farmers without taking a good look at the science. Most of Coleman's reports are based on opinion with some reference to some of the science. If you provide us with good sound scientific reasons for a cull, Northland Fish & Game will take it into consideration.

Since you are a former DOC employee, I am sure you have an understanding of the Wildlife Act. I would advise you to read Section 54 of the Wildlife Act as it sets the criteria for the issuing of permits to kill wildlife doing damage. Currently, Northland Fish & Game are authorized to issue permits to kill game birds causing damage. However that authority is about to expire and we are not sure if we will be re-issued that authority. If we are not re-issued that authority, then the permits will be issued by someone within the DOC offices. Currently, the DOC is not sure who would be issuing the permits.

Before signing off on a permit to kill black swan, Northland Fish & Game Council would require sound documentation of damages occurring, the number of Black Swans to be killed, and the location that the killing will occur. Since this Black swan population encompasses the Eastern and Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game Councils, we will consult with them and get their input since any cull would influence their numbers as the black swans are known to make large movements within the population.

I would remind the NRC that Black swans are an indigenous species and should be viewed as such. If you question this status, I suggest you read Williams 1981 and Worthy 1998 or the Birds of New Zealand Checklist also has a summary of the scientific evidence to support the black swan being an indigenous species.

I know you hinted at black swans causing the eutrophication in the dune lakes; however this would be a simplification of what is occurring in these lakes. Past research into the influence of black swans to the eutrophication of dune lakes has found very little evidence to support the theory. I would suggest you read Sagar et al. 1995, Mitchell and Wass 1996. In fact, Black swan were prior to their extinction and now currently major drivers of vegetation in dune lakes. Research suggests that many aquatic and wetland plants are dependent on swans and other waterfowl for dispersal. As for the Black swan contributing to e. coli, most of the reports done by the Northland Regional Council on E.coli and salmonella in the waterways identify the main culprit as livestock and not waterfowl. Research on waterfowl populations indicates that in many waterfowl populations less than 5% carry E.coli. I have included some references for you to read about this issue.

We also ask the NRC to consider the ecological impacts of a cull of Black swan. The scientific literature indicates those Black swans are limited by food source and move long distances to get to food sources. Our surveys indicate that the population is stable; any large cull may trigger an eruption of the population. Basic population ecology suggest that many animal populations will increase reproductive output if the population has been reduce due to events that reduce the population below carrying capacity. Many times these eruptions will cause the species number to climb above their carrying capacity before reaching equilibrium. We would suggest that a cull is only at best a short-term solution and we would be revisiting this issue again.

Northland Fish & Game suggest that most of the issues could be handled through sound land management practices. A simple long-term solution is that farmer's fence and plants a buffer around their waterways and dune lakes. Northland Fish & Game have been huge proponents of fencing waterways and have been critical of the NRC for not being proactive enough. When we fly over the Far North, we regularly observe livestock in the waterways and dune lakes. It is well documented that fencing waterways from stock improves water quality. Not only would this improve water quality it would also create a barrier between the pasture and dune lakes reducing the likelihood of Black swans grazing on the pasture.

Again, I reiterate in order for us to issue a permit to kill Black swans, the law requires a well-documented case that shows the damage being done and the number of birds to be killed. We have and will continue to work with landowners with issues; however they must be willing to work with us. We have found that fencing of waterways with a well planted buffer will reduce if not eliminate most black swan problems. We also get the added benefit of reduced nutrients and bacteria flowing.

I have included a bibliography of some of the research that supports my claims. A read through these articles should provide you with a better understanding of the impacts of Black swan. We have not received a good argument to justify a cull besides people's perceptions. As you can understand, we have a responsibility to the Government and our license holders to manage Black swan population with the best science available and currently that science is indicating that there are few issues with black swans causing any of the problems that have been raised by the NRC and landowners in the Far North. If you can provide us with sound data, we are more than willing to work with you on the possibility of reducing the population.

Yours sincerely
Nathan Burkepile
Field Officer
Northland Fish and Game Council

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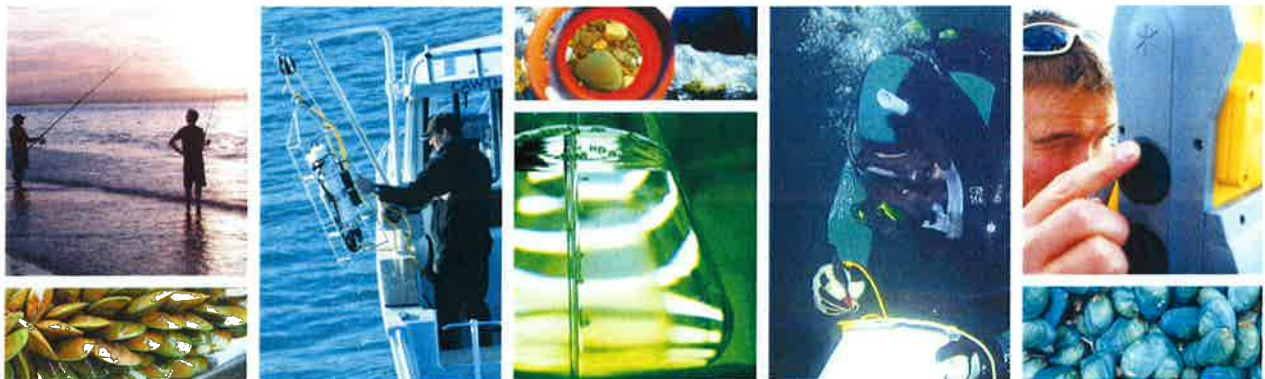
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**Cawthron Report No. 1646
July 2009**

Advice on Identifying Sources of Faecal Contamination in Houhora Harbour



2. BACKGROUND ON SHELLFISH SAFETY AND MONITORING

2.1. Potential microbial food safety problems

Societies around the world have historically recognised that consumption of shellfish, including oysters, can cause illness and, traditionally, social wisdom was used to protect consumers. Examples of traditional wisdom include the United States of America (USA) rule that one should only harvest oysters in months with no “r” in them or the Māori use of rāhui after drowning near to shellfish food stocks (McCoubrey 2007).

With advances in microbial science it became possible to recognise and understand more about pathogens that cause illness after eating contaminated shellfish. In the early 19th century many countries, including New Zealand, experienced typhoid and/or cholera cases due to shellfish being contaminated by human sewage. These diseases are no longer prevalent in developed countries due to better sanitation systems, but consumption of contaminated shellfish is still implicated in outbreaks associated with *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Campylobacter*, *Yersinia*, *Listeria*, *Clostridium*, *Staphylococcus* and *Escherichia coli* (Hackney & Pierson 1994). These microbial pathogens are associated with human, warm-blooded land and sea mammals and bird populations, where they are harboured in the gastrointestinal tracts and then excreted in very large numbers in faecal material.

People usually recognise the high public health risks associated with discharging untreated sewage in the environment, but are unaware of the potential zoonotic disease² risk when food or water supplies are contaminated by faeces from farm animals, wild animals and birds (Hackney & Dicharry 1998).

Therefore, if marine waters are contaminated with discharges from human waste systems (septic tanks, municipal outfalls or marine vessel discharges), wild and domestic animals or bird colonies, there is the high possibility of harvesting shellfish which will cause illness.

2.2. Shellfish sanitation programmes

Food safety authorities around the world have long recognised the potential illness risk associated with shellfish and most countries have food safety laws that address these risks. Due to historical typhoid and cholera outbreaks associated with oyster beds, both the USA and United Kingdom started shellfish public health programmes in the late 1800s. By 2009 these programmes have evolved into the USA National Shellfish Sanitation Programme and the European Commission Directives.

² Zoonotic diseases are those that can be transmitted from animals to humans

New Zealand has also established a world-recognised shellfish sanitation programme, known as the Animal Products (Specifications for Bivalve Molluscan Shellfish) Notice 2006 (NZFSA 2006). This legislation is administered by NZFSA and covers all the requirements for growing, harvesting and transporting shellfish to the market. The New Zealand programme is based on the principles of the USA and European Union programmes, while taking account of our own unique, environmental features and industry practices. All of these programmes use some basic principles, namely:

- A public health sanitary survey of the shellfish catchment area.
- Monitoring of contaminants (e.g. biotoxins, FIB) in water and shellfish samples.
- Control of harvest times according to FIB monitoring results.
- Labelling of shellfish so that people know the origin of the product.

2.2.1. Sanitary survey

A sanitary survey involves an examination of the watershed draining into a shellfish harvesting area to identify and, where possible, eliminate or minimise potential sources of contamination. The information generated is used to identify waters that are likely safe (and unsafe) for the harvest of shellfish for direct human consumption. The sanitary survey originated in the late 19th century as a means to protect drinking water supplies (Fair & Geyer 1963). Because of its success the concept was applied to shellfish growing areas.

2.2.2. Monitoring of water and shellfish contamination

The second principle is the bacteriological and toxicological examination of water and flesh samples. The purpose of this is to confirm the tentative conclusions of the shoreline survey regarding the risk of contamination. The qualitative assumption is that the more faecal material in the water, the greater the risk of contracting disease. Rather than testing the water and shellfish for a large number of individual microbial pathogens, faecal indicator bacteria (FIB) are used to assess the presence of faecal contamination in the marine environment and in turn are used as a surrogate for the potential presence of pathogens (National Research Council 2004). Faecal indicator bacteria were originally established on their relationship to an infective dose of typhoid organisms, but today these levels are still used to reflect the risk of microbial illness. We discuss the limitations of using FIB as a monitoring tool in Section 3.6.

2.2.3. Controlled harvest times

The purpose of regulated harvest times is to ensure that shellfish are only taken when they are considered safe to eat. It is important that harvesting takes into account potential contamination hazards³, such as those associated with emergency sewage overflows. Areas can be closed when environmental events cause pollution; referred to as conditional

³ Hazard is defined as the length of time that pathogenic doses of microbes are likely within the shellfish

management (National Shellfish Sanitation Programme 2005). However, before an area can be designated as suitable for conditional management it must meet some fundamental criteria.

The pollution sources need to be identified, well understood and predictable in their performance. All parties need to know when and where the harvest area is contaminated.

As in other countries there are strict requirements on where and when shellfish can be harvested. When the areas are open for harvest the water and shellfish must meet the following minimum FIB limits/conditions:

- The faecal coliform median most probable number (MPN) of the water samples must not exceed 14 per 100 ml and not more than 10% of the samples must exceed an MPN of 43 per 100 ml.
- The *E. coli* median MPN of the shellfish tissue samples must not exceed 230 *E coli* per 100 g tissue and not more than 10% of the samples must exceed an MPN of 700 per 100 g tissue.
- All commercial shellfish harvesting areas must have monthly water and shellfish samples taken when the area is open for harvest, and the medians are calculated on a minimum of 15 sampling events, but usually on three years of environmental data.

3. BACKGROUND ON HOUHORA HARBOUR

3.1. General physical geography of the land

Houhora Harbour and its catchment are located on the eastern side of the northern peninsula, 50 km north of Kaitaia. The Harbour is part of the Aupouri Peninsula, which is 75 km long and 10 km wide. Over much of the area the land climbs gently to approximately 80-100 m above sea level as low rolling dune country with various terraces, interdunal flats, lakes and swamps with Mt Camel the dominant topographical feature rising to 236 m (Figure 1). The rest of the catchment consists of sand country with marine and alluvial terraces, abandoned shorelines and intertidal flats, lakebeds and swamps. Principal rock types in the catchment are gravel, sand, ash and mud of quaternary origins. The majority of the catchment has good drainage. Swamps and lakes are formed inland, many of these swamp areas have had drains put through them with runoff being channelled to the harbour. Major streams discharging into the Houhora Harbour include the Waihopo and the Motutangi streams (Figure 1).

ISSUE: Proposed Whangarei Heads Pest Management Committee

ID: A766952

To: Environmental Management Committee, 31 August 2015

From: Kane McElrea, Biosecurity Programme Manager

Date: 27 August 2015

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"/>	Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not Triggered		

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the proposed Whangarei Head's pest management committee, roles and functions and a draft Terms of Reference.

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(s):

-
1. That the report "Proposed Whangarei Heads Pest Management Committee" by Kane McElrea, Biosecurity Programme Manager and dated 27 August 2015, be received.
 2. That the Whangarei Heads Pest Management Committee be established as a subcommittee of the Environmental Management Committee.
 3. That Cr Paul Dimery be appointed as chairperson of the Whangarei Heads pest management committee.
 4. That the draft Whangarei Heads Pest Management Committee Terms of Reference be confirmed.
-

Report

Proposed Whangarei Heads pest management committee

Through the council's long-term plan process, council agreed to support the Whangarei Heads community's request to establish a targeted rate to fund specialist contractors to undertake pest management at Whangarei Heads. The rate will target pests which threaten kiwi and eradicate selected weeds on private land which are beyond the capability of volunteers and landcare groups. For the purposes of administering the rate and ensuring it is spent where the community sees greatest benefit, it is proposed a Whangarei Heads pest management committee be established.

The primary purpose of the Whangarei Heads pest management committee is to ensure a successful self-sustaining community-led pest management programme continues at the Whangarei Heads. The Whangarei Heads pest management committee will ensure the revenue collected from the targeted rate is spent appropriately and where there is most long term benefit for the community. Regional Council staff and the committee will oversee the development of a Whangarei Heads pest management plan which will guide how the funds are spent within the targeted area. The Whangarei Heads pest management plan will ensure there is ongoing kiwi protection and monitoring and selected weeds are controlled in a targeted way.

The Whangarei Heads pest management committee will meet throughout the year to assess the progress of the management plan and to ensure the needs and requirements of the community are addressed as required.

It is proposed that the committee is made up from selected/nominated individuals from a range of community interest groups as well as regional council representation. The list of proposed organisations to be represented by the committee may include but are not limited to the following:

- One Northland Regional Councillor appointed by the Northland Regional Council who shall be the chair of the committee. (*Cr Paul Dimery*)
- Regional Council biosecurity staff as required.
- One Iwi representative as a representative of Ngati Wai.
- One member of Whangarei Heads Landcare Forum (WHLF) to represent local landcare groups from within the targeted rate area.
- One member of the Backyard Kiwi project committee to represent interests of local kiwi recovery.
- One member of Weed Free Whangarei Heads (WFWH) to represent local interests of weed control groups and landowners.
- One nominated representative from each of the following rate payer / citizen associations, dependant on the level of interest.
 - Pataua
 - Parua Bay
 - Whangarei Heads
 - Urquarts Bay
- One Ratepayer not affiliated with any of the groups listed above.

As noted above it is recommended that Cr Paul Dimery be appointed as chairperson of the Whangarei Heads pest management committee.

The individuals selected to represent the rate payers of the targeted rate area will need to have strong connections with the community and be able to communicate the

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needs and requirements of the community to the committee. This will help ensure the targeted rate is being spent where there is most benefit for the community and environment.

The inaugural meeting of the Whangarei Heads pest management committee is proposed to be held on 9 September 2015 at Whangarei Heads. Appointments to the committee will be presented to the October Environmental Management Committee for confirmation.

The Draft Terms of Reference are attached.

Draft Terms of Reference

Northland Regional Council-

Whangarei Heads Pest Management Committee

Background	The Northland Regional Council has introduced a targeted rate to fund specialist contractors to undertake pest management at the Whangarei Heads. The rate will be used to fund trapping of kiwi predators such as stoats, ferrets and wild cats, as well as monitoring kiwi for advocacy. The funds will also be used to assist the community to control selected environmental weeds which are continuing to spread throughout the Whangarei Heads area.
Vision:	To minimise the impact of introduced pests on kiwi populations and increase biodiversity values through the active management of kiwi predators. Increase public awareness, involvement and provide assistance with controlling selected environmental weeds.
Purpose	To ensure a successful self-sustaining community-led pest management programme continues at the Whangarei Heads.
Reporting to:	The Environmental Management Committee of the Northland Regional Council.

Composition

The Liaison Committee is appointed by the Northland Regional Council and shall comprise of nominees that represent a range of agencies and private landowners engaged in kiwi restoration and/ or significant weed control activities within the targeted rate zone.

Regional Council

- One Northland Regional Councillor appointed by the Northland Regional Council who shall be the chair of the committee / group.
- Regional Council support staff as necessary.

Iwi/ hapu

- One Iwi representative as a representative of Ngati Wai.

Ratepayers

- One member of Whangarei Heads Landcare Forum (WHLF) to represent local landcare groups from within the targeted rate area.
- One member of the Backyard Kiwi project committee to represent interests of local kiwi recovery.
- One member of Weed Free Whangarei Heads (WFWH) to represent local interests of weed control groups and landowners.
- One nominated representative from each of the following rate payer / citizen associations.
 - Pataua
 - Parua Bay
 - Whangarei Heads

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- Urquarts Bay
- One Ratepayer not affiliated with any of the groups listed above.

Functions:

The Whangarei Heads Targeted Rate liaison committee/group is an advisory committee of the Northland Regional Council and has no delegated authority or specific powers. Its functions are to:

1. Provide a ratepayer/stakeholder forum for the development of a Whangarei Heads Pest Management Plan to manage kiwi predators and selected environmental weeds.
2. Advise the Northland Regional Council on all matters relating to the development and implementation of the Whangarei Heads Pest Management Plan.

Specific tasks will include:

1. Assisting the Northland Regional Council to develop and adopt a Management Plan to ensure key kiwi protection actions such as trapping and kiwi monitoring are maintained and to assist the community with weed control work within the targeted rate area.
2. Ensuring the activities carried out in the management plan addresses the needs and interests of the community within the targeted rate area.
3. Provide the Northland Regional Council with recommendations on how the funds are best allocated to ensure objectives and outcomes within the Whangarei Heads Targeted Rate Pest Management Plan are achieved.
4. Annual reporting on performance against the past year's work plan and recommending to the Regional Council an annual works plan and budget for the forthcoming financial year.

ISSUE: Review of Regional Pest Management Plan - Update

ID: A769649

To: Environmental Management Committee, 31 August 2015

From: Don McKenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager

Date: 7 August 2015

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"/>	Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not Triggered		

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the progress of the review of the Regional Pest Management Plan, and recommend a revised timeframe for notification.

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(s):

1. That the report Review of Regional Pest Management Plan - Update by Don McKenzie, Biosecurity Senior Programme Manager and dated 7 August 2015, be received.
 2. That the committee recommends to Council that the notification of the proposed Regional Pest Management Plan be no later than 20 July 2016.
-

Report

The National Policy Direction (NPD) will provide direction on the process and content of Regional Pest Management Plans and Pathway Management Plans, as well as their implementation, monitoring, and good neighbour rules. All new plans are required by the Act to be consistent with the National Policy Direction. The NPD was delayed again, but will go before Cabinet in September 2015 where staff are hoping it will be confirmed.

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The NRC has continued to participate in the National alignment project being undertaken by regional councils. The aim of the project is to develop new RPMPs that are consistent with the NPD, look and feel similar, and align pest programmes across regions where it makes sense to do so. Progress to date includes development of draft templates for RPMPs, discussions about rules, and decisions on which species will be put through a national cost benefit analysis to allow for development of aligned good neighbour rules.

In addition to the national project, NRC staff are continuing to work with Auckland Council on the regional alignment of rules for species which are of concern to both regions.

The NRC has been awarded an Envirolink research grant with the Cawthron Institute to develop a model for the cost benefit analysis for the marine pathways plan.

NRC staff are involved in the Domestic Marine Pathways Management Project Working Group, led by MPI, which is working toward a national pathway management plan and aiding consistency between regions in the drafting of their regional pathway management plans. As part of their involvement in the group, NRC staff recently completed an extensive body of work on immediate measures to assist in the prevention of marine pest spread. Staff are also working on the first level of the cost benefit analysis for animal and freshwater pests as well as developing the proposed marine cost benefit analysis. This is expected to take several months to complete.

Council has previously agreed to extend the timeframe for notification of the RPMP to March 2016, and resolved to extend the expiry date of the current RPMS to 20 July 2016. This means that the current wording and rules in the RPMS remain in force, so long as the revised RPMP is notified before 20 July 2016.

In order to fully engage with the national alignment project, ensure consistency with the NPD and manage the review with limited resources, a recommendation is being made that the proposed RPMP be notified for public consultation no later than 20 July 2016.

ISSUE: Update on the Mair Bank Pipi Decline and Ngunguru Shellfish Mortality

ID: A771247

To: Environmental Management Committee, 31 August 2015

From: Ricky Eyre, Monitoring Programme Manager - Coastal

Date: 6 August 2015

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 type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
Significance:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Triggered	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Executive Summary:

This report provides an update on the Mair Bank pipi decline and Ngunguru shellfish mortality event.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

Investigation of environmental incidents and monitoring of the state of the environment are part of the council's day-to-day activities that are provided for in the council's Long Term Plan 2015-2025 and are in accordance with the council's decision-making process and sections 76-82 of the Local Government Act 2002. The issue is considered to be of low significance, as the report is provided for information purposes only.

Recommendation(s):

-
1. That the report Update on the Mair Bank Pipi and Ngunguru Shellfish Mortality by Ricky Eyre, and dated 6 August 2015, be received.
-

Report:

Letter to Ministry of Primary Industries – Mair Bank Pipi Decline

A letter was sent to the Director-General, Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI), signed by Bill Shepard, Chairman. It stated, in part:

'The Northland Regional Council requests that MPI takes the lead role in the response to the collapse of the Mair Bank pipi fishery and the investigation of fishery mortality events in Northland. The council also requests that senior MPI staff provide a brief (10 – 15 minute) presentation to the council's Environmental Management Committee at its next meeting on 31 August 2015 that outlines the Ministry's responsibilities in these matters, its response to these events to date and its further response plan for these events.'

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The council looks forward to positive responses to its requests and ongoing support from MPI in responding to such events.'

Despite attempted correspondence to MPI staff, no reply had been received at time of writing this report.

Transplant Methodology

A monitoring programme, investigating the status of the Mair Bank pipi population, was agreed by stakeholders in November 2014. This included a commitment to undertake a transplant of healthy pipi from a suitable donor site to Mair Bank.

The objective of the transplant is to identify differences in survivorship in relation to pipi size and location across the bank. This information may help identify causes of the population decline, and assist any future recovery efforts. Council contracted NIWA to prepare a methodology to ensure this is undertaken in a sound scientific approach. The final report will be provided to council by 31 August.

The transplant will be undertaken by local stakeholders, including council staff, next March in conjunction with a planned population survey. The transplant will require ongoing monitoring to determine success.

Ngunguru Mortality Event Update

During the reported shellfish mortality event in May, council staff collected samples of dead and dying pipi and tuatua and sent to MPI's Investigation & Diagnostic Centre for analysis. Interim results have been received from MPI. These indicate the mortality event, limited to adult pipi, was associated with a bacterial infection. *Rickettsia-like* bacteria were present in all individuals analysed. Rickettsia-like organisms have been reported from shellfish in New Zealand before, but this is the first time they have been reported associated with a mortality event. Overseas, they have been reported to be associated with mortality events in shellfish. MPI staff are investigating further to identify the species of bacteria and establish the significance of this detection.

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ISSUE: Swamp Kauri Presentation

ID: A771912

To: Environmental Management Committee, 31 August 2015

From: Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary

Date: 17 August 2015

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 type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Report

Peter Wiessing, Kaitaia Area Manager wishes to address the Environmental Management Committee on Monday 31 August 2015 for 15 minutes about swamp kauri.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

This report is for information only and no decisions are required.

Recommendation:

That the Swamp Kauri presentation from Peter Wiessing, Kaitaia Area Manager be received.

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ISSUE: Agenda items for next EMC Meeting – 27 October 2015

ID: A771922

To: Environmental Management Committee, 31 August 2015

From: Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary

Date: 14 August 2015

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 type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to request committee members for agenda items for the next Environmental Management Committee meeting on 27 October 2015.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

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

Recommendation:

That the Environmental Management Committee members suggest agenda items for inclusion into the agenda for the next Environmental Management Committee meeting on 27 October 2015.
