

AGENDA

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Monday 29 August 2016 9.30am

**NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Agenda

Meeting to be held in the Council Chambers, 36 Water Street, Whangarei on Monday 29 August 2016 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 – 27 June 2016

ID: A869335

To: Environmental Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary

Date: 15 August 2016

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 27 June 2016 (**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 27 June 2016 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, Whangārei, on
Monday 27 June 2016, commencing at 9.30 am

Present:

Northland Regional Council

Cr Joe Carr (Chairman)
Cr Craig Brown (Deputy Chairman)
Cr Bill Shepherd (ex officio)
Cr Paul Dimery
Cr Monty Knight
Cr Dover Samuels

Whangarei District Council

Cr Tricia Cutforth

Far North District Council

Cr Ann Court

Farming Community

Alan Clarkson

Māori Interests

Keir Volkerling

Kaipara District Council

Richard Booth

Environmental Interest Groups

Martin Hunt

Forest Industry

Geoff Gover

Department of Conservation

Ms Sue Reed-Thomas

In Attendance:

NRC Staff - Full Meeting:

Group Manager Environmental Services
Chief Executive Officer
Committee Secretary

NRC Staff - Part Meeting:

Resource Management Planning and Policy Manager
Waiora Northland Water Project Manager
Biodiversity Advisor
Biosecurity Projects Manager
Land Manager
Economist
Land Management Advisor
Compliance Monitoring Manager
Environmental Monitoring Manager
Air Quality Specialist
Environmental Monitoring Officer – Land Use

Visitor

FNDC - Manager of Infrastructure Planning

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 9.30 am.

Apologies

There were no apologies.

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

It was advised that councillors should make declarations item-by-item as the meeting progress

Confirmation of Minutes: Environmental Management Committee Meeting – 26 April 2016 (Item 3.0)

Report from Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary.
A851809

Moved (Dimery/Cutforth)

That the minutes of the Environmental Management Committee meeting held on 26 April 2016 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

Waioira Northland Water Progress (Item 4.0)

Report from Natalie Blandford, Waioira Northland Water Project Manager.
A834870

Moved (Brown/Knight)

1. That the report Waioira Northland Water Progress by Natalie Blandford, Waioira Northland Water Project Manager and dated 3 June 2016, be received.
2. That the Powerpoint presentation by Dr Andrew Simon on Erosion and Delivery of Catchment Sediment to Receiving Waters be received.

Carried

Secretarial Note: The committee sustained a minute's silence in respect of the recent passing of George Tuhiwai.

Draft Catchment Plans for Consultation (Item 5.0)

**Report from Natalie Blandford, Project Manager Waioara Northland Water.
A844377**

**Moved (Brown/Dimery)
Against (Volkerling)**

1. That the report Draft Catchment Plans for Consultation by Natalie Blandford, Project Manager Waioara Northland Water and dated 15 June 2016, be received.
2. That subject to minor adjustments to provisions, the draft catchment plans recommended by the Doubtless Bay, Mangere, Poutō, Waitangi and Whangārei catchment groups be approved for consultation.

Carried

Sustainable Land Management Update (Item 6.0)

**Report from Duncan Kervell, Land Manager.
A844586**

Moved (Brown/Knight)

1. That the report Sustainable Land Management Update by Duncan Kervell, Land Programme Manager and dated 3 June 2016 be received.
2. That for 2016/2017 staff over allocate the Environment Fund budget by up to \$100K to account for withdrawn projects and underspends to ensure full utilisation of the Environment Fund budget. Any year-end variation to budget arising from the over allocation is to be funded from the Land Management Reserve.

Carried

Update on Northland Lakes (Item 7.0)

**Report from Lisa Forester, Environmental Assets Manager.
A849039**

Moved (Gover/Hunt)

That the report "Update on Northland Lakes" by Lisa Forester, Environmental Assets Manager and dated 3 June 2016, be received.

Carried

Update on Far North Wildfowl Strategy (Item 8.0)

**Report from Lisa Forester, Environmental Assets Manager.
A846092**

Moved (Gover/Knight)

Against (Reed-Thomas)

1. That the report "Update on Far North Wildfowl Strategy" by Lisa Forester, Environmental Assets Manager and dated 3 June 2016 be received.
2. That the Committee supports the actions in the Proposed Far North Black Swan and Canada Goose Strategy.
3. That the committee supports the Northland Regional Council to write to the Minister of Conservation expressing concerns about the impacts of Black Swan and paradise shelduck in Northland, and asking that their gamebird status be removed in Northland to allow for more effective control when necessary.

Carried

Biosecurity Update (Item 9.0)

**Report from Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Manager.
A849530**

Moved (Knight/Cutforth)

1. That the report Biosecurity Update by Don McKenzie, Biosecurity Manager and dated 3 June 2016 be received.
2. The committee agree to funding a second round of trials with Landcare Research to test effectiveness of the SA2 cat trap with funding from the Environment Fund.

Carried

River Management & Natural Hazards Update (Item 10.0)

**Report from Joseph Camuso, Rivers and Natural Hazards Manager.
A849742**

Moved (Brown/Reed-Thomas)

1. That the report River Management & Natural Hazards Update by Joseph Camuso, Rivers and Natural Hazards Manager and dated 7 June 2016 be received.
2. That Donald Kerr be appointed to the Urban Whangarei Rivers Liaison Committee as the Morningside area Ratepayers representative.
3. That the Mid Lower Waitangi River representative position be removed from the Terms of Reference for the Waitangi River Liaison Committee.
4. That Councillor Dover Samuels be appointed as Deputy Chairperson of the Taumarere Flood Management Committee.
5. That the minutes of the following River Liaison Committee meetings be received:
 - a. Urban Whangarei Rivers Liaison Committee, 12 April 2016
 - b. Awanui River Liaison Committee, 15 April 2016
 - c. Taumarere Flood Management Liaison Committee, 22 April 2016

Carried

Recreational Swimming Water Quality Programme – Results 2015/2016 (Item 11.0)

**Report from Pania Te Whaiti, Environmental Monitoring Officer - SOE.
A823442**

Moved (Knight/Gover)

That the report Recreational Swimming Water Quality Programme – Results 2015-16 dated 31 May 2016, prepared by Pania Te Whaiti, Environmental Monitoring Officer, be received.

Carried

PM₁₀ Monitoring Results Adjacent to Unsealed Roads – 2015/2016 Summer (Item 12.0)

**Report from Obi Khanal – Air Quality Specialist and Colin Dall – Group
Manager Regulatory Services.
A841640**

Moved (Court/Clarkson)

1. That the report “Results of PM₁₀ Monitoring Adjacent to Unsealed Roads – 2015/2016 Summer”, by Obi Khanal – Air Quality Specialist and Colin Dall – Group Manager Regulatory Services be received.
2. That the Environmental Management Committee supports changes to planning and Northland Roding Forum allocation processes to assist with the mitigation of dust on roads and that a technical report by NRC staff be prepared.

Carried

Environmental Monitoring for the period 1 April 2016 – 31 May 2016 (Item 13.0)

**Report from Colin Dall, Group Manager Regulatory Services.
A849228**

Moved (Carr/Brown)

That the Environmental Monitoring report for the period 1 April – 31 May 2016 from Colin Dall, Group Manager Regulatory Services, dated 3 June 2016 be received.

Carried

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

**Report from Tess Dacre, Compliance Monitoring Manager.
A840577**

Moved (Clarkson/Dimery)

That the report Community wastewater treatment plant discharges – current compliance status (updated) from Tess Dacre, Compliance Monitoring Manager, dated 5 June 2016 be received.

Carried

Secretarial Note: The Chair recorded his appreciation to Cr Ann Court for arranging for Ruben Wylie – Manager of Infrastructure Planning, FNDC to be in attendance at this meeting to speak to this item.

Consented Earthworks in Northland – Presentation (Item 15)

**Report from Franco Meyer, Environmental Monitoring Officer – Land Use.
A850644**

Moved (Brown/Carr)

That the presentation “Consented Earthworks in Northland” by Franco Meyer, Environmental Monitoring Officer – Land Use, dated 9 June 2016, be received.

Carried

Agenda items for next Environmental Management Committee Meeting – 29 August 2016 (Item 16.0)

**Report by Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary.
A851817**

Moved (Carr/Brown)

That the Environmental Management Committee members recommend agenda items for inclusion into the agenda for the next Environmental Management Committee meeting on 29 August 2016.

Carried

Conclusion

The meeting closed at 12.44 pm.

ISSUE: Peter Blake Trust trip Presentation

ID: A864679

To: Environmental Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary

Date: 2 August 2016

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

Miss Teaghan Kirby, student, has been invited by the Chairman of the Environmental Management Committee to address the Environmental Management Committee on Monday 29 August 2016 on a Peter Blake Trust trip which she attended.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

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

Recommendation:

That the presentation from Teaghan Kirby be received.

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ISSUE: Youth will change Northland's Environmental Direction - Presentation

ID: A864881

To: Environmental Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary

Date: 2 August 2016

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

Mr Mita Harris, Kerikeri Cadet Force, has been invited by the Chairman of the Environmental Management Committee to address the Environmental Management Committee on Monday 29 August 2016 on "Youth will change Northland's Environmental Direction".

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

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

Recommendation:

That the presentation from Mita Harris, Kerikeri Cadet Force be received.

ISSUE: Waiora Northland Water Progress

ID: A644720

To: Environmental Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Natalie Blandford, Waiora Northland Water Project Manager

Date: 3 August 2016

Report Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal operations	<input type="checkbox"/> Information	<input checked="" 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 provide an update on progress with Waiora Northland Water and contributing programmes between 2 June and 3 August 2016.

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 2015-2025 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(s):

That the report Waiora Northland Water Progress by Natalie Blandford, Waiora Northland Water Project Manager and dated 3 August 2016, be received.

Report:

Waiora Northland Water is council's programme to implement the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS FM) and progressively improve water management in Northland. The programme comprises three core elements as follows:

- Regional planning
- Catchment planning (Priority catchments)
- Operational programmes.

NATIONAL INITIATIVES

LAWA – Land Air and Water Aotearoa

Lake Humuhumu on the Poutō Peninsula is the featured "River of the Month" for August on the LAWA website. Local tangata whenua and landowners are featured with staff in a video about the lake, its values and how it's being cared for. The LAWA website, which provides current water quality trend data for monitoring locations across New Zealand, has recently enhanced its water quality trend data to include lakes. Previously, only river water quality data was available. More information is available on the website: www.lawa.org.nz.

Also see item 17 of this Agenda for a summary of national initiatives.

REGIONAL PLANNING

Draft Regional Plan and catchment plans

The Draft Regional Plan and draft catchment plans for Doubtless Bay, Mangere, Pouto, Waitangi and Whangarei Harbour have been approved for public release. The feedback period for the drafts will be from 8 August to 23 September 2016. The consultation is non-statutory and designed to 'road-test' the drafts.

Staff will consider the feedback received and revise the draft catchment plan provisions with guidance from the catchment groups. The catchment groups will also prioritise non-regulatory actions and develop implementation plans. Final catchment plans and associated implementation plans will be recommended to council or relevant committee in early 2017. Regulatory elements of the catchment plans, once finalised, will be included in the Proposed Regional Plan scheduled for notification mid-2017.

The catchment groups will receive regular updates (twice annually) on progress towards objectives and implementation milestones. It is also likely they will meet at least annually to oversee ongoing catchment plan implementation.

CATCHMENT UPDATE

Poutō catchment group

The Poutō catchment group and the Kaipara community at large are mourning the loss of their fellow catchment group member and local legend Jock Wills, who passed away 1 August 2016 after a short illness.

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Mangere catchment group

Mangere catchment group member Rob Pye hosted a planting day at his drystock property on Friday 24 June 2016. 43 students and 11 adults planted 500 plants funded by Reconnecting Northland and enjoyed hospitality provided by Regional Council.

Ngunguru catchment working group

Staff arranged a field trip for the Ngunguru catchment working group on 23 July 2016 to observe sedimentation and coastal processes in the catchment. Unfortunately only four catchment group members attended.

Recognising that catchment group members have busy lives, staff will now seek twice yearly catchment group feedback on progress with an implementation plan they develop to address the top priority sediment sources in the Ngunguru catchment.

Actions will include willing landowners with highly erodible land receiving erosion control plans and subsidised poplar and willow poles.

As with the Doubtless Bay, Waitangi, Mangere, Whangārei and Poutō priority catchments, staff will help catchment group members follow up with their communities with a twice annual newsletter update detailing progress achieving key milestones of the implementation plan.

OPERATIONAL PROGRAMMES

The Doubtless Bay, Waitangi, Mangere, Whangārei and Poutō priority catchments are in the process of moving from their planning phase into their operational implementation. Staff are looking forward to observing the effects of various actions in the catchment plans (once finalised), which will be measured against the enhanced water quality monitoring baseline established two years ago.

Almost all existing catchment group members have confirmed their ongoing involvement in the implementation phase of the catchment plans. Staff will seek to recruit people for any vacant catchment group positions.

ISSUE: Sustainable Land Management Update

ID: A844586

To: Environmental Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Duncan Kervell, Land Manager

Date: 1 August 2016

Report Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Normal operations	<input type="checkbox"/> Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decision
Purpose:	<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public service	<input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory function
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislative function	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Executive Summary:

- Year to date **\$440,112.50** of the Environment Fund budget has been allocated to a total of **93** projects for land management, biodiversity and **54** for biosecurity projects (Inclusive of a \$100K over allocation to be met from the Land Management Reserve).
- Year to date a total of 14 FWQIPs have been commenced, 13 have been completed, with a further 80 still in progress.
- An update is provided on soil conservation projects including the Flyger Road nursery, Kaipara Hill Country Erosion Project and stream bank erosion assessment.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are provided for in the council's 2015-2025 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.

Recommendations:

1. That the report Sustainable Land Management Update by Duncan Kervell, Land Programme Manager and dated 1 August 2016 be received.
2. That for 2016/2017 staff over allocate the Environment Fund budget by up to 18.75% of total revised budget to account for withdrawn projects and underspends to ensure full utilisation of the Environment Fund budget.

LAND MANAGEMENT

EFUND 2015/16 ROUNDUP

2015/16 Efund Reconciliation	Actual Spend	Revised Budget
Awarded Efund (137 initial Efund projects)	\$736,316.40	\$637,000.00
Biosecurity (45 projects)	\$151,166.00	\$151,000.00
Soil Conservation	25,000.00	25,000.00
Total Spend	\$912,482.40	
Less Underspends and withdrawals	\$157,307.53	*\$100,000.00
TOTAL	\$755,174.87	\$913,000.00

*Extra \$100k was allocated to account for potential withdrawals based on results from the last two years of efund rounds.

Recommendation for Over-Allocation of the Environment Fund

Since the June Environmental Management Committee meeting, the figures for the final reconciliation of the 2015/16 environment fund underspends/withdrawals has increased from \$90,866.20 to \$157,307.53. This increase equates to 18.75% of the total budget. We therefore request an over-allocation of 18.75% of the total revised budget to ensure full utilisation of the Environment Fund budget for the 2016/17 year.

Environment Fund Update

The current status of the Environment Fund allocation year to date is shown below. The delegated authorities for 7 July 2016 and 20 July 2016 are attached.

Environment Fund funding allocation for 2016/17

Delegated Authority	Land/ Biosecurity	NO of Projects	Allocation \$	Budget \$
1 – July 2016	Land	55	216,324.60*	675,000.00
2 – July 2016	Land	38	198,261.10	
3 – July 2015	Biosecurity	54	126,436.00	125,000.00
Cat Traps	Biosecurity		13,000.00	
Biosecurity – approved from Land Management Reserve				13,000.00
Waiora Northland Catchment Groups				50,000.00
Soil Conservation			25,000.00	
Allocation to date			\$579,021.70	
Total Budget				863,000.00
Over Allocation to account for potential withdrawals/underspends				100,000.00
Total				\$963,000.00
Balance remaining				\$383,978.30

*A further \$909.20 added to DA dated 7 July 2016 to Project APP.037735.02.01

Farm Water Quality Improvement Plans (FWQIP) 1 July 2016 to 31 July 2016

Year to date a total of 14 FWQIP's have been commenced, 13 FWQIP's have been completed, with a further 80 in progress.

The large number of Efund applications (93) this year to date were generated from the fairly early full allocation of funds in the 2015-16 financial year. This has influenced the high number of efund applications compared with number of FWQIP plans completed so far this financial year; many plans associated with new efunds had been completed last year. There is also a high number of plans in progress because the priority at the

ITEM: 7.0

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start of the financial year is to process efund applications, returning to complete plans in the near future.

Status of FWQIP	Farm Type	Far North	Kaipara	Whāngārei	Total
Plans commenced : 1 July 2016 to 31 July 2016	Dairy	0	0	0	0
	Drystock	2	2	0	4
	Lifestyle	2	0	1	3
	Forestry	4	2	1	7
		8	4	2	14
Plans completed: 1 July 2016 to 31 July 2016	Dairy	0	3	1	4
	Drystock	1	3	0	4
	Lifestyle	3	0	2	5
		4	6	3	13
Plans still in progress	Dairy	3	5	3	11
	Drystock	22	16	13	51
	Lifestyle	11	1	3	15
	Other	0	2	1	3
		36	24	20	80

SOIL CONSERVATION

Flyger Road Poplar and Willow Nursery

2000 3m poplar poles were sourced from Horizons Regional Council to meet the short fall of 3m poles not obtained from Flyger Road Nursery. This along with 1600 poles provided by local suppliers and material harvested from Flyger Road is currently being collected and distributed across Northland. Pole distribution is expected to be completed by 12 August 2016, in total servicing 95 soil conservation projects.

The development of Block 4 Flyger Road Nursery has progressed with several rows now planted. The remaining plantings are to be completed by the end of August .

Soil Conservation Programme

The land management team are currently designing an enhanced soil conservation programme to complement the draft new regional plan and implement the draft Waioara Northland catchment plans (once finalised).

Staff are scoping the approach to increase the amount of soil conservation currently being undertaken within the land management team and Kaipara hill country erosion programme.

The project scoping will include:

- The design and development of the mechanism required to deliver farm plans in a 10-15 year period that are included in the recently mapped 'highly erodible land' layer.
- Identify the most efficient model to deliver farm plans, considering the use of technology, and how we can work with industry partners and other rural professional providers.
- Consideration of the needs and resources to provide for the farm plans i.e. growing and supply of poplar and willows poles and financial assistance for landowners to achieve soil conservation projects.

Streambank Erosion Assessment

Streambank erosion is recognised in Northland as a major contributor of sediment to waterways and harbours. Recent sediment source studies have indicated streambank erosion delivers up to 45% of the sediment in the Waitangi catchment (NIWA 2015) and a majority of the sediment in the lower catchment in the Manganui catchment is coming from stream bank erosion (NIWA 2016). Recent modelling in the Kaipara catchment via SedNetNZ has indicated 31 % of total sediment load is coming from streambank erosion (Landcare Research 2015).

Over the coming months the Land and River Team's will undertake a cost/benefit analysis and comparison of mitigating streambank erosion compared to hill country erosion.

This cost benefit analysis will be based on costs from the Rivers Team through the minor river works projects. NRC also intend to approach Andrew Simons (a private consultant from the USA who presented recently to NRC staff and forestry partners) to get some external advice on techniques and costs of hard and soft engineering approaches for stream bank erosion management.

Concurrently the Land Team are intending on ground truthing the SedNetNZ Model (streambank element) within the Kaipara catchment to identify if this tool gives us a fair reflection of the intensity and distribution of past, active and potential for streambank erosion.

Kaipara Hill Country Erosion (HCEF) Programme

NRC are in year two of the four year MPI funded Kaipara Hill Country Erosion project. Staff are working with local landowners completing Kaipara Hill Country Erosion Plans (KHCEP) providing advice and facilitating access to the environment fund, and assisting landowners with soil conservation planting and fencing projects.

The Kaipara Hill Country Erosion Project is currently focusing on management of mature poplar via silviculture trials and research. We are working alongside local farm forestry representative Peter Davies-Colley and have identified a need to create a solution to the harvesting of large old conservation trees and management of left over residue "waste" from the process. One idea for future research is the use of poplar as a bio fuel agent.

The Kaipara hill country project is currently designing an economic analysis to provide sound advice and economic data on changing land use from highly erodible pastoral land to more sustainable and economically viable options. The decision making process by landowners to alternative land uses can be daunting with scant information available on economic returns from alternative land uses.

This year through collaborating with CRIs, NGOs and local landowners we aim to compare the economic returns from marginal grasslands (hill country/ grazed forest mosaics) compared to alternative hill country land use options, such as pine forestation or manuka stands.

Delegated Authority Recommendations - 7 July 2016

EFD No.	FWQIP	NRC STAFF MEMBER	Applicant	Previous Funding Year(s)	Previous Funding Amount(s)	Farm Type	Funding Stream	District	Priority Catchment	Brief Project Description	Amount Recommended
APP.038063	391	ROM	Gregory and Diane Martin	N/A		Dairy	Water Quality	Whangarei	Kaipara	Fencing & Planting	\$ 1,720.00
APP.038189	399	ROM	Paul and Tessa Foster	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality	Whangarei	Kaipara	Fencing & Planting	\$ 2,997.50
APP.038049	363	ROM	Pearson Family Trust	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality	Whangarei	Mangere	Fencing	\$ 1,040.00
APP.037802	344	ROM	Robert John Pye and Mandy Christine Pye	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Whangarei	Mangere	Fencing & Planting	\$ 3,500.00
APP.038261	384	WAT	Caves Farm	N/A		Dairy	Water Quality	Whangarei		Fencing	\$ 10,458.00
APP.038439	438	MIM	Whananaki Farms Limited	N/A		Dairy	Water Quality	Whangarei	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 2,720.00
APP.038091	397	DEJ	Mark and Megan Forsyth	N/A		Drystock	Biodiversity	Whangarei		Fencing	\$ 7,305.00
APP.038034	388	DEJ	Woodbury Farming Limited	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Far North		Fencing	\$ 9,933.00
APP.037831.02.01	348	DEJ	Omapere Rangihamama Trust	2014/15	\$ 18,524.00	Drystock	Water Quality	Whangarei		Fencing	\$ 10,000.00
APP.037064.03.01	268	DEJ	Eric and Jacqueline Read	2013-2014	\$ 5,940.00	Drystock	Water Quality	Whangarei	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 2,058.00
APP.036829.03.01	236	DEJ	Hugh Edward Cowper Tennent	2013-14	\$ 8,513.00	Drystock	Water Quality	Whangarei	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 2,142.00
APP.036396.02.01	193	DEJ	Keith and Sharon McLeod	Withdrew 2013		Drystock	Water Quality	Whangarei	Kaipara	Fencing & Planting	\$ 2,174.00
APP.038271	409	DEJ	J D Comrie	N/A		Drystock	Biodiversity	Whangarei		Fencing	\$ 10,000.00
APP.036415.02.01	91	DEJ	Murray Byles	2012 & 2013	\$ 8,575.80	Dairy	Water Quality	Whangarei	Whg Harbour	Planting	\$ 1,000.00
APP.038191	411	DEJ	Craig Harman	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality/Biodiversity	Whangarei		Fencing	\$ 4,810.00
APP.037940.02.01	365	DEJ	Peter Campbell	2015	\$ 6,663.00	Drystock	Water Quality	Far North		Fencing	\$ 9,645.00
APP.038237	421	DEJ	G & C Bremner Family Trust	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Whangarei	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 4,185.00
APP.038486	444	LOD	DJ & FL Lynch Limited	N/A		Dairy	Water Quality	Whangarei		Fencing	\$ 1,848.00
APP.038480	410	LOD	Dennis Whiting	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality	Whangarei	Whg Harbour	Fencing	\$ 2,484.00
APP.037852.02.01	352	LOD	Barry Stuan Young	2015	\$ 5,000.00	Dairy	Water Quality	Whangarei		Fencing	\$ 1,960.00
APP.038479	441	LOD	Andrew & Robyn Wiseman	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality	Whangarei	Whg Harbour	Fencing	\$ 658.00
APP.038357	396	LOD	Mr Tafi Manjala	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality	Whangarei	Hatea	Fencing	\$ 1,682.00
APP.038366	435	LOD	Murray George Whittle	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Whangarei	Whg Harbour	Fencing	\$ 5,669.00
APP.038035	374	LOD	GJ Fife Conservation Trust; Mr Gregory Fife	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality	Far North		Fencing	\$ 6,700.00
APP.038356	395	LOD	Mr Pieter Serfontein	N/A		Lifestyle	Biodiversity	Whangarei		Fencing	\$ 1,777.50
APP.038280	420	LOD	Peter Donald Hutchinson	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - CMA	Whangarei		Fencing	\$ 1,113.00
APP.038358	434	LOD	KL Farms	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Whangarei		Fencing	\$ 6,135.00
APP.037917.02.01	341	LOD	Michael Leahy	2015	\$ 2,825.00	Lifestyle	Water Quality	Whangarei	Whg Harbour	Fencing	\$ 3,038.00
APP.038350	433	LOD	Phillip Cook	N/A		Lifestyle	Biodiversity/Top 150 Wetland	Whangarei		Fencing & Planting	\$ 3,540.00
APP.038500	454	LOD	Michael Walter Hayes	N/A		Drystock	Biodiversity - Wetlands	Kaipara		Fencing	\$ 6,636.00
APP.037882.02.01	356	LOD	David Roland Fife	2015	\$ 2,465.00	Drystock	Water Quality - CMA	Far North		Fencing	\$ 3,990.00
APP.038023	386	PGR	Kevin Nicholas	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 9,879.00
APP.038392	415	PGR	David Frederick Marlow	N/A		Drystock	Biodiversity/Top 150 Wetland	Kaipara	Pouto	Fencing	\$ 3,272.50
APP.038478	327	PGR	Mr Alan McEvoy	N/A		Drystock	Biodiversity	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing & Planting	\$ 2,050.00
APP.038325	423	PGR	Gary Watkins	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing & Planting	\$ 6,197.50
APP.038466	400	PGR	Stephen Daniel Simpkin	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 4,805.00
APP.038518	372	PGR	Ian MacDonald	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 2,835.00

APP.038298	429	PGR	Vicki Bridge	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 1,248.50
APP.038400	422	PGR	James Slater	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 3,350.00
APP.038246	371	PGR	Wayne Walker	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - CMA	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 2,760.00
APP.038105	403	PGR	Mangapai Cemetery	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 1,440.00
APP.038299	430	PGR	Alexander James Rhynd	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing & Planting	\$ 9,980.50
APP.038382	439	PGR	Bruce Francis Sanford	N/A		Dairy	Biodiversity - Lakes	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing & Planting	\$ 1,129.10
APP.036356.02.01	133	PGR	Simon James Woodcock	2015	\$ 4,533.00	Drystock	Biodiversity - Dune Lakes	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 4,180.00
APP.038516	455	PAL	Gavin Cooper	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 4,650.00
APP.038263	419	KWE	Nick & Kirsten Gedye	N/A		Lifestyle	Water Quality & Soil Con	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 1,870.00
APP.038393	440	KWE	JL & KA Wintle Family Trust	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 7,500.00
APP.038282	405	KWE	Oliver Prater	N/A		Drystock	Soil Conservation	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 1,680.00
APP.038293	428	KWE	Kingsland Farm (Terry Barnes)	N/A		Drystock	Soil Conservation	Kaipara	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 4,577.00
APP.038541	446	KHA	Parua Bay Community Focus Group	N/A		Drystock	Biodiversity - Wetlands	Whangarei		Fencing & Planting	\$ 1,700.00
APP.036159.03.01	141	BRG	Avoca Lime Company (2010) Limited	2015	\$ 1,000.00	Drystock	Water Quality	Whangarei	Kaipara	Planting	\$ 1,200.00
APP.037023.05.01	262	BRG	Allister McCahon	2014-2015	\$ 16,727.00	Drystock	Biodiversity - Lakes	Kaipara	Kaipara	Planting	\$ 1,000.00
APP.036290.03.01	N/A	LAS	Te Pahii Wildlife Sanctuary	2012-2014	\$ 1,060.00		Coastal - Dune Restoration	Far North		Planting	\$ 400.00
APP.038211	N/A	LAS	Langs Beach Coastcare Group	N/A			Coastal - Dune Restoration	Whangarei		Planting	\$ 1,702.50
APP.037735.02.01	N/A	LAS	Russell Landcare Trust	2015	\$ 3,856.00		Coastal - Dune Restoration	Far North		Planting	\$ 3,090.80
										TOTAL	\$ 215,415.40

Approved Under Delegated Authority

Duncan Kervell
Land Manager

Date:

Summary Sighted by Councillor

Bill Shepherd
Chairman - Northland Regional Council

Date:

Delegated Authority Recommendations - 20 July 2016

EFD No.	FWQIP	NRC STAFF MEMBER	Applicant	Previous Funding Year(s)	Previous Funding Amount(s)	Farm Type	Funding Stream	District	Priority Catchment	Brief Project Description	Amount Recommended
APP.038487	221	ASE	Richard John Garton	2013 & 2015	\$ 5,912.50	Drystock	Biodiversity - Top 150 Wetlands	Far North	Doubtless Bay	Fencing	\$ 2,500.00
APP.038544	181	ASE	Johnny Jones	2015	\$ 3,762.50	Drystock	Biodiversity - Lakes	Far North		Fencing	\$ 6,865.50
APP.038437	451	ASE	Graham O'Brien	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North		Fencing	\$ 4,135.00
APP.038460	452	ASE	Richard and Margie Job	N/A		Lifestyle	Biodiversity - Wetlands	Far North		Fencing	\$ 4,200.00
APP.038499	453	ASE	Graham & Debra Simpson	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North	Doubtless Bay	Fencing	\$ 9,772.00
APP.038547	459	ASE	Te Toru Farms Limited	2012	\$ 2,480.00	Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North	Waitangi	Fencing	\$ 4,050.00
APP.038281	427	ASE	Upokorau Farms	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North		Fencing	\$ 10,000.00
APP.037988.02.01	376	ASE	JB Martin & HA Linssen Partnership	2015	Withdrew	Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North	Doubtless Bay	Fencing	\$ 3,465.00
APP.037530.03.01	314	ASE	Jeff Anderson	2014	\$ 1,830.00	Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North		Fencing	\$ 6,725.00
APP.038521	80	ASE	Robin Spicer (Bodalla Trust)	2013	\$ 5,845.00	Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North	Doubtless Bay	Fencing	\$ 3,850.00
APP.038481	322	ASE	M Corboy & G Pemroke Partnership	2015	\$ 6,000.00	Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North		Fencing	\$ 3,425.00
APP.038546	85	ASE	Gregory George Roy Blunden	2013	\$ 1,956.52	Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North		Fencing	\$ 4,144.00
APP.038522	237	ASE	Norman Wilde	2014&2015	\$ 7,744.00	Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North	Doubtless Bay	Fencing	\$ 7,758.00
APP.038535	380	ASE	Parengarenga Incorporation - BC3			Drystock	Biodiversity - Wetlands	Far North		Fencing	\$ 10,000.00
APP.038520	325	ASE	IJ & GM Muir Trust	2015	\$ 5,000.00	Dairy	Water Quality - Dairy	Far North	Doubtless Bay	Fencing	\$ 2,578.00
APP.038519	260	ASE	Lynn Brothers Farming	2015	\$ 15,000.00	Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North	Waitangi	Fencing	\$ 7,110.00
APP.038489	261	ASE	Glendale Farms	2014&2015	\$ 10,230.00	Drystock	Biodiversity - Top 150 Wetlands	Far North		Fencing	\$ 5,220.00
APP.038488	305	ASE	Gwilliam Henry Herbert MacPherson	N/A	\$ 4,992.00	Dairy	Water Quality - Dairy	Far North		Fencing	\$ 4,992.00
APP.038170	404	ASE	Michael Moss	N/A		Dairy	Water Quality - Dairy	Far North		Fencing	\$ 2,700.00
APP.038106	387	ASE	Onepu Farm (Te Aupouri Commercial Dev Ltd)	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North		Fencing	\$ 10,000.00
APP.038554	302	ASE	Ngakahu Whanau Whenua	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North		Fencing	\$ 655.00
APP.038567	181	ASE	Bushland Trust	2015	\$ 5,000.00	Drystock	Biodiversity - Lakes	Far North		Planting	\$ 5,250.00
APP.038587	468	ASE	McCraith Family Trust	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North		Fencing	\$ 4,350.00
APP.038477	432	ASE	CN & CA Murray	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North		Fencing	\$ 8,675.00
APP.038548	426	MIM	Barry John Foote	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Whāngārei	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 10,000.00
APP.038566	460	MIM	Mr Rodney Procter	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Whāngārei	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 4,259.00
APP.038585	458	MIM	Peter Neilson	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Whāngārei	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 950.00
APP.038515	418	LOD	Vincent McColl	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - Lifestyle	Whāngārei		Fencing	\$ 2,254.00
APP.038214	417	DUK	Prime Holdings Limited	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Far North	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 9,114.00
APP.038575	462	DUK	Stephen James & Patricia Boys	N/A		Drystock	Biodiversity - Wetlands	Far North	Waitangi	Fencing	\$ 5,728.00
APP.036221.02.01	465	DUK	Murray Wright	2013	\$ 1,279.00	Drystock	Biodiversity - Wetlands	Far North		Fencing	\$ 10,500.60
APP.037055.03.01	N/A	LAS	Anton Trist: Waipu Cove Domain Board	N/A		Dunes	Coastal - Dune Restoration	Whāngārei		Fencing	\$ 1,090.00
APP.151890.03.01	N/A	LAS	Gabrielle Eveline Pfaender	2013&2014	\$ 4,045.00	Dunes	Coastal - Dune Restoration	Far North		Planting	\$ 4,100.00
APP.151239.04.01	N/A	LAS	Baylys Beach Society Incorporated	2013&2014	\$ 13,871.00	Dunes	Coastal - Dune Restoration	Kaipara		Fencing & Planting	\$ 3,725.00
APP.036745.03.01	N/A	LAS	Tem Point Recreation & Conservation Society	2014&2015	\$ 5,150.00	Dunes	Coastal - Dune Restoration	Kaipara		Planting	\$ 3,295.00
APP.038517	N/A	DEJ	Boyd Kenneth & Linda Maree Matson	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Whāngārei	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 5,339.00
APP.037832.02.01	349	DEJ	John Vincent & Myrtle Ann Sanson	2014-15	\$ 3,449.00	Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Whāngārei	Kaipara	Fencing	\$ 950.00
APP.038588	469	DEJ	The Forest Returns Company	N/A		Drystock	Water Quality - Drystock	Whāngārei	Kaipara	Fencing & Planting	\$ 4,537.00

TOTAL \$ 198,261.10

Approved Under Delegated Authority



Duncan Kervell
Land Programme Manager

Date: 20/07/16

Summary Sighted by Councillor



Bill Shepherd
Chairman - Northland Regional Council

Date: 20/07/16

ISSUE: Update on Top Wetland Project and Northland Lakes

ID: A864788

To: Environmental Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Lisa Forester, Environmental Assets Manager and Katrina Hansen,
Biodiversity Advisor

Date: 4 August 2106

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 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 an update on the following projects:

Top Wetlands

Northland has more than 1000 wetlands, but more than 97% of the original wetland area has been lost. In 2011, 304 wetlands were assessed against criteria, which included size, rarity, representativeness and uniqueness, and given a priority rank score. In 2011, letters were sent to more than 600 adjoining landowners of the highest ranked offering assistance to protect and restore these wetlands. A priority top wetland project was reinitiated this year to further progress protection work. Twenty five top wetlands have currently been prioritised for follow-up work.

Lakes

Northland has around 350 lakes between 0.5 and 197 ha in size, which still have relatively good water quality, few aquatic pests and high ecological values. Twelve lakes are ranked as "regionally outstanding freshwater bodies" and the Northland Lakes Strategy (NIWA 2014) recommended the development of Lakes Management Plans for these lakes, which fits in with the purpose of implementing the National Policy for Freshwater Management 2011.

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):

That the report "Update on Top Wetland Project and Northland Lakes" by Katrina Hansen, Biodiversity Advisor and Lisa Forester, Environmental Assets Manager and dated 4 August 2016 be received.

Top Wetland Project Background

As part of the requirement in the Northland Regional Water and Soil Plan to report on significant indigenous wetlands, 304 wetlands were assessed against criteria which included size, rarity, uniqueness and representativeness. This ranking provides a tool for identifying and prioritising sites for protection which will help address the issue of the continuing loss of Northland's wetlands. Ecological functions provided by wetlands include improvement of water quality through sediment trapping, flood peak reduction, water retention and providing habitat for plants and animals, many of which are threatened.

In 2011 the Top Wetland Project was initiated and assessed the current state of the top wetlands, prioritising those requiring protection so that landowners could be contacted offering advice and assistance to help them look after and enhance their wetland. More than 600 Top Wetland owners were contacted. Table 1 is an analysis of landowners contacted for each district.

Table 1: 2012 Wetland mailouts by district

	Kaipara District	Whangarei District	Far North District	Total
Number of Wetlands in mailout	23	22	106	151
Landowner/wetland boundaries				
Private	39	65	281	385
Larger Companies	3	2	10	15
Maori Land	7	4	74	85
Forestry Companies	4	0	21	25
Landcorp	2	0	6	8
Department of Conservation	12	6	39	57
Other Government Agencies	0	1	16	17
Northland Fish and Game	1	0	1	2
Native Forest Restoration Trust	0	1	0	1
District Council	5	4	8	17
Total landowner/top wetlands	73	83	456	612

Note that some landowners and companies appear multiple times in the table because they own many wetlands even though they received one letter listing their wetlands.

Working with landowners of the top wetlands to date has been through responding to approaches from the landowners, following the first Top Wetlands mail out. Wetland owners within the Whangarei and Kaipara Districts were also contacted by phone, resulting in a number of wetlands being fenced and some covenanted. However landowners in the Far North did not receive a follow up call because of the number of landowners involved. Approaches from landowners have now tailed off so it was decided to re-contact landowners of priority wetlands where fencing and other actions

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are still needed. The current project plan was initiated this year to target the landowners of 25 priority wetlands through Council Land Management Advisors. These landowners will be offered advice and assistance through the Environment Fund.

The specific objectives of this project are:

- Prioritise the first 25 wetlands of the top 154 wetlands that still require protection.
- Contact landowners through Council Land Management Advisors offering assistance with fencing, planting, pest control or advice.
- Assist landowners to provide wetlands with a 'basic standard of care' incorporating protection and enhancement (fencing and planting), pest control, hydrological function restoration and encouraging and formal protection (e.g. through covenants) where appropriate.
- Undertake management actions by way of Farm Water Quality Improvement and Biodiversity Plans assisted by the Environment Fund (E-fund) Biodiversity funding stream.
- Provide information, expert advice and encouragement to landowners on how to look after and enhance their wetland.
- Continue re-prioritising the top 154 wetlands once the first 25 wetlands have protection work completed, to maintain an ongoing list of 25 prioritised wetlands for protection.

Top Wetlands Progress

The following actions have been undertaken:

- Development of priority list (Appendix 1) and maps of 25 wetlands to be targeted first.
- Update current level of protection/fencing, where known, for the priority wetlands through Land management Advisors, field visits and working with landowners.
- An up to date list of adjoining landowners for the 25 target top wetlands is in preparation.
- Two visits occurred in the first month of this project (July) with more visits planned.

Lakes Programme

Lakes Plans

Northland's approximately 350 lakes represent a large proportion of the lowland New Zealand lakes still with relatively good water quality, few aquatic pests and high ecological values. Currently the Council monitors water quality in 26 lakes, undertakes surveillance for new pests in seven at-risk lakes and tracks the ecological condition of around 85 lakes. Council also undertakes biosecurity responses and catchment protection under the Waiora Northland Water programme which includes supporting land owners and community to undertake management actions such as fencing, riparian planting and pest control through the Environment Fund.

Northland Lakes Strategy Part II (NIWA 2014) recommended development of Lakes Management Plans for Northland's high value lakes by starting with 12 lakes identified as regionally outstanding. A project has been initiated to produce plans for the 12 outstanding lakes this year. A Lakes Catchment Advisor was recently appointed for a fixed term of one year filling in for Bruce Griffin (Environmental Assets staff) who is on leave for one year.

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The objectives of the project are production of high-level lakes and catchment management plans for the 12 outstanding lakes, which are lakes:-

- Wahakari
- Morehurehu
- Waihopo
- Ngatu
- Waiporohita
- Kai Iwi Lakes (three lakes under one plan supplementary to Taharoa Domain Management Plan led by Kaipara District Council)
- Humuhumu
- Rotokawau
- Kanono
- Mokeno

A second objective is to work with community, landowners, staff and stakeholders to implement priority actions within these plans.

Other Lake Actions

Lake Humuhumu on the Pouto Peninsula features as the August 2016 LAWA River of the month and highlights work being done by landowners, iwi and community with support of the Council and other agencies (this is presented in Agenda item 6.0 Waioara Northland Water Progress 2 June to 3 August 2016).

Lake margin fencing has been completed at Lakes Karaka and the eastern shore of Kanono and riparian planting is planned at Lake Kanono in the next two weeks.

A biodiversity plan, in conjunction with the Management Plan is being developed for Lake Waiporohita, an outstanding lake on the Karikari Peninsula within the Doubtless Bay Catchment. The surrounding land is to be returned to Ngati Kahu and is farmed currently by Landcorp. Consultation with Iwi will be part of the process.

After return of the bed of Lake Ngatu to Ngai Takoto, good progress has been made with signage at the lake and construction of bollards which prevent powerboat launching and vehicle access. Lake levels at Ngatu and most lakes in the Far North are high at present. Recharge of these lakes is helpful for maintaining water quality.

Appendix 1

Priority wetlands for assessment

Priority (for protection work)	Rank Number (2011 report)	Name
1	1	Pouto Dune System – Wairere, Karaka, Mokeno
2	20	Lake Waiparera and Wetlands (High status lake)
3	39	Awakino and Flaxmill Swamps
4	52	Wairahi Swamp and Lake Taeore
5	63	Frith Road Dairylands Wetland
6	83	Lake Kanono Wetland and Forest (Outstanding lake)
7	89	Rangiahua Wetland
8	99	Wageners Swamps
9	123	Lake Kahuparere Wetland and Shrubland (High status lake)
10	10	Kaipaha Swamp
11	15	Lake Rotokawau and Puwheke Beach
12	17	Lake Humuhumu Wetland and Forest (Outstanding lake)
13	32	Lake Kai Iwi (Outstanding lake)
14	40	Sweetwater Station Depressions
15	46	Lake Taharoa Wetland (Outstanding lake)
16	50	Lower Waihou Swamp and Shrubland
17	59	Lake Wahakari (Outstanding lake)
18	66	Lake Waikare Wetland and Shrubland (Outstanding lake)
19	69	Sandhills Rd Wetland No'1
20	76	Lake Morehurehu & Wetland (Outstanding lake)
21	82	Lake Waihopo and Shrublands (Outstanding lake)
22	97	Lake Rotopouua Wetland and Forest
23	21	Te Werahi Wetland (High status lake)
24	29	Shenstone Block
25	70	Lake Rotoroa and Wetlands (High status lake)

ISSUE: Northland Regional Council and Department of Conservation Memorandum of Understanding

ID: A861043

To: Environmental Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Bruce Howse, Group Manager Environmental Services

Date: 20 July 2016

Report Type:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Normal operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Information	<input checked="" 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 seek approval for a Northland Regional Council and Department of Conservation draft memorandum of understanding.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are provided for in the council's 2015–2025 Long Term Plan, in respect of council's biosecurity, biodiversity, and water management programmes and functions, and as such are in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76–82 of the LGA 2002. This report does not trigger council's Significance Policy.

Recommendations:

1. That the report 'Northland Regional Council and Department of Conservation Memorandum of Understanding' by Bruce Howse, Group Manager Environmental Services, and dated 20 July 2016, be received.
 2. That the committee recommends to council the approval of the memorandum of understanding and delegation of authority to the NRC Chairman to sign the memorandum on behalf of council.
-

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Report:

A draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) has been developed in conjunction with the Department of Conservation (DOC).

The MOU seeks to formalise closer collaboration and co-operation between NRC and DOC to achieve greater conservation outcomes for the Northland community.

As set out in the **attached** draft MOU, this is to be achieved through better alignment of strategies; greater collaboration in planning and integrating functions where appropriate; and some shared on-ground management and service delivery.

The memorandum seeks to enhance our relationship and develop a greater understanding of how we work together by focussing on some specific shared strategic projects. The strategic projects and key areas of focus will be reviewed annually. The final version of the memorandum will be stylised into a single sided A3 document prior to signing, a draft example is attached.

Environmental Management Committee Consideration

The draft MOU was first reported to the April 2016 Environmental Management Committee (EMC) meeting for consideration.

Feedback from the EMC was that the MOU was too brief and did not contain enough details about the other work/projects that NRC collaborates on or have potential to collaborate on. In addition to this, there was a request from the EMC to change the reference from 'mana whenua' to 'tangata whenua'. This change has been made to the attached MOU.

The MOU has been revised to include an action plan that details the specific priority actions that are to be achieved under the principles of the MOU for the coming 12 months. This action plan is subject to the review process as described in the MOU.

It is noted that the MOU has been drafted intentionally as a higher level document that affirms the intent and principles of collaboration and co-operation between NRC and DOC to achieve greater conservation outcomes for the Northland community. It is not the intent or purpose of the MOU to detail the specific details about the other work/projects that NRC collaborates on or have potential to collaborate on. This will be addressed through day to day management and the collaboration that currently occurs.

It is recommended that the committee recommends to council the approval of the memorandum of understanding and delegation of authority to the NRC Chairman to sign the memorandum on behalf of council.

Attachment 1 – Draft NRC & DOC MOU

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL AND DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

PARTIES

- 1. Chairman Northland Regional Council (“the Chairman”)**
- 2. Director General of Conservation (“the Director-General”)**

DATED: Day Month 2016

CONTEXT

Northland Regional Council (NRC) and the Department of Conservation (DOC) have responsibility to care for many of the natural areas in the Northland Region and the protection of the biodiversity and natural heritage within it. They share common values, aims and objectives.

NRC has a regional responsibility for protection of biodiversity and natural heritage as well as a broad responsibility for biosecurity, planning and policy issues.

DOC has a national responsibility as it is the central government organisation charged with conserving the natural and historic heritage of New Zealand on behalf of and for the benefit of present and future New Zealanders.

The two organisations have obligations under their parent legislation to tangata whenua, especially in relation to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and Treaty of Waitangi settlements. Nothing in this memorandum or any actions or proposals arising from it will avoid or undermine those obligations.

By exploring closer collaboration and co-operation at all levels the two organisations seek greater outcomes for conservation and the Northland community.

Through better alignment of strategies; greater collaboration in planning and integrating functions where appropriate; and some shared on-ground management and service delivery, the two organisations can commit to reducing duplication and enhancing their mutual effectiveness for the benefit of the natural environment and the enjoyment of people who recreate within it.

APPROACH

This memorandum seeks to enhance our relationship and develop a greater understanding of how we work together by focussing on some specific shared strategic projects. The strategic projects and key areas of focus will be reviewed annually.

PRINCIPLES GUIDING THE MOU

- Building a greater understanding of both organisations.
- Maximising opportunities to work together to strengthen Northlands environmental, cultural, economic and social wellbeing.
- **Working together more effectively to support the community as kaitiaki of our environment.**
- Improving coordination and knowledge sharing to maximise outcomes and avoid duplication.

STRATEGIC PROJECTS

The following have been identified as the key strategic projects subject to this MOU, and specific actions and targets around these are provided in the Action Plan.

Kauri Dieback

Key areas of focus to support working together

- Work collaboratively with stakeholders to progress Northland priorities
- Support Northland communities and groups to progress Kauri Dieback priorities
- Work cohesively across the region to communicate key messages

Waioira Northland Water

Key areas of focus to support working together

- Support Northland communities to engage successfully in Waioira Northland Water
- Collaborate effectively in the development of Waioira Catchment Management Group catchment plans
- Maximise opportunities to progress prioritised actions from final catchment plans
- Living Water alignment with Waioira Northland Water to ensure no duplication of resources

Warawara Whakaora Ake (Warawara Restoration Project)

Key areas of focus to support working together

- Work collaboratively to ensure that the effects of collective contributions are optimised
- Contribute technical and logistical support in proportion to capacity to assist with the implementation of the Warawara Whakaora Ake project and to ensure its success

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- Understand and apply what has been learnt from the Warawara model to the development of an aspirational Northland forest health framework and work plan

Other Key Work

Working together on other areas of key work that are of a common priority and mutual benefit.

The parties agree to progress these Principles and Strategic Projects and to seek other opportunities for mutual advantage. DOC's Director of Operations, Northern North Island and NRC's GM – Environmental Services will meet at least six-monthly to review progress and affirm the principles of this agreement.

The Council and the Department will also report annually to the Northland Conservation Board and NRC Environmental Management Committee to update progress on the action plan, provide a revised action plan and seek governance input on matters identified in this MOU.

Director-General - Department of Conservation
Chairman – Northland Regional Council

Signed:

Signed:

Date:

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ACTION PLAN

This action plan sets out the key actions and targets to be achieved over the next 12 months (July 2016 - June 2017) for the agreed strategic projects:

Kauri Dieback

Action: The Kauri Dieback Partnership led by Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) is trialling the use of tactical plans as a way of ensuring the response to kauri dieback is at an appropriate and more manageable scale. The two sites chosen for the trial are Whangapoua (Coromandel Peninsula) and Waipoua Forest.

DOC is leading the development and implementation of the Waipoua Forest Tactical Plan, a joint Te Roroa, DOC and NRC collaboration to progress key actions to address Kauri dieback priorities in Waipoua Forest.

Target: DOC leads collaboration with Te Roroa and NRC to develop and commence implementation of the Waipoua Forest Tactical Plan by December 2016.

Waiora Northland Water

Action: Waiora Northland Water, led by the NRC, is about working together to better manage Northlands precious freshwater resources whilst encompassing requirements under the National Policy Statement for freshwater.

DOC is strategically focussed on restoring freshwater ecosystems and is collaborating and participating in this programme.

DOC has targeted weed control and the NRC riparian planting at Lake Kanono in 16/17. Lake Kanono is part of the outstanding Pouto dunelakes which are internationally and nationally significant. This lake is surrounded by marginal strip administered by the Department and is part of the Waiora Northland Water programme.

Target: NRC and DOC work together at Lake Kanono to maximise restoration outcomes up to June 2017.

Action: NRC as part of its lakes strategy is developing long-term management plans for 12 of Northlands outstanding dune lakes:

Wahakari, Morehurehu, Waihopo, Ngatu, Waiporohita, Waikare, Kai iwi, Taharoa, Humuhumu, Kanono, Rotokawau and Mokeno.

DOC administers reserves and marginal strips around many of these lakes and is strategically focused on restoring freshwater ecosystems.

Target: NRC will collaborate with DOC to identify opportunities to maximize restoration effort, and produce draft management plans for the 12 identified lakes by June 2017.

Action: Living Water, the DOC Fonterra partnership is leading biodiversity assessment on farm within the Hikurangi catchment to improve biodiversity and water quality outcomes. NRC is wanting to accelerate the development of Farm Water Quality Improvement Plans (FWQIPs) within the Hikurangi catchment to enhance

water quality and biodiversity outcomes particularly on farms that have already received Living Water biodiversity assessments.

DOC and the NRC recognise that there is an opportunity to leverage increased outcomes by collaborating.

Target: NRC and Living Water have supported a minimum of five farms to implement recommendations from Living Water farm biodiversity assessments and/or FWQIPs by June 2017.

Warawara Whakaora Ake (Warawara Restoration Project)

Action: The Warawara Restoration Project is a partnership involving Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa, DOC, NRC and Reconnecting Northland who are working with Warawara Komiti Kaitiaki to implement a Pest Management Plan.

The NRC are putting in an Envirolink funding application for forest vegetation and bird mapping survey led by Landcare Research to provide baseline information on the state and values of Warawara.

DOC is supporting the development of a project plan for Warawara that incorporates various components i.e kiwi management.

Target: The NRC will gain support from Warawara Whakaora Ake partners for the Envirolink funding application for forest vegetation and bird mapping survey led by Landcare Research and will lodge an application by July 2016. NRC will collaborate with DOC and other Warawara Whakaora Ake partners to agree on the delivery of baseline information on the state and values of Warawara by June 2017.

Northland Forest Health

Action: Northland's indigenous forests are of immense cultural, environmental and economic significance with forest occupying a large percentage of the Northland landscape. Since the arrival of possums in the 1960s and with a suite of other pests, our forests are under significant pressure. DOC and NRC want to collaborate to develop an aspirational high-level Northland forest health framework to improve the condition of our indigenous forests.

Target: DOC and NRC lead the development of a draft forest health framework to improve the condition of our indigenous forests by November 2016.

Other Key Work

Action: Russell Forest is a significant forest tract in Northland that is showing signs of forest decline due to animal pests mainly possums. DOC is collaborating with the Te Kapotai hapu, Northland Regional Council and other key stakeholders including Nga Whenua Rahui to develop a plan to improve Russell forest's health.

Target: DOC provides support and advice to Te Kapotai for their completion of a draft plan to improve Russell forest's health by December 2016.

Memorandum of understanding

Northland Regional Council and Department of Conservation

Parties

1. **Chairman Northland Regional Council (“the Chairman”)**
2. **Director General of Conservation (“the Director-General”)**

Dated:

Context

Northland Regional Council (NRC) and the Department of Conservation (DOC) have responsibility to care for many of the natural areas in the Northland Region and the protection of the biodiversity and natural heritage within it. They share common values, aims and objectives.

NRC has a regional responsibility for protection of biodiversity and natural heritage as well as a broad responsibility for biosecurity, planning and policy issues.

DOC has a national responsibility as it is the central government organisation charged with conserving the natural and historic heritage and biodiversity of New Zealand on behalf of and for the benefit of present and future New Zealanders, including extensive areas of Crown land in Northland.

The two organisations have obligations under their parent legislation to tangata whenua, especially in relation to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and Treaty of Waitangi settlements. Nothing in this memorandum or any actions or proposals arising from it will void or undermine those obligations.

By exploring closer collaboration and co-operation at all levels the two organisations seek greater outcomes for conservation and the Northland community.

Through better alignment of strategies; greater collaboration in planning and integrating functions where appropriate; and some shared on-ground management and service delivery, the two organisations can commit to reducing duplication and enhancing their mutual effectiveness for the benefit of the natural environment and the enjoyment of people who recreate within it.

Approach

This memorandum seeks to enhance our relationship and develop a greater understanding of how we work together by focussing on some specific shared strategic projects. The strategic projects and key areas of focus will be reviewed annually.

Principles guiding the MOU

- Building a greater understanding of both organisations.
- Maximising opportunities to work together to strengthen Northlands environmental, cultural, economic and social wellbeing.
- Working together more effectively to support the community as kaitiaki of our environment.
- Improving coordination and knowledge sharing to maximise outcomes and avoid duplication.

Strategic projects

The following have been identified as the key strategic projects subject to this MOU, and specific actions and targets around these are provided in the Action Plan.

Kauri Dieback

Key areas of focus to support working together

- Work collaboratively with stakeholders to progress Northland priorities
- Support Northland communities and groups to progress Kauri Dieback priorities
- Work cohesively across the region to communicate key messages

Waioira Northland Water

Key areas of focus to support working together

- Support Northland communities to engage successfully in Waioira Northland Water
- Collaborate effectively in the development of Waioira Catchment Management Group catchment plans
- Maximise opportunities to progress prioritised actions from final catchment plans
- Living Water alignment with Waioira Northland Water to ensure no duplication of resources

Warawara Whakaora Ake (Warawara Restoration Project)

Key areas of focus to support working together

- Work collaboratively to ensure that the effects of collective contributions are optimised
- Contribute technical and logistical support in proportion to capacity to assist with the implementation of the Warawara Whakaora Ake project and to ensure its success
- Understand and apply what has been learnt from the Warawara model to the development of an aspirational Northland forest health framework and work plan

Other Key Work

Working together on other areas of key work that are of a common priority and mutual benefit.

The parties agree to progress these Principles and Strategic Projects and to seek other opportunities for mutual advantage.

DOC's Director of Operations, Northern North Island and NRC's GM – Environmental Services will meet at least six-monthly to review progress and affirm the principles of this agreement. The Council and the Department will also report annually to the Northland Conservation Board and Northland Regional Council Environmental Management Committee to update progress on the action plan, provide a revised action plan and seek governance input on matters identified in this MOU.

Director-General – Department of Conservation

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Chairman – Northland Regional Council

Signed: _____

Date: _____

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ISSUE: Reconnecting Northland - Presentation

ID: A864884

To: Environmental Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary

Date: 2 August 2016

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

Mr Eamon Nathan has been invited by the Chairman of the Environmental Management Committee to address the Environmental Management Committee on Monday 29 August 2016 on "Reconnecting Northland".

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

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

Recommendation:

That the presentation from Eamon Nathan be received.

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ISSUE: Toward a 50 Year Plan for Pest Control - Presentation

ID: A864888

To: Environmental Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary

Date: 2 August 2016

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

Mr Don McKenzie has been invited by the Chairman of the Environmental Management Committee to address the Environmental Management Committee on Monday 29 August 2016 on "Toward a 50 Year Plan for Pest Control".

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

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

Recommendation:

That the presentation from Don McKenzie be received.

ITEM: 12.0

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ISSUE: Biosecurity Update

ID: A861739

To: Environmental Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Don McKenzie, Biosecurity Manager

Date: 1 August 2016

Report Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal operations	<input type="checkbox"/> Information	<input checked="" 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:

This report describes progress on key biosecurity issues across the region including the recent government announcement to achieve a predator free New Zealand by 2025 and the Biosecurity 2025 discussion document released by the Ministry For Primary Industries. Updates on biosecurity site led programmes are provided including the launch of a forest restoration plan called “Seven and Ten”, Kauri dieback, and marine pests.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The council activities detailed in this report are provided for in activities described in the council's 2015-2025 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, Biosecurity Manager and dated 1 August 2016 be received.
 2. That the Environmental Management Committee note the intention to progress the native forest restoration initiative named “ *Seven in Ten*”.
 3. That the Environmental Management Committee agree to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to make a submission on the Biosecurity 2025 document.
-

Report

Predator Free New Zealand

The government recently announced new funding to support an aspirational plan to rid New Zealand of pests by 2050. Details of this plan are not yet understood however 28 million dollars has been allocated and a private company called Predator Free New Zealand Limited set up to manage the process and attract funding. Council staff have been liaising closely with staff from the Department of Conservation to understand more about the four shorter term goals which are:

- An additional 1 million hectares of land where pests have been suppressed or removed through Predator Free New Zealand partnerships
- Development of a scientific breakthrough capable of removing at least one small mammalian predator from New Zealand entirely
- Demonstrate areas of more than 20,000 hectares can be predator free without the use of fences
- Complete removal of all introduced predators from offshore island nature reserves

Staff expect to be able to update the Environmental Management Committee at the next meeting.

Staff have also been working with stakeholders such as Reconnecting Northland and Department of Conservation to develop a plan to help protect the regions finest forests from pests and rebuild communities in less wealthy areas of Northland. The project called "Seven in Ten" aims to restore seven of Northlands best forests over the next decade and has a vision to protect all areas of ecological significance over the next 50 years.

Biosecurity 2025

A discussion document was released by MPI in early August setting out proposals for the strategic direction of biosecurity to 2025. The five proposed strategic directions are:

- A biosecurity team of 4.7 million people,
- A toolbox for tomorrow
- Free-flowing information highways
- Effective Leadership and Governance
- Tomorrows skills and assets

The full document can be viewed at <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/news-and-resources/consultations/biosecurity-2025-proposals-for-a-direction-statement-for-biosecurity-in-new-zealand/>

Submissions are required in early September and delegation is sought to prepare a staff submission on the document. Staff are also aware that the biosecurity and biodiversity collective will also be preparing a submission on behalf of regional councils.

Kauri Dieback *Phytophthora agathidicida*

A recent Kauri Dieback survey has been completed and all sites suspected of containing the disease have been investigated. Approximately 43 sites on private land were surveyed with 73 soil samples taken from a sample of these sites. An additional seven positive kauri dieback sites were identified as a result of the samples taken on private land in Northland; four in the Kaipara region, one in McLeod's Bay (Whangarei Heads), Totara North and Warawara.

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To date, there are 31 known positive kauri dieback sites in Northland on private and public conservation land. Risk Assessments and Site Management Plans are currently being completed for all private land diseased sites

The Tindall/Aotea fencing fund has been announced and \$33,000 allocated to the Northland region for 2016. To date there are three fencing applications in process; two for positive sites in the Kaipara region and one at Kauri Mountain, Whangarei Heads. One of the Kaipara sites is also working with NRC's land management department to fence wetlands and waterways.

Reconnecting Northland and NRC are working on a training and upskilling program for iwi and community partners to maximise the trained people who can undertake education, disease survey and sampling to move toward the five year goal of locating all disease positive sites in Northland.

Mediterranean Fanworm

A dive contract for hull survey has been advertised and tenders close early August. It is expected that 1500 hulls will be surveyed over the coming months and their fanworm status checked.

A meeting of northern regions was held during July with Auckland, Bay of Plenty, Waikato and Northland and MPI represented as a Top Of the North marine pest group. This meeting discussed planning and advertising for the upcoming Auckland boat show and each regions plan for the coming summer. These plans are aimed at warning boaties of the risks of spreading marine pests and the rules which are in place for Bay of Plenty and Northland.

Site-led Projects (CPCA's, Environment Fund)

After receiving nearly 80 registrations of interest for pest control materials from council's 2016/17 environment fund, staff have now reviewed and prioritised all applications. Fifty-four applications have been approved which aim to control a range of pests including possums, mustelids, rodents, feral cats and weeds (appendix 12a). The total area of all projects for this financial year covers approximately 25,000ha of private land at a cost of \$126,000 excl GST.

Community Pest Control Areas

For the 2016/17 financial year the following CPCA projects can be funded;

Warawara CPCA	\$50,000.00	(additional support)
Kiwi coast - Kiwi Link CPCA	\$60,000.00	(New CPCA)
Tutukaka CPCA	\$34,000.00	(agreement signed 2012)
Total	\$144,000.00	
Waipoua pest management	\$50,000.00	(as per annual plan- a one off allocation for 2016-2017)

The projects which will unfortunately need to be deferred will likely be:

Purua CPCA	\$30,000.00
Tangihua CPCA	\$35,000.00
Kowhairoa (Whangaroa) CPCA	\$17,000.00

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Trounson CPCA	\$30,000.00
Waima Kokako CPCA	\$20,000.00
Mangawhai CPCA	\$20,000.00
Total shortfall for 2016/17	\$152,000.00

Upcoming CPCA projects

Biosecurity staff in conjunction with local communities have developed a new Community Pest Control Area (CPCA) called “**Kiwi Link**”. This CPCA will be the largest CPCA project so far undertaken and covers over 12,000ha between Taranui (north of Whangarei Heads) and Ngunguru Ford in eastern Northland. The project has been named the “**Kiwi Link**” as the primary goal is to rebuild kiwi populations through predator control and connect kiwi strongholds of the Whangarei Heads peninsula and the Tutukaka Coast. Additional objectives include developing a bait station network over 8000ha for possum and rodent control and undertaking pest plant control.

Kiwi Link builds on active conservation work carried out in the area by communities, iwi/hapu, land managers, agencies and organisations over the last decade. It consolidates the considerable investment of resources provided to date by a long list of supporting organisations and entities including the NZ Landcare Trust, QEII Trust, Northland Regional Council (NRC), Department of Conservation (DOC), Whangarei District Council (WDC), Kiwis for Kiwi, Hancock Forest Management (HFM), Tahī Estate and more recently the Kiwi Coast through the Reconnecting Northland Programme.

This CPCA brings together seven landcare groups and projects, Kohinui Stream Landcare, Owhiwa Landcare, Whareora Landcare, Taheke Landcare, Hancock Forest Managers Whanui Project, Pataua North Landcare, and Ngunguru Ford Landcare as well as other agencies such as QEII, WDC and DOC.

This project will cost NRC approximately \$60,000 excl gst per annum for five years and is funded from the current CPCA budget. The project budget estimates that NRC’s annual contribution will be approximately 30% of the annual operating costs of this CPCA, with the remaining 70% being funded by community and other agencies.

Ginger Stakeholder Group

In 2015 a stakeholder group comprised of Northland Regional Council, Whangarei District Council, Kaipara District Council, Far North District Council, Department of Conservation, Landcare Research, Hancock Timber Resource Group and Summit Forests was established to raise awareness of wild ginger in Northland and find funding avenues for the research and import of biocontrol agents. The group has funded the creation of a website with an interactive mapping tool that allows the public to see where large infestations of wild ginger are located and to ‘drop a pin’ on ginger in their own neighbourhood. The website also functions to educate the public of the state of wild ginger in Northland and why biocontrol agents are the most likely candidate for management of wild ginger.

The announcement of the initiative at the recent NETS conference has attracted a large amount of interest from potential stakeholders and the website is currently in the final stages of development. A public release is expected soon.

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Wilding pines

Staff have been working hard to ensure NRC is part of a national group involved in the allocation of new government money aimed at controlling wilding pines. Staff have identified more than \$269K of work needed in the next year to manage wilding pine infestations in Northland. The allocation of funding is likely to be targeted to toward wilding pine infestations in the South Island and central North Island in the first instance. However Northland is ranked as a region with accelerating wilding pine management costs and resourcing is needed.

Whangarei Heads Targeted Rate Update

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 assist with and carry out pest management at Whangarei Heads. The rate is used to target pests which threaten kiwi and to help eradicate selected weeds on private land.

In late 2015, the Whangarei Heads pest management committee was established to oversee the administration of the rate and to ensure it is spent where there is greatest benefit for the Whangarei Heads community.

In the first year of the targeted rate being established, two projects had financial support from the Whangarei Heads targeted rate. Backyard Kiwi (BYK) used approximately \$52,000 to undertake kiwi predator control and kiwi monitoring over approximately 6000ha of private land at the Whangarei Heads. Weed Action Whangarei Heads (WAWH) also received around \$18,000 between January and June 2016 for development of Weed Action Whangarei Heads and a project coordinator to assist landcare groups and private land owners with weed control (BYK and WAWH annual reports attached as 12b, 12c.

Backyard Kiwi and Weed Action Whangarei Heads have now each developed a three year project plan and budget which has been approved by the Whangarei Heads pest management committee commencing from July 2016. The Backyard kiwi project plan requested \$62,000 excl gst and Weed Action Whangarei Heads requested \$25,000 with an additional \$2500 being used to fund a weed action initiated project on private land to control a large amount of *Elaeagnus* totalling \$89,500.00 excl gst.

Biosecurity Fund Applications 2016/17 Status: Proposed

IRISID	Site name	Officer Responsible	Financial year of funding	NRC estimated cost	Biofund area (Ha)	Area of forest or wetland (Ha)	Number of owners	Habitat area to control (0-5)	Fenced area (0, 3, 5)	Site protection (0-5)	Conservation species (0, 3, 5)	Project value (0-5)	Score	Project summary/ justification
MGS.53852	Dean Mercer-Baigent, Otangaroa	Graeme Weavers	2016/17	\$800.00	3.0	3	1	5	5	5	5	4	24	High value forest area requiring possum control by high profile Forest and Bird advocate.
MGS.53857	Greg Smith	Michael Knight	2016/17	\$3000.00	497.0	497	1	5	5	5	4	5	24	To enhance the water quality by under taking pest control within the catchment area of the Kaitia water supply dam,(470ha) this project will be assisted by students of Northtec as Greg is their tutor.
MGS.53858	Rodney & Penny Hansen Bio Fund 2016-19	Paul Ralph	2016/17	\$800.00	4.0	4	1	5	5	5	5	4	24	Integrated animal & plant pest control for a 4ha Pahi lifestyle property, containing 3.5 ha of Kaipara Harbour coastal forest remnant, with a royal spoonbill roost, white heron, pied/black shag, grey warbler & significant number of kereru.
MGS.53878	Mathew Dunning-305i Tauranga Bay Rd, Kaeo.	Graeme Weavers	2016/17	\$400.00	4.3	4	2	5	5	4	5	5	24	Landowner who borders Mahinipua CPCA wants to help maintain Kiwi buffer
MGS.53072	Russel Land Care Group	Michael Knight	2016/17	\$7500.00	748.0	28	125	5	4	4	5	5	23	This project is aimed at restoring secure habitats for the remaining species of vulnerable wildlife and native plants in the Russell peninsula. This would also enable recolonisation of the peninsular from overflowing populations of recovering species on to the islands of Ipipiri. (project Island song).
MGS.53073	Bay Bush Action	Michael Knight	2016/17	\$5500.00	100.0	85	3	5	5	5	4	4	23	To encrease the flora and forna around Paihia as well as some areas of the Opuia State Forest plus to under take feral / stray cats control around the Waitangi urban area when requested by land owners.
MGS.53425	Biofund 2016-19 Hilton Ward	Steve Henderson	2016/17	\$800.00	11.5	10	2	4	5	4	5	5	23	We have been very successful in our wetland and can claim almost saturation of Matata, breeding Spotless Crane, Breeding Banded Rail and Breeding Pateke. We also this year have Tomtit visiting our garden regularly. We have recorded successful clutches of fantail and grey warbler also. Those did not happen in 2008.
MGS.53880	Whakaangi Landcare	Michael Knight	2016/17	\$3500.00	235.0	235	3	5	5	3	5	5	23	This area of land sits at the north eastern most point of the Hihi peninsula, of which has a modest and increasing population of KIWI as well as sighting of Kaka. This pest control program will help to alleviate the pest animal pressure in the surrounding area.
MGS.53890	Jacqui Brooks 535 Waiotemarama Gorge Rd	Graeme Weavers	2016/17	\$800.00	7.6	8	1	5	5	4	5	4	23	Landowner with 20 acres of high value forest bordering Waima forest. has been undertaking pest control on her own and would like some help with increasing pest control.
MGS.53904	Biofund 2016-19 Sandspit Ngunguru	Sara Brill	2016/17	\$1910.00	87.0	87	1	3	5	5	5	5	23	Contractor and equipment for volunteer group working on restoring the sandspit
MGS.53581	Maungaru/Houto Kaipara Forest Conservation Trust	Graeme Weavers	2016/17	\$5000.00	2992.4	2992	16	5	3	5	5	4	22	Rare and endangered species and forest recovery in Maungaroa Forest by buffering on private land surrounding the forest.
MGS.53633	Jennie Kerr	Michael Knight	2016/17	\$1000.00	81.0	81	1	5	5	3	5	4	22	80 ha of sold native bush with the owners wanting to increase the KIWI numbers from a low population to a high population over a period of time as well as to increase other bird species.
MGS.53763	Biofund 2016-19 Duffy Ocean Beach	Sara Brill	2016/17	\$1275.00	1.2	1	1	5	5	5	3	4	22	Restoartion of top 150 wetland and animal pest control on beach for biodiversity.
MGS.53849	Kere George	Graeme Weavers	2016/17	\$325.00	42.7	43	5	4	5	4	5	4	22	Landowner involved with waikare CPCA wants to undertake possum control and training of young people with possum control and fur recovery.
MGS.53896	Erin Farrow-100 Pukenui Rd, Ngunguru. 0212423268.	Graeme Weavers	2016/17	\$500.00	5.4	5	1	4	5	4	5	4	22	Landowner bordering DOC reserve with Kiwi wants to support and buffer reserve for Kiwi by mustelid control and other pests.
MGS.53897	Iwikiwi	Graeme Weavers	2016/17	\$2700.00	929.0	929	50	4	5	4	5	4	22	%000 ha of potential CPCA surrounding waitangi Forest for rare and endangered species including Kiwi. Biofund will initiate pest control and support for CPCA.

MGS.53583	Te Kaitiaki o Erana Pest Control, Mandy Harris, Airport Rd, Kaeo Pest Control Program	Graeme Weavers	2016/17	\$2000.00	19.8	20	1	4	3	5	5	4	21	landowners undertaking intensive pest control in area without control happening and want to expand control measures with support. High value forest area that they have been funding out of income. The owners are working on properties bordering them undertaking pest control for their neighbours as well. The quantity of product reflects that.
MGS.53596	Te Rawhiti Hapu (Ngati Kuta & Patukeha)	Michael Knight	2016/17	\$4000.00	354.0	290	1	4	5	4	4	4	21	To infill strategic gaps located between large scale pest control projects including Rakaumangamanga (Cape Brett) intensively managed area (3B2 Trust / Nga Whenua Rahui) & Hauai CPCA.
MGS.53754	Biofund 2016-19 Kaiatea	Steve Henderson	2016/17	\$5000.00	168.0	150	16	4	4	4	5	4	21	168 ha A collection of 16 properties in the Kaiatea area close to the Riverlands land care group and would effectively extend the area of pest control from there kiwi are present in the area as are pateke and numerous wetland birds and lizards
MGS.53824	Biofund 2016-19 Marunui Conservation	Steve Henderson	2016/17	\$3800.00	416.0	416	20	4	4	4	5	4	21	416 ha of native forest the owners have been working on pest control for the past 20 sum years and have in the past few years have had 40 kiwis released which are breeding and expanding they had funding in the 2011 year but are requesting a relatively small amount of traps and some chemical to continue with the work
MGS.53898	K & J Dromgool, 55 Retreat Rd, Paihia. 0274833136, 0275833136.	Graeme Weavers	2016/17	\$1080.00	74.4	74	2	5	5	4	3	4	21	150 Ha of farm and regeneration bush bordering Paihia DOC reserve with Kiwi. landowners want to advance pest control for Kiwi and other species.
MGS.53591	Biofund 2016-19 Jeff and Susan Scott	Steve Henderson	2016/17	\$800.00	10.0	6	1	4	4	4	4	4	20	10 ha block on Sandy bay road has a population of Pateke and other native species present
MGS.53595	Guardians of the Bay	Michael Knight	2016/17	\$3000.00	195.0	150	18	4	4	3	5	4	20	To use privately owned land along the Eastern Bay of Islands to act as a buffer zone to assist with the protection of the pest free Islands of Ipipiri as part of project Island song.
MGS.53611	Tapuhi Landcare Group	Graeme Weavers	2016/17	\$2800.00	1360.9	1361	8	5	5	3	3	4	20	Buffer to Russell forest by group of landowners and iwi who are considering large CPCA on southern/south western Russell forest boundary..
MGS.53693	Baylys Beach Society Bio Fund 2016-19	Paul Ralph	2016/17	\$950.00	59.0	20	165	2	5	4	5	4	20	Proposed integrated pest plant & animal control for Baylys Beach KDC/DOC coastal reserves, with endemic flora & fauna species, with aggressive pest plants starting to take over.
MGS.53706	Biofund 2016-18 Kevin Banton	Steve Henderson	2016/17	\$1600.00	52.0	50	1	4	4	4	4	4	20	52 ha peninsula off the Russell peninsula mostly bush and coastal estuarine adjacent and amongst many other similar properties engaging in active pest control would contain Kiwi weka and many ground nesting wetland species as well as good mix of the common native birds
MGS.53883	Biofund 2016-17 Hugh Rose	Steve Henderson	2016/17	\$1500.00	74.0	15	2	4	5	4	4	3	20	74 ha in two properties has had extensive fencing of waterways and contains good numbers of rail and fern bird good habitat for Pateke and bittern close enough to Whangarei heads that kiwi are likely to turn up if not already
MGS.53891	Matu Tane 627 Waiotemarama Gorge Rd	Graeme Weavers	2016/17	\$1300.00	4.4	4	3	4	3	4	5	4	20	Landowner undertaking pest management in particular possums and running youth training program would like help with more infrastructure.
MGS.53541	Biofund 2016-19 Steve Chaning-Pearce	Steve Henderson	2016/17	\$3500.00	4.3	3	1	4	5	4	3	3	19	4 ha coastal lifestyle block on the Whananaki north coast Owners are doing some pest control for rats rabbits and possums but require more materials to take it a step further. The coastal sea front has a number of large wilding pines which they want removed which are on very steep cliff faces and require contractors with expertise to access them and remove them.
MGS.53606	Biofund 2016- 19 Vicky Coleman	Steve Henderson	2016/17	\$500.00	25.0	10	1	4	3	4	4	4	19	up grade and replace some of the traps issued 4 years ago under a biofund area is showing good signs of recovering bird populations particularly Pateke which DOC has picked up the servicing of the traps
MGS.53703	Grant & Wendy Pickles Bio Fund 2016 - 19	Paul Ralph	2016/17	\$400.00	3.0	1	1	3	5	4	3	4	19	Integrated pest animal control for lifestyle property, adjacent to small DOC reserve & near to Trounson kauri Park/Proposed CPCA - 1ha forest remnant with kiwi & abundant keruru.
MGS.53773	Magda Cotman	Michael Knight	2016/17	\$2000.00	58.0	48	4	4	4	3	4	4	19	The landowner is conducting a small scale pest control operation and has the ability to grow the area under active control to include part of Raetea Forest.
MGS.53833	Tiaki Tipatipa	Michael Knight	2016/17	\$2500.00	454.0	454	1	4	5	2	4	4	19	There is a small remaining population of KIWI in the proposed area of control, 450ha but no juvenile kiwi are reaching adulthood due to predation
MGS.53850	Daniel Bradbury 664 Te Pua Rd, Kaikohe. 0223614972.	Graeme Weavers	2016/17	\$200.00	70.0	70	2	5	5	3	3	3	19	Contractor wants to increase possum control and feral cat control.

MGS.53851	Diane Foster 965 Waipu caves rd, Waipu. 02108334445.	Graeme Weavers	2016/17	\$600.00	50.9	51	3	3	5	4	3	4	19	farm with patches of good quality forest wants to increase pest control.
MGS.53853	Biofund 2016-19 Whananaki landcare	Steve Henderson	2016/17	\$6500.00	4018.0	1500	50	4	3	4	4	4	19	A new Landcare group formed extending north from the Sandy bay land care and Tutakaka CPCA area wanting to extend the net work of of mustelid and predator traps as per the kiwi coast project also has issues with rabbits on the coastal areas and will use shooters and utilise the rabbits for bait. This area also has the highest number of Pateke in northland
MGS.53893	Hugh Jarvis (Ledbury Farms) Bio Fund 2016-17	Paul Ralph	2016/17	\$1000.00	109.0	30	1	2	3	5	5	4	19	Integrated pest animal control for a 109 ha property with several QEII bush covenants, totalling 3ha + 2ha pending. Property contains a bush covenant reserve registered with DOC. QEII covenants contain a large 500-600 year old kauri & several smaller 100+year kauri. Property owner reports abundance of kereru and several small brown duck (brown teal or scaup ?)
MGS.53910	Biofund 2016 - 2019 Benji Shrosbree	Kane McElrea	2016/17	\$2100.00	180.0	170	1	5	5	0	5	4	19	Biosecurity funding for coastal forest protection and kiwi recovery. 180ha of land located between Owhiwa Landcare and Whareora Landcare group, this also located near the Whangarei Heads Targeted rate Zone. A moderate kiwi population is present. Area is known to have severe issues with wild pigs. Project aims to reduce possum density, reduce mammalian pests such as mustelids and address some weed issues.
MGS.53954	Waipoua Ginger Biofund	Curtis Harris	2016/17	\$6000.00	100.0	100	1	5	3	3	3	5	19	Wild ginger suppression project. Aim is to remove ginger from archaeological sites within pine plantation.
MGS.53030	Biofund 2016-19 Andersons Cove	Steve Henderson	2016/17	\$4000.00	356.0	125	11	4	3	3	4	4	18	356 ha with 11 owners 22 ha of QE2 covenant. Large tracts of native coastal forest Kiwi from Marunauai have previously made their way here no doubt more will if not not already establishing there receives spill over bird species from little Barrier island
MGS.53079	Mataatua Bio Fund	Michael Knight	2016/17	\$3000.00	480.0	470	1	4	5	1	4	4	18	This area is located at Takou Bay and is under the guidance of Te Runanga Ngati Rehia. This proposed area of control boundary's the Whakarara CPCA to the north and as such would complement each other.
MGS.53328	Biofund 2016-19 F & G farms	Steve Henderson	2016/17	\$1600.00	58.0	55	1	4	4	3	3	4	18	58.4 ha property at Oakura extends from oakurs back to almost the Russell road is mostly native and regenerating forest Owners have been doing pest control for a number of years keeping rat and possum numbers to low levels will compliment any planned control being done in the Russell state forest
MGS.53346	Neil & Lynley Clements Bio Fund 2016-19	Paul Ralph	2016/17	\$450.00	45.0	8	1	2	5	4	3	4	18	Integrated pest animal control for a Kauri dieback positive, 45ha Arapohue (Dargaville) property - kukupa present.
MGS.53551	Biofund 2016-19 Ray Oxborrow	Steve Henderson	2016/17	\$450.00	11.0	10	1	4	4	3	4	3	18	11 ha at the Nook pretty much all in Bush and Kiwi habitat owner wanting the enhance biodiversity values on property
MGS.53574	Biofund 2016-19 Ngunguru Hill	Sara Brill	2016/17	\$613.00	2.2	2	1	5	5	5	0	3	18	
MGS.53597	Eastern Bay of Islands Preservation Society	Michael Knight	2016/17	\$2350.00	89.0	80	6	3	4	3	4	4	18	Increasing wetland biodiversity at Tangatapu wetland which includes pateke, fernbird marsh and spotted crane as well as added protection of local biodiversity which will give an added benefit of spill over of species to outer lying areas.
MGS.53712	Biofund 2016-19 Whangarei Head weed action R Bigelow	Sara Brill	2016/17	\$9534.00	10000.0	0	0	5	0	3	5	5	18	co-ordinated support for groups in Whangarei heads area
MGS.53768	Te Patunga Marae	Michael Knight	2016/17	\$2300.00	61.0	55	1	3	4	3	4	4	18	To under take animal pest control around the awa of the marae and also the catchment area as well as waihi tapu sites
MGS.53867	Biofund 2016-19 Adhoc Weed groups	Sara Brill	2016/17	\$7000.00	0.0	0	0	5	0	3	5	5	18	To enable small weeding groups to start when enthusiasm is there and be effectively supported
MGS.53882	Biofund 2016-19 Innes Anderson	Steve Henderson	2016/17	\$1500.00	563.0	200	1	3	3	3	5	4	18	563 ha but mostly concerned with the 217 ha runoff which is mostly bush and is contiguous with the bynderwyns forest and close to Marunui conservation area if not already will soon have spill over kiwi from the releases there.Also contains Hochstetters frog and a large irrigation lake with water fowl and other wet land species of birds
MGS.53640	Biofund 2016-19 Waione CPCA	Steve Henderson	2016/17	\$1100.00	137.0	80	38	3	3	3	3	4	16	The Waione CPCA is requesting some Mustelid traps the previous tunnel traps issued originally have long ceased to work and were never very successful any way a up grade to DOC 200s is required to control stoats
MGS.53575	Biofund 2016-19 McCleod Bay M Leahy	Sara Brill	2016/17	\$2349.00	51.0	20	1	3	3	2	3	4	15	Control of largest site of elaeagnus in McLeod Bay/Whg heads area. Landowner already started.

MGS.53702	Janet Curel - Ruawai feral/stray cats. Bio Fund 2016-19	Paul Ralph	2016/17	\$350.00	86.0	1	105	1	5	1	3	3	13	Feral/stray cat control for Ruawai Township and mangrove foreshore.
MGS.53860	Panguru School	Michael Knight	2016/17	\$900.00	40.0	10	6	5	0	0	3	5	13	Senior students to under take ginger control around the school area at Panguru.

Total\$126436.0025587

Minimum\$200.000.00

Maximu\$9534.0010000.00

Average\$2341.41473.83

Number of Projects

54

Signature:

Don McKenzie
Biosecurity Senior Programme

Date:

Signature:


Bill Shepherd
Chairman Northland Regional

Date: 20/06/16

Backyard Kiwi

(Whangarei Heads Landcare Forum)

Annual Report 2015 - 2016



1. Backyard Kiwi's kiwi recovery programme description

Fifteen years of successful kiwi recovery work has seen the Whangarei Heads kiwi population increase from approximate 80 kiwi in 2001 to over 800 in 2016.

The kiwi recovery work was started at Bream Head by the Department of Conservation and quickly spread to the entire Whangarei Heads Peninsula through work on private land by local landcare groups who combined to form the Whangarei Heads Landcare Forum (WHLF) in 2001. Since 2011 the kiwi recovery programme carried out by WHLF has been known as "Backyard Kiwi" (BYK). Backyard Kiwi is all about looking after our kiwi in our backyard.

This report covers the work done by BYK in the period July 2015 to June 2016. That BYK kiwi recovery work involves:

1. A comprehensive and effective predator trapping network targeting mustelids (ferrets, stoats and weasels) and feral cats.
2. Monitoring of the kiwi population through annual kiwi counts from 20 listening stations and by radio telemetry monitoring of a sample of kiwi fitted with radio transmitters.
3. Supplementing the local population with an additional kiwi through an "Operation Nest Chick" programme.
4. Community Engagement through the above trapping, public kiwi releases and monitoring work but also through "telling the story" through the Backyard kiwi website (www.backyardkiwi.org.nz), facebook, signage, bumper stickers, newsletters. There are also BYK public events and regular visits to local schools. This has all been specifically co-ordinated and planned to engage the local community and encourage us to value and maintain the kiwi in our backyards. As uncontrolled dogs are the major threat to adult kiwi this public engagement is crucial to the long term sustainability of the Whangarei Heads kiwi population.

Although the kiwi recovery work has been very successful to date continued trapping of reinvading predators, ongoing monitoring and engagement of landowners for dog control are essential for future success of kiwi recovery at the Whangarei Heads.

A significant added benefit of kiwi recovery work is that it is also helping to increase many other biodiversity values in the area. There has also been a positive strengthening of the Whangarei Heads community through this community driven kiwi recovery work.

2. Backyard Kiwi Strategic Plan

A review of the previous BYK 5 year strategic plan was undertaken by the BYK committee during early 2016. The performance indicators of that plan were all either met or surpassed. The review process produced an updated BYK Strategic Plan “Leading the partnership between kiwi and people”, it covers the period 2016-2020 and will be regularly reviewed by the BYK committee. See Appendix 1: BYK Strategic Plan

3. Area of Kiwi Recovery Work

The Backyard Kiwi recovery work is predominating carried out on the private land at the Whangarei Heads and complements kiwi recovery work carried out on the crown land by the Department of Conservation and the Bream Head Conservation Trust (BHCT). Landcare groups such as Kohinui Stream Landcare, Owhiwa Road Landcare, Whareora Landcare, North Pataua Landcare carryout kiwi predator trapping to the north and west of the Backyard Kiwi area. All these groups are part of the wider “Kiwi Coast” initiative which is developing New Zealand’s first kiwi corridor between the Whangarei Heads and the Tutukaka Coast.

The area of operation of Backyard Kiwi is within the “Whangarei Heads Pest Management Targeted Rate Area” that was formed in 2015 by the Northland Regional Council (NRC).



MAP 1: Whangarei Heads showing targeted rate area.

4. Kiwi Predator Control Programme

4.1 Trapping Network

Backyard Kiwi operates an effective kiwi predator trapping programme over much of the private land in the Whangarei Heads area to enable kiwi recovery there. Without this predator trapping 95% of kiwi chicks would be killed.

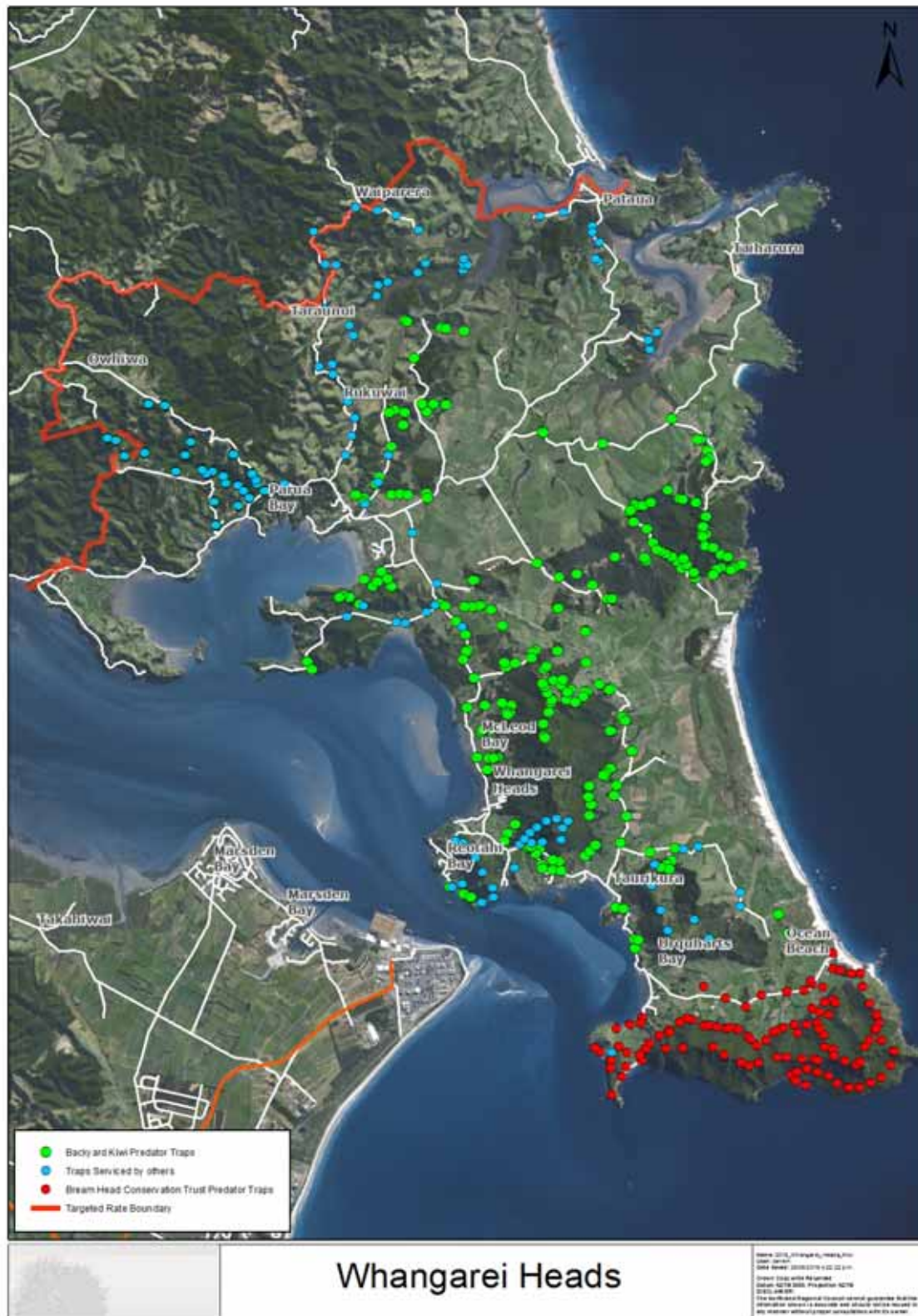
The trapping network has been in place since 2002 with ongoing additions and fine tuning of trap locations continuing since then. As of May 2016 the network includes Mustelid traps: 164 double sets of Mark 6 Fenn traps in plastic tunnels, 111 double Doc 200 sets in boxes, and 21 Doc 250s. Feral cat traps include 31 SA-Coni bears and 30 SA2 feral cat traps.

A professional trapper operates and maintains the trapping network. He also co-ordinates and logistically supports community trappers working on their own land.

The Backyard Kiwi trapping programme complements trapping carried out on the crown land by the Department of Conservation and the Bream Head Conservation Trust (BHCT). Landcare groups such as Kohinui Stream Landcare, Owhiwa Road Landcare, Whareora Landcare, North Pataua Landcare carryout kiwi predator trapping to the north and west of the Backyard Kiwi area. All these groups are part of the wider “Kiwi Coast” initiative which is developing New Zealand’s first kiwi corridor between the Whangarei Heads and the Tutukaka Coast

This landscape wide trapping programme is not only protecting kiwi chicks in the Whangarei Heads area but also the expanding kiwi population in areas north of the peninsula as kiwi move northwards out of the Whangarei Heads kiwi stronghold.

The Whangarei Head's kiwi population has increased for an estimated 80 kiwi in 2001 to over 800 now.



Map 2: Predator trap locations

4.2 Trapping network catch records

Summary of captures by WHLF Backyard Kiwi.							
	Ferret	Stoat	Weasel	Cat	Hedgehog	Rat	Possum
2002/2003	1	55	46	18	65	391	NA
2003/2004	4	22	21	22	52	319	24
2004/2005	1	30	17	38	95	403	285
2005/2006	0	26	13	29	82	357	191+
2006/2007	0	26	8	17	68	304	147
2007/2008	0	19	22	18	84	346	75+
2008/2009	0	21	25	12	112	351	144+
2009/2010	0	17	20	20	87	321	139+
2010/2011	1	24	27	15	86	338	109+
2011/2012	0	25	27	20	56	390	98+
2012/2013	0	42	20	19	49	421	148+
2013/2014	0	19	33	24	140	475	128+
2014/2015	0	18	29	22	149	654	131
2015/2016	0	16	41	30	126	765	126
Total	7	360	349	303	1252	5181	1817+

Comments on 2015/2016 programme by species:

Ferrets

No ferrets were caught this year and the last ferret caught was in 2011. The trapping programme has been successful in eliminating ferrets from the area. Ferrets are the largest of the three mustelid species present in New Zealand and are capable of killing adult kiwi. A single ferret can do significant damage to a kiwi population so traps capable of catching them (Fenn Mk 6s and Doc 250s) remain focused on possible sites of reinvasion.

Stoats

This season was our lowest ever stoat catch with 16 caught for the year. This compares with 55 in our first year (2002-2003) and an average of 24 stoats in the 12 years 2003 to 2015. Stoat numbers have been significantly reduced in the area by the trapping programme. Stoats are the main cause of kiwi chick deaths in un-trapped areas and are capable of moving long distances to rapidly repopulate an area. To prevent this repopulation the current trapping network needs to be maintained.

Weasels

41 weasel catches in 2015-2016 is the highest tally since 46 were caught in the 2002-2003 season. The average weasel catch for the 12 years between the first knock down year and this season is 22. The increase in weasels is probably due to the reduction in stoats as stoats prey on the smaller weasels. Weasels have a much smaller home range than stoats so would require a higher density of traps to remove them from the area. This is not justified for kiwi recovery as weasels are too small to prey on kiwi.

Cats

The feral cat catch of 30 compares with a 13 year average catch of 21. Cat catches have varied from 12 to 38 over that time. Unfortunately people dump unwanted cats in the area and are left behind after summer holidays at times. The variation in feral cat catches is possibly due to the variation in the number of cats being released each year.

Rats and Possums

Note that the only rat and possum catches shown are the by-catches of the predator trapping programme and that specific possum and rat control undertaken by individual Landcare groups in the WHLF area has accounted for much higher catch numbers of these two pests. It is noteworthy though that the 765 rats caught in the predator traps this season is our highest tally ever and may be a reflection of the warm, wet summer leading to a good food supply and correspondingly a high rat population this season.

4.3 Possible trap/lure shy stoats

Stoats are the main predator for kiwi chicks and trapping networks such as the one at the Whangarei Heads are currently the best method for stoat control. However Department of Conservation work monitoring kiwi chick survival rates at the Whangarei Kiwi sanctuary indicated that over time chick survival rates dropped despite an ongoing long term trapping programme there. This is thought to be due to the generation of a small number of trap shy stoats that survive in the area for a number of years. This emphasises the importance of the attention to detail needed when setting traps including the removal of any old salted rabbit lure from the area completely to minimize the generation of trap or lure shy stoats. Near enough is simply not good enough when it comes to stoat trapping.

DOC trials have shown that by using secondary poisoning it is possible to remove the trap shy stoats. We were fortunate at the Whangarei Heads that DOC carried out a 1080 possum control operation using land based bait-stations at Mt Manaia reserve in 2010.

Because of concern that no future possum control was planned by DOC in the Mt Manaia reserve the WHLF, through Manaia Landcare, initiated a joint effort with DOC, NRC, Ngati Wai Trust Board and the Kiwi Coast that carried out another controlled pulse of 1080 toxin in the bait station network at Manaia over the winter of 2014. These controlled pulses will have significantly reduced the number of trap shy stoats in the area.

Previously the use of the toxin Brodifacoum (trade name "Pest Off") has been avoided by the Landcare groups that are part of the WHLF because of the risk of secondary poisoning of non-target species, such as kiwi. Now in appropriate areas we are using a controlled pulse of Brodifacoum every 2 to 4 years to gain the benefits of secondary poisoning of trap shy stoats from this toxin, while limiting the risk of secondary poisoning to non-target species.

This combination of an extensive trapping network and controlled toxin pulses, is leading to good kiwi chick survival in our area. This is evidenced by the number of wild chicks that have survived to be in excess of 1000g in weight (once a chick is 1000g it is big enough to fight off a stoat) turning up as mates for transmitted adults or dead from road kill. Road kill deaths are unfortunate but are a product of the higher kiwi population.

5. Kiwi monitoring

Kiwi Call Counts

We are winning!! Each year since 2001 listening stations have been used to count the number of kiwi calls as a long term measure of the kiwi population recovery. This year windy conditions in late May and June made listening difficult but even so call counts were up from last year. This season 19 listening stations at the Whangarei Heads got an average of 8.1 kiwi calls per hour per station. This compares with an average of 6.4 calls per hour last year and 2.9 calls per hour back in 2002 (see attached table for full details- Appendix 2).

To supplement the annual call count automatic electronic call recorders are used to verify call numbers at some call sites.

We also use directional call sheet analysis that allows for an estimate of adult kiwi numbers, in 2016 that estimate was 820 kiwi up from 675 last year and 80 in 2001.

Radio Telemetry monitoring of a sample of kiwi

A small sample of kiwi (8 in 2016) have a radio transmitter attached to a leg, which we use to monitor their location and get information about growth, survival and breeding rates. All the scientific data collected is contributed to the national DoC data base for research.

We use “smart” chick timer technology in our transmitters which tells us the bird’s nightly activity and shows when birds are nesting and when chicks hatch. This information can be accessed from the data stream the transmitter sends out by a radio receiver. The daily activity data is also stored electronically in the kiwi’s radio transmitter. When the radio transmitter is replaced (so the battery can be replaced) the long term data is downloaded and is available for scientific studies.

In the 2015-2016 season monitoring showed a high number of nesting attempts per kiwi with 16 chicks hatched from the 5 breeding males monitored (it is the males that incubate the eggs).

Not only does this monitoring give good scientific information it is a fantastic way to engage the local community on the whereabouts and activity of their kiwi greatly helping with dog control. The locations and activity of the kiwi are shown on the Backyard Kiwi website (www.backyardkiwi.co.nz) along with a monthly report on the monitored birds so the wider community knows what is happening to their kiwi. Monitored kiwi are also featured in the Local Kiwi Profiles <http://www.backyardkiwi.org.nz/monitored-birds/local-kiwi-profiles>. Each bird’s full history is recorded here and people tune in to their monthly updates. These online profiles are an innovative and effective method to inform and engage both our local and global communities.

Kiwi Deaths

There have been 6 known adult kiwi deaths at the Whangarei Heads in the past 12 months. 3 from road kill, 2 from drowning in an uncovered well and 1 from bill damage, possibly from illegally set ground traps. None of these kiwi had radio transmitters and were all found by locals. The lack of dog kills around the residential villages is a credit to the Whangarei Heads community who are in the vast majority of cases showing

responsible control of their pets. All 6 dead kiwi were wild hatched (released kiwi are microchipped for identification) which is another good indication that the trapping network is protecting kiwi chicks to survive to adulthood.

6. Kiwi Releases



Over 300 people attended a kiwi release at McLeod Bay in February this year

One of the highlights of Backyard Kiwi at Whangarei Heads are our kiwi releases. These releases are a fantastic opportunity for locals to see live kiwi in their backyard, and have become a cornerstone of our community engagement. People care more about their kiwi when they have met one.

Backyard Kiwi is part of a combined Operation Nest Egg (ONE) programme that transfer kiwi chicks from the Department of Conservation Rarewarewa reserve west of Whangarei to the FOMLI managed Matakohoe/Limestone Island crèche. Once these chicks have grown to over 1200g they are transferred for release at Whangarei Heads and other managed kiwi areas. This programme is funded by Kiwis for Kiwi and the Kiwi Coast and lead to 12 kiwi being released at 5 public releases this year at Bream Head (Bream Head Conservation Trust), Tutukaka (Tutukaka LC), Taurikura Ridge (Kiwi Coast), McLeod Bay (Backyard Kiwi) and Tanekaha (TCPCA) via Whareora LC (Kiwi Coast). 1226 people got to see their kiwi up close and personal at these releases.

7. Community Engagement – “Telling the story”

As uncontrolled dogs are the major threat to adult kiwi public engagement is crucial to the long term sustainability of the Whangarei Heads kiwi population. Community engagement happens through the trapping, public kiwi releases and monitoring work being carried out on the ground at the Whangarei Heads. But Backyard Kiwi also reaches wider in the community through “telling the story” through the Backyard Kiwi website (www.backyardkiwi.org.nz), face book, signage, bumper stickers, newsletters and BYK public events. This has been specifically co-ordinated and planned to engage the local community and encourage us to value and maintain the kiwi in our backyards.

Examples of BYK “Telling the Story”:

- Signage - Main sign at turn off, interpretation sign at garage and 9 road signs – 1 paid for by landowners. The “Kiwi crossing” signs are at the road kill hotspot.
- BYK Website – with over 1500 hits per month – regularly updated by BYK.
- BYK facebook has over 700 likes. BYK facebook is an excellent tool to feed into the website. Posts are used to link information to the website and enabling BYK to engage with broader communities of interest at local, national and international levels. Many of our Proud Supporters follow and comment on facebook posts.
- Multiple Community and School Newsletters.
- Several newspaper articles have appeared in 2016.
- Community kiwi releases.
- Regular visits to local schools.
- BYK featured on Maori TV’s “Tales from the Trial”
- BYK tent at the recent Wild Kiwi event provide information to the many visiting competitors.
- BYK caps, tea-towels and aprons are available for purchase from the website.
- BYK also continues to benefit from the sale of art prints of “Backyard Kiwi” which are not only a source of funding but are great “ambassadors” for our kiwi work.
- Our “I saw a kiwi” and “I heard a kiwi” bumper stickers feature on many cars in the district.
- Our Backyard Kiwi pamphlets to help inform visitors about kiwi at the Whangarei Heads are been picked up regularly from the local cafes and shops.

8. Funding



Backyard Kiwi is community driven and would not happen without the support of the Whangarei Heads and wider community. The value of the unpaid work done on the

ground by the community as part of Backyard Kiwi in trapping, kiwi listening, administration, trap maintenance, direct sponsorship and many other activities was recently valued at over \$115,000 for the year!

The Whangarei Heads community not only works hard on the ground for their kiwi they also financially support the kiwi work through the Northland Regional Council administrated pest management targeted rate fund for the Heads area which in 2015-2016 provided over \$60,000 of funding.

Other significant funders are Kiwis for Kiwi and Reconnecting Northland through the Kiwi Coast.

In addition to this agency funding Backyard Kiwi Proud supporters provide funding (see <http://www.backyardkiwi.org.nz/kiwi-and-community/proud-supporters>)

Backyard Kiwi is very grateful for all this valued support.

8. Summary

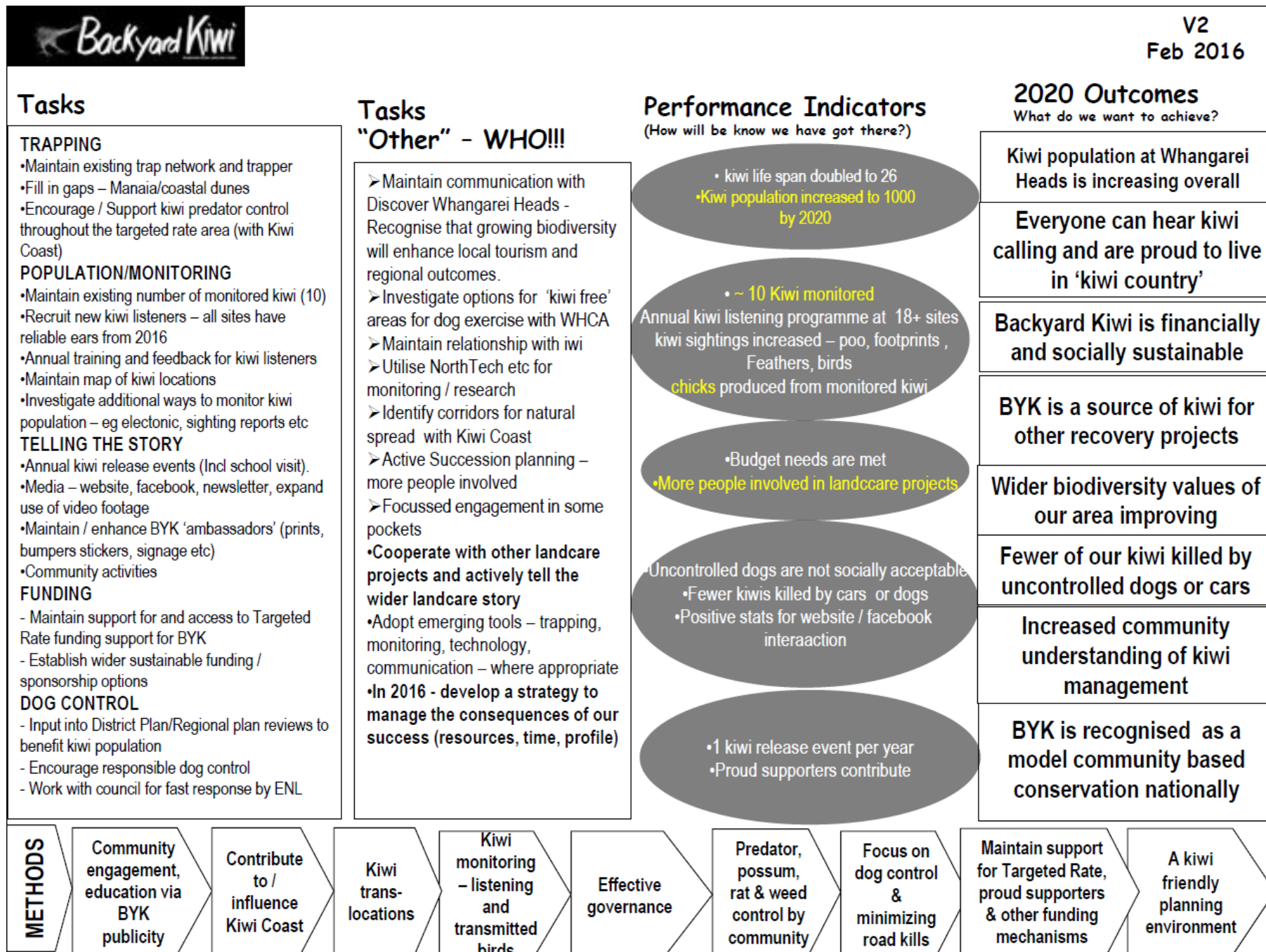
The 2015-2016 year was another productive year for Backyard Kiwi. Our kiwi recovery work continues to be very successful with the kiwi population at Whangarei Heads growing and expanding northwards.

But we can't relax, continued stoat control is still crucial for kiwi chick survival and ongoing dog control essential for adult survival. Things are going well but kiwi recovery still needs our continued efforts.

Todd Hamilton
Backyard Kiwi Project Manager
Whangarei Heads Landcare Forum

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KIWI CALLS PER STATION PER HOUR FOR WHANGAREI HEADS, 2002-2016

Station name	2002 Mean	2003 Mean	2004 Mean	2005 Mean	2006 Mean	2007 Mean	2008 Mean	2009 Mean	2010 Mean	2011 Mean	2012 Mean	2013 Mean	2014 Mean	2015 Mean	2016 Mean
Bream Hd 1	3.1	5.75	3.1	4.7	5.1	3.5	6.3	6.0	3.0	7.1	9.5	9.6	9.6	10.0	12.1
Bream Hd 6	2.0	1.25	2.1	2.4	2.0	2.8	2.0	-	-	1.4	2.9	6.8	4.4	3.6	5.0
Bream Hd 3	-	-	-	1.5	2.0	1.3	1.6	-	-	-	8.4	8.6	8.6	6.9	6.9
Bream Hd 4	2.0	1.25	2.1	2.4	2.0	1.5	3.1	2.0	4.0	5.4	5.3*	7.6	2.1	6.3	3.8
BREAM HEAD	2.4	2.75	2.4	2.8	2.8	2.3	3.3	4.0	3.5	4.6	6.5	8.2	6.2	6.7	7.0
Taurikura 1	-	-	-	1.5	2.0		4.4	4.9	3.1	13.9	9.6	10.8	-	-	-
Taurikura 2							9.0	8.5	10.9	10.3	5.5	10.4	11.9	8.6	11.3
Taurikura 3								(2.5)	(1.9)	(5.9)	4.6	4.0	7.5	4.8	6.0*
TAURIKURA				1.5	2.0		6.7	6.7	7.0	12.1	6.6	8.4	9.7	6.7	8.7
Manaia 1	2.5	4.25	4.0	3.3	3.9	2.1	5.1	3.9	3.5	10.3	2.9	2.8/6.7	3.6/8.0	1.5/10.6	9.4
Manaia 2	4.5	4.9	5.75	4.0	5.3	7.4	7.6	8.8	10.8	8.4	16.6	13.3	15.9	15.1	15.6
Manaia 3	3.9	2.9	-	2.1	3.0		4.0	3.1	3.5	6.3	3.1	5.1	3.6	7.5	7.1
Manaia 8	1.5	0.25	1.0	1.2	2.0	1.5	1.4	1.9	0.8	2.1	-	4.6	-	3.3	4.8*
Manaia 9										(6.1)	3.6	6.9	9.1	6.0	-
McLeod Bay													9.6	5.9	8.8
MANAIA	3.1	3.1	3.6	2.7	3.6	3.7	4.5	4.5	4.7	6.8	6.6	6.5/7.3	8.4/9.2	6.6/8.1	9.1
Kauri Mtn 1	1.5	-	3.1	7.4	1.3		1.4	2.3	2.3	2.5	3.6	4.6	4.4	3.8	7.4
Kauri Mtn 2	5.1	3.2	4.3	2.7	2.3	0.4	3.1	3.6	2.5	3.6	5.3	5.0	6.3	6.8	9.6
Kauri Mtn 3	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.3	2.5		5.0	4.1	1.1	6.0	3.3	3.2*	5.1	6.0	7.0
Kauri Mtn 4	4.8	5.9	2.6	3.0	2.9		2.0	2.0	3.4	4.3	3.8	3.5	3.9	4.8	5.6
Kauri Mtn 5	-	-	-	2.3	1.9	1.25	2.5	3.1	3.3	4.8	4.1	3.0	4.9	4.8	8.9
KAURI MT	3.4	3.4	2.75	3.34	2.2	0.8	2.8	3.0	2.5	4.3	4.0	3.9	4.9	5.2	7.7
The Nook 1	-	-	1.8	1.5	0.9		0.5	0.6	1.3	2.3	1.3	0.9/5.3	-/6.6	-	-/5.4
The Nook 2	2.1	3.25	3.8	4.0	5.3		5.0	4.2	7.8	9.3	8.4	6.4	4.1	1.6/4.3	3.9
The Nook 3							3.4	4.8	5.0	3.4	3.4	4.6	-	-	-
The Nook 4							3.8	-	2.9	4.6	1.5*	-	-	-	-
Craig road										(9.3)	14.1	12.3	9.3	13.5	12.3
THE NOOK	2.1	3.25	2.8	2.75	3.1		3.2	3.2	4.3	4.9	5.8	6.1/7.2	6.7/6.7	7.6/8.9	8.1/7.2
WHANGAREI HEADS	2.9	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.4	3.8	4.0	4.1	5.9	5.9	6.4/6.8	6.8/7.1	6.4/7.0	8.1/8.0

Note: Figures after / are from listening device, * indicates less than 4 nights listening, (x) indicates not included in totals.

Weed Action Whangarei Heads

Report on achievements for the period February – June 2016

Reporting on progress made toward 6 key objectives:

1. Networking:

Particular emphasis was placed on networking for the first 5 months of this role. This involved contacting and meeting with all of the identified stakeholders with a role to play in weed management in the Whangarei Heads area. The goal was to make them aware of Weed Action as a group, it's goals, and the role of the new coordinator, and to look for linkages and opportunities. It was also used as an opportunity to build weed distribution knowledge for priority planning.

Important connections were made with:

- Ngatiwai
- Department of Conservation Threats Ranger Neil Forrester – Responsible for survey and control for Manaia and Bream Head.
- Department of Conservation Volunteer Coordinator
- WDC Solid Waste Engineer – Jo Floyd
- WDC Parks & Recreation Technical Officer – Stuart Jackson
- WDC Roading Manager– Jeff Devine
- Bream Head Trust and rangers
- Backyard kiwi – Todd Hamilton, Heather Hunt
- Kiwi Coast – Ngaire Tyson
- Manaia Landcare – Martin Hunt
- Wider WHLC Forum
- Both primary schools, the principals and the environmental leaders within the schools
- Existing Weed control groups and volunteers – Tamaterau Weed Action, Headland Farmpark Conservation Group, Frank Bates, McLeod Bay Green Brigade.
- Volunteer coordinator Melissa Arsenault
- Whangarei Heads Citizen Association and Whangarei Heads newsletter team
- Landcare/NRC biocontrol contractor - Jenny Dymock
- QEII National Trust Regional Representative - Nan Pullman
- Weedbusters National Office - Anne Brow
- Waitakere Ranges Weed Action Project Coordinator – Pamela Gill

2. Marketing and information:

A large amount of the ground work was completed during this initial period to enable Weed Action to build profile strongly once the community resource is in place at the end of June/beginning of July 2016. Two high profile events (community weed control workshop, moth plant pod collection competition) were run that received a large amount of attention and positive feedback. The moth plant pod collection competition was particularly successful at engaging a group of residents that were not previously very aware of weed issues.

- Logo developed
- Workshop marketed (social media, road signage, community wide flyer) and held for the Whangarei Heads community. Attended by over 70 people. All attendees received individual follow up contact.
- Two Whangarei Heads newsletter articles published
- Targeted leaflet drop in Urquharts and Little Munro to raise awareness and identify climbing asparagus sites. Five sites identified and controlled in Little Munro Bay, one site identified in Urquharts Bay, one further site identified in Reotahi.
- Facebook page established and updated, and linked through Whangarei Heads People Facebook page and Kiwi Coast and Backyard kiwi websites and Facebook pages
- Presence on Backyard Kiwi and Kiwi Coast websites
- Landowner and volunteer email database developed
- Moth plant pod collecting competition held (initial prizes donated). Marketed through the schools, community wide flyer and press release. 7,859 pods (containing 3.9 million seeds) collected and disposed of to landfill. Tip fees covered by WDC
- Stuff.co.nz article, Whangarei Leader article. Follow up article material sent through to Whangarei Leader
- Website structure built, content infill in progress. Control information specifically for local targets written and being distributed to landowners.
- Road and track signage scoping complete, design awaiting approval and costing underway.

3. Work with Landowners:

- Support (networking, resources, advice) provided to existing volunteer groups and individuals– Tamaterau Weed Action, Headland Farmpark, Frank Bates, Marc Lawrence. Existing volunteers were extremely welcoming of the coordinator role to help them overcome barriers, assist with networking, provide/clarify control advice, help them seek and manage their resources, and provide more encouragement and context for their efforts.
- Support and encouragement provided to new and developing groups – Ocean Beach Pest Control group, Darch point volunteers, McLeod Green Brigade.
- Site visits and advice provided to landowners (Shona Scott, Mick and Melissa Leahy, Sue and Phil Goldie, Theo and Sue Drake). Awaiting resources to distribute/loan.
- Thirty individual landowner follow up contacts post workshop, site visits booked.
- Landowner Weed Action event scoped and planned for 10th July on Leahy property.
- Initial H&S review and identification of needs
- Growsafe and Approved Handler certifications attained

4. **Research Bio Control methods:**

Relevant agents investigated:

Present at local sites

- Smilax rust. Appears to be having limited effect in the patches assessed, but could be due to extremely favourable growing conditions. Continue to assess
- Mistflower gall fly agent – widespread.
- Woolly nightshade . Previous three local release sites still under assessment, and not yet ready for harvest for translocation. Initial indications suggest limited use in open sites. Need to identify partial shaded sites for introduction and source from outside area.

Potential agents for introduction

- Tradescantia – Two of the three agents identified as showing some success are available for harvest at Whangarei sites (leaf beetle and stem borer beetle). Collection and releases targeted for spring at two sites (Manganese Point and Reotahi).
- Lantana - No source population for leaf rust agent available at present. Blister rust agent requires the planting of infected plants, which also limits availability.
- Japanese honeysuckle – early field trial stage in Waikato. Showing good early signs.
- Chinese privet lacebug – Good signs from field trial in Waikato, however some concern around host specificity for coastal maire. Given the occurrence of coastal maire in Whangarei Heads region more info required. May also have potential for tree privet, but it is a less preferred host.
- Moth plant agent development held up by access to agent from Argentina
- Banana passionfruit and *Arundo donax* agents in development

5. **Means of distributing resources:**

- Hazchem shed and second separate gear storage site found under McLeod Bay hall, with support of Whangarei Heads Citizen Association. Store cleaned and prepared for Biofund gear at the end of June.
- Biofund application for community resources developed, costed and submitted. Successful in obtaining \$9, 500 funding toward requested items. Already interest and requests from landowners for access to the resource as soon as it is in operation.
- Successful Weedbusters funding application for \$1047 excl GST. Tools and equipment purchased.

6. Develop an operational plan for 2016/17:

- Input into three year budget development
- Annual operational work plan for contractor hours drafted
- Working priority document drafted. Used as the basis for prioritising weed species for advocacy and control. Priority weeds identified as:
 - Wild Ginger
 - Eleagnus
 - Moth plant
 - Tree privet
 - Climbing asparagus
 - Banana passionfruit
 - Taiwan cherry
 - Chinese privet
 - Tradescantia
 - Jasmine
 - Woolly nightshade
 - Cotoneaster

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ISSUE: Regional Pest and Pathways Management Plan Review

ID: A864874

To: Environment Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Don McKenzie, Biosecurity Manager

Date: 3 August 2016

Report Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal operations	<input type="checkbox"/> Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decision
Purpose:	<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regulatory function
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislative function	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Executive Summary:

The process of preparation of new Regional Pest Management and Pathways Plan will traverse the period of the forthcoming local government elections. Because of the complexity of the legislative requirements around the document contents and process, it is recommended that the currently appointed hearing committee be retained post-elections to ensure momentum is maintained. Legal advice has been provided that states that the hearings committee can oversee the process with reports back to Council for final decisions at key stages.

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 2015–2025 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 Regional Pest and Pathways Management Plan Review - by Don McKenzie Biosecurity Manager and dated 3 August 2016, be received.
 2. The Environmental Management Committee recommends to Council that irrespective of the outcome of the forthcoming local government elections the Council retains the Hearing Committee of Cr Dimery, Brown and Carr appointed in December 2015.
-

Background

The review of the current Regional Pest Management Strategies and the development of a new Regional Marine Pathways Plan is well underway.

At the 17 May 2016 Council meeting, the complexities of the process were discussed and, to allow for these, it was resolved to extend the timeframe for presenting the draft plans for approval to notify until February 2017 (see attached). Staff are accordingly working to that deadline. Species assessments for inclusion or exclusion from the plans is largely complete and work has moved on to the management categorisation for those that are proposed be included.

Workshops

As part of the preparation process, two Council workshops will be held. The first, on 27 September 2016, will focus on presenting the key elements of the proposed Marine Pathways Plan (MMP) and any relevant supporting information. The second workshop, to be held on 8 November 2016, will focus on the key elements of the wider proposed Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP). The workshops will allow open discussion of the broad management approaches being proposed within the new documents.

However, it needs to be noted that the local government elections will be held in the intervening period between the two workshops (polling day is 8 October with election results due 13 – 19 October). Post-elections there will be several meetings required to first swear in the new council and then review of the governance (committee) structures and associated meeting arrangements. These steps generally occur between late October and mid-November.

A potential implication of this is that further time may be needed to bring the new Council up to speed on the review process including the detailed statutory requirements. This might require rerunning the workshops which in turn may put the agreed review timeframe at risk.

A possible option for avoiding this risk would be to recommend to Council that the hearings committee set up in December 2015 continue in their role and oversee completion of the documents as well as considering submissions once notified. Momentum would therefore not be lost.

The Committee appointed is comprised of Cr Dimery, Cr Brown and Cr Carr.

Delegation to Hearings Committee

A central requirement of the review processes is that they must comply with the very detailed provisions of the Biosecurity Act 1993. The process for preparation of a RPMP is set out in sections 70 to 77 of the Act. Those for pathways plans are set out in sections 90 to 97 of the Act and are essentially the same.

The required process contains some similarities to the Resource Management Act 1991 procedure for preparation of regional plans. At each step of the preparation process, the Council must be "satisfied" the relevant matters, specified in the Act, have been considered.

Legal advice recently shared by Environment Southland about its pathways plan preparation process, considers that being "satisfied" means careful consideration must be given to that matter and that consideration should be documented. The advice also

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states that the steps in the Biosecurity Act to make the Plan must be undertaken sequentially, which has implications for the proposed timeline.

A specific question asked of the legal advisors was:

Can the Council delegate its decisions and functions in sections 92 and 93 of the Act to a Hearing Panel established under the Local Government Act 2002?

The same question also applies to the analogous provisions for sections 72 and 73 for Regional Pest Management Plans.

The advice was that the preparation of an RPMP pursuant to sections 91 to 95 can be delegated, with the exception of the powers in section 92(5). This allows the Council to delegate the preparation process to the hearings committee, which may then undertake the sequential steps in sections 91 to 95. Delegating some of these steps to a hearings committee means that the Plan could be finalised more quickly and efficiently, rather than requiring each separate decision to go through to separate Council meetings.

Section 92(5) is the decision to notify the proposed plan and call for submissions.

Key dates		
Draft to Communications Team for final editing	Nov 2016	10 weeks
Submit draft to council for notification approval	Council meeting approx. 14 February 2017	
Notify plan	15 February 2017	One month
Submission period closes	15 March 2017	
Submission summary period	Late March 2017	Two weeks
Hearings	Mid-April 2017	One week
Decision reporting, agenda item for plan approval	May 2017	Two weeks
Council approve plan	Council meeting May or June 2017	Three weeks (15 working days)
If no appeals to Environment Court, council make plan with seal	Council meeting June or July 2017	

ISSUE: River Management & Natural Hazards Update

ID: A849742

To: Environmental Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Joseph Camuso, Rivers and Natural Hazards Manager

Date: 1 August 2016

Report Type:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Normal operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Information	<input checked="" 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:

- The opening of the Awanui River Flood Scheme upgrade comprising of the Whangatane Spillway weir modification and Matthew's stock bridge was held on 1 July.
- Draft rating review maps for the Awanui Scheme have been circulated to the Liaison Committee for comment. A Liaison Committee meeting is scheduled for 18 August.
- The third mediation with the landowner appealing the resource consent and designation decision for the construction of the Kerikeri Spillway is scheduled for 30 August.
- The minutes for Kaihu, Kaeo, Kerikeri, Waitangi and Ruakaka River Liaison Committee meetings are attached.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The council activities detailed in this report are provided for in activities described in the council's 2015-2025 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 in terms of council's significance policy.

Recommendations:

1. That the report River Management & Natural Hazards Update by Joseph Camuso, Rivers and Natural Hazards Manager and dated 1 August 2016 be received.
2. That Russell Cantlay be appointed to the Awanui River Liaison Committee.
3. That the minutes of the following River Liaison Committee meetings be received:
 - a. Kaihu River Liaison Committee, 29 June 2016
 - b. Kaeo River Whangaroa Catchment Liaison Committee, 5 July 2016
 - c. Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee 7 July 2016
 - d. Waitangi River Liaison Committee 7 July 2016
 - e. Ruakaka River Liaison Committee 12 July 2016

RIVERS

Awanui

The Whangatane Spillway Weir Modification and Matthew's Stock Bridge were officially opened at a civic ceremony on 1 July held in Kaitaia.



Confluence of the Awanui River and Whangatane Spillway (Weir upgrade)



Civic ceremony opening the Awanui Flood Scheme upgrades

A review of the Awanui River Flood Scheme targeted rate area maps has been drafted and sent to the committee for consultation and feedback. A liaison committee meeting is scheduled for 18 August to discuss further detail. The existing rating boundaries were drawn from the flood susceptible soil maps, before flood mapping of the catchment. The rating review is also trying to address some anomalies with the commercial rating.

Ken Subritzky has resigned as the ratepayer representative in the Northern area catchment. Russell Cantlay has been nominated by the Awanui River Liaison Committee to replace Ken Subritzky.

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Kaeo-Whangaroa

The Kaeo River - Whangaroa Catchment River Liaison Committee met on 5 July and the minutes are attached. Staff have discussed with the Department of Internal Affairs the use of the remaining funding for the Kaeo Vulnerable Homes government funding assistance.

Kerikeri-Waipapa

The third mediation to negotiate appeals on the resource consents designation and Public Works Act 1981 notices with the majority landowner for the construction of the Kerikeri Spillway is scheduled for 30 August. Staff have presented revised compensation offers to the two main landowners where easements are required for the scheme. The draft minutes of the 7 July 2016 Kerikeri River Liaison Committee are attached.

The tender for the re-calibration of the Kerikeri Flood model closed on 29 July.

Waitangi River

The draft minutes of the 7 July 2016 Waitangi River Liaison Committee are attached. It is noted there may be synergies in merging of the Wairoa Northland Waitangi Catchment Group and Waitangi River Liaison Committee.

Kawakawa – Taumarere

Staff have met with members of the Karetu Catchment to better understand the flooding issues of this catchment. Access, erosion and gravel build up are the main concerns.

Whangarei

The final elements associated with the dam code of compliance, fencing, rentals and maintenance are being progressed.

Ngunguru

A trial drone flight was flown by Northpower at no charge as a test to gather data on the river bank erosion.

Minor Rivers Works

Staff are drafting the priorities for minor rivers works programme for the 2016/2017 work season.

NATURAL HAZARDS

Coastal Flood Hazard Maps

Consultation on the Draft Coastal Hazard Maps is underway and closing date for submissions is 1 September. Approximately 13,000 properties have been identified within the recent mapping as potentially subject to coastal erosion and/or flooding. Approximately 350 calls from landowners were received following the release of the maps. Many were related to mailing address errors in the Kaipara District. As of the end of July, approximately 30 submissions have been received on the mapping.

Marsden Point Data Capture Project

NIWA is currently working on processing earlier chart data for this site between 1964 and 1975. This extends the period of the record to over 50 years, although there are data gaps in the earlier data. This extension of the dataset means the record has better application for trend analysis.

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Regional LiDAR Project

A business case for the regional LIDAR capture project was submitted to Central Government in July. A response on funding is expected in September. Staff have initiated work on a Request for Proposals.

DRAFT Minutes of the Kaihu River Liaison Committee
held on Wednesday, 29 June 2016 at
NRC Office, Dargaville commencing at 10.00am

Present – Committee Members:

Cr John Bain	Committee Chair
Des Subritzky	Te Houhanga Marae representative
Ian Lupton	Ratepayer Representative Area 2 (Floodplain – Rotu Bottleneck to Dargaville)
Boyd Parker	Ratepayer representative

In Attendance:

Ray Bryant	Farmer
Joseph Camuso	NRC Rivers Programme Manager
Gary Treadgold	NRC Area Manager – Dargaville
Jonathan Santos	NRC River Management Engineer

1. APOLOGIES

Mike Lyford	Ratepayer representative Area 2 ((Class B Floodplain)
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MOVED: Apologies be accepted.

Moved:	John Bain
Seconder:	Des Subritzky

2. WORKSHOP NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

MOVED: Workshop notes be confirmed.

Moved:	John Bain
Second:	Joe Camuso

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM NOTES

BOUNDARY FENCE ALONG KAIHU RIVER:

There has been discussion regarding the position of a boundary fence between the Kaihu Rugby Grounds and the Kaihu River. There was uncertainty about the correct location of this fence, a boundary Survey was completed and discussion with various community stakeholders have approved the fence's current location.

4. 2015/16 BUDGET & WORKS REVIEW

Budget review of the 2015/16 period. Mr Camuso gave an overview of the 15/16 budget.

The lower Kaihu River was cleaned from Parore Road to SH12 bridge in Dargaville. In May 2015 the Ricegrass was sprayed with Haloxypop and so the Ricegrass was dead when the digger did the mechanical cleaning. This resulted in a very good quality clean and minor slip issues resolved by regrading of some of the river banks.

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At Bryce Wyatts' property log jams and standing trees were removed from the bed and banks of the Kaihu River to reduce the risk of trees causing blockages in storms. The tree stumps have been left on the river bank and will continue to grow and stabilise the river bank. The stump regrowth will have to be trimmed from time to time.

5. PROPOSED 2016 – 17 WORKS PROGRAMME

1. Spray Ricegrass on Kaihu River from Northern Wairoa River to Duck Creek – 2028 metres
2. Helicopter spraying from Parore Road Bridge to Duck Creek – 12,000 metres
3. Machine cleaning from Parore Road to Rotu Bottle Neck – 15,000 metres
4. Clean inside bend and poison Willows from Rotu Bottleneck to Waihue Road
5. Clean inside bend and poison Willows from Waihue to Ahikiwi
6. Gravel extraction from Ahikiwi to Kaihu River (confluence with Waima River). This needs to be discussed with various community stakeholders to define the work.
7. Tree removal on the section of river from Maropiu to Waihue
8. Rock armouring true left bank upstream of Wood Road bridge – 200m³ of rock spawls

Mr Lupton suggested farms adjacent to the Kaihu River with Ricegrass in drains and on flats might like to have the helicopter spray their Ricegrass when NRC does the main river. Staff to provide the cost of the helicopter and chemical to prospective property owners. Action: Jonathan Santos

Mr Subritzky noted that in places there is quite a lot of Bull Rush. The Chairman asked that staff monitor Bull Rush along the river to insure it is kept in check. This is best accomplished during the annual conditional survey via boat.

6. FLOODING MODEL

Mr Camuso discussed the flood modelling for Kaihu and Awakino.

7. NORTHLAND IRRIGATION STUDY

The first stage report is finished and will be released in July 2016. The next stage which is the pre-feasibility report is about to start with funding from MPI and NRC.

NEXT MEETING: TBA

MEETING CLOSED: 11.30am

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Report of the meeting of the Kaeo River – Whangaroa Catchment Liaison Committee,
held on Tuesday 5 July 2016
Union Church Hall, Leigh Street, Kaeo commencing at 10.30 a.m.

Present – Committee Members:

Craig Brown	Chair
Dover Samuels	NRC Councillor
Geoff Stone	(Community representative - Taupo Bay, Pupuke, Totara North, Matangirau, Tauranga Bay, Mahinepua, Te Ngaire and ratepayers outside of the Kaeo River catchment)
John Richardson	(Area representative - the middle catchment area from the Waiare Gorge to Waiare Road – SH 10 intersection)
Michael Hayes	(Whangaroa Ward farming representative)
Bruce Mills	(Representing Business and commercial interests within Kaeo and FNDC Community Board)
Fiona Robinson	(representing the rural ratepayers of the Kaeo River catchment area upstream of the Waiare Gorge)
Ngaire Manning	(Ratepayer representative – flood plain and catchment area from Waiare Road to Whangaroa Harbour to the Kaeo River – Whangaroa Catchment)
Dianne Maxwell	FNDC Councillor
Violet Walker	(representing Wai-Care Group)
Ed Varley	NZTA

Also in Attendance:

NRC staff:	Joseph Camuso, Doug Foster, Bruce Howse, Victoria Rowe
FNDC staff	Tammy Wooster, Sarah Trinder
Ian Hayes	Landowner
Stephen Rush	TROW
Yvonne Robinson	Landowner
Ricki Green	Summit Forests
Robyn McPhail	Landowner
Jeanette Jackson	Landowner
Warren Martin	Landowner

1. APOLOGIES

Resolved: That the apology received for absence from Colin Dale be accepted.

Craig Brown : Dianne Maxwell

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: That the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 November 2015 be accepted.

Bruce Mills : Dover Samuels

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MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

NZTA Update

Ed Valey from NZTA addressed the meeting.

A summary of treatment options on Roadside drainage channels SH 10 was given. If anyone wishes to provide feedback on the eight options, they are welcome to contact Bruce Howse or Joseph Camuso who will pass on the feedback to NZTA.

Noted that in 1988 it was agreed NZTA would take responsibility for the maintenance of that drain. Need to look at this to lessen the flooding on the norther part of Rhodes Hill and the only way is to open up a roadway from SH 10. NZTA advised that is covered under Option 1 – discharge through the mangroves which NZTA is considering. If attendees have a firm opinion that warrants further investigation, they were requested to put it forward to NRC staff who will then liaise with NZTA on their behalf. A request was made by some attendees to go directly through NZTA with any concerns. It was noted this Committee has a role to facilitate those issues. However attendees are welcome to contact NZTA directly if they wish on their own behalf.

It was mentioned that this issue has been brought about by NZTA's stance regarding a drain that was dug in 1945 which was not maintained which NZTA was legally required to do so. It was felt that the non-cleaning of that drain has affected neighbouring landowners badly. Now the land is called a piece of wetland which is incorrect.

A query was raised as to why NZTA has not arranged for the drains to be kept clean. The NZTA representative said since the original drain has been installed, the wetland has been established and now there are protected species, so NZTA cannot legally take action that will damage those protected species. NZTA has a conflict of two principles and is caught between the two. The land that is owned by the wetland is a LINZ ownership – it is listed as being Crown land. There is also a tribunal claim over that area.

NZTA update – One Lane State Highway 10 Bridge replacement

NZTA updated attendees on the SH-10 bridge replacement programme.

Geotechnical studies for the bridge have been undertaken. Several bridge alignments are being considered that take into effect flood capacity, intersection safety, speed and engineering constraints. NZTA are using the NRC River Model and working closely with NRC to model the effects of the proposed bridge alignment this will be sent to Central Government for funding approval. Three other bridges in the area are to be funded from a different source.

The intention is to start construction on these bridges once the business cases have been approved. A meeting is due to be held between NZTA and NRC engineers this Friday.

Who will be responsible to remove the shingle from under the bridge? In order to comply with the hydrological study NZTA envisaged it would be included to remove that shingle at that time as part of the cost.

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NZTA advised a bridge design is underway and expected to be completed in 3 months. Within 6 months of the business case approval, NZTA envisaged the construction would begin. It was noted there is a popular perception that the existing bridge is too short, and this will be an opportunity for the local community to have input into the bridge design and stopbanks above and below the bridge. NZTA said the hydrological study will take into account the worst case storms that affect the area + 10% surcharge to allow for global warming.

STAGE 1 FLOOD SCHEME WORKS UPDATE

NRC staff provided an update on Stage 1 Flood Scheme Works. There has been approximately 250mm of settlement in one section of the stopbank near the Pa. It would cost between \$12,000 and \$18,000 to bring the stopbank back to design level.

NRC staff are looking at possibly battering back the river banks and using that material to raise the stopbank, this may keep the cost down. It was recommended raising the stopbank to its design level give surety to the community.

Resolved: That the Stopbank be restored to its original level.

Craig Brown : Ngaire Manning

BUDGET 2015-2016 RESULT

A summary of the budget for 2015-2016 was presented.

Budget 2016-2017

NRC staff summarized the budget for 2016-2017. It was advised the debt shouldn't have been included as it should be a credit. Staff noted there is potentially an opportunity for this committee to decide whether to decrease the rate or maintain the rate contribution and start Stage 2 etc. Staff will undertake an analysis prior to the next Annual Plan and put it before this Committee for consideration. **Action: Joseph Camuso**

RIVER MAINTENANCE WORKS UPDATE 2015-2016

NRC staff summarized the list of minor river works undertaken and associated costs during 2015-2016 financial year. Staff advised there are some easily accessible points on Greens land to remove shingle for free. Common courtesy to give Rob Hayes or Phil Green a call to obtain permission to gain entry is requested.

The issue in Mantangirau where the FNDC road is causing a backwater effect on houses upstream of the bridge was raised. NRC staff noted FNDC did raise the road so FNDC should be included to assist reduce the risk there if that is the wish of this community. NRC staff were requested to contact FNDC to progress this and have the correct sized culverts. **Action: Joseph Camuso, Di Maxwell, Doug Foster**

In regards to the Pupuke Mangapa Road Bridge a query was raised regarding a shingle bank developed due to a causeway put in upstream of the bridge – it was noted that 2 of the 3 spans are partially blocked, but problems with the downstream land owner has stymied progress .

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POSSIBLE RIVER WORKS 2016-2017

NRC staff gave a brief update on possible river works 2016-2017.

UPDATE ON GOVERNMENT FUNDING FOR RELOCATION OF FLOOD PRONE HOUSES

NRC staff provided an update on Government funding for relocation of flood prone houses. The balance of funds will be returned to the Dept of Internal Affairs (DIA) when the funding deed with DIA expires on 25 November 2016. The Committee were requested to advise if there are any other houses that could be prioritized to be worked on and then staff can approach DIA to redirect the surplus funds to other work.

The marae hasn't been considered to date. NRC staff to come back with a recommendation to this Committee as to where the remainder of the DIA fund be spent. **Action: Joseph Camuso**

Staff to liaise with FNDC and DIA and report back to this Committee. **Action: Joseph Camuso**

NRC needs to be proactive to control the mangrove growth in our upper harbour regions. It was confirmed NRC would investigate this further and that \$50,000 has been put aside for mangrove removal for the Northland region as part of the 2016/17 Annual Plan. **Action: Joseph Camuso**

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Summit Forests New Zealand Ltd Harvesting Operation – Shepherds Forest

Riki Green, Harvest Planner – Summit Forests gave a brief update on forest harvesting to the Kaeo River – Whangaroa Catchment Liaison Committee.

Road-line harvesting was completed in April 2016 in preparation of planned earthworks operations in September. This involves the update of existing roads to logging truck standard as well as the construction of skid sites for the logging operation. An access agreement is in place for all the trucks to go in empty and out loaded through Glendale Heights road. This was considered the safest access point as well as minimizing traffic disturbance to the local Kaeo community. The clear fell harvesting operation is scheduled to start in January 2017 and continue for a period of 12 months.

Next Meeting

Date to be advised in due course.

Meeting closed at 12.28 pm

NRC Contacts

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

River Management Team: Joseph Camuso, Rivers and Natural Hazards Manager
Whangarei Office 09 470 1200 / 027 438 4639

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Report of the meeting of the Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee, held on
Thursday 7 July 2016
Woodlands Motel and Conference Venue, 126 Kerikeri Road, Kerikeri
commencing at 10.30 a.m.

Present – Committee Members:

Joe Carr	(Chairperson)
Dover Samuels	NRC Councillor
Fred Terry	Lower Puketotara and Kerikeri catchment
John Dawn	Living Waters Bay of Islands Wai Ora representative
Tony Corcoron	Kerikeri Irrigation Company
Hamish Sheard	Upper Kerikeri catchment area
Peter Kennedy	Waipapa catchment
Hugh Rihari	Iwi representative
Di Maxwell	FNDC Councillor

Also in Attendance:

NRC staff:	Joseph Camuso, Bruce Howse, Doug Foster, Nola Sooner
FNDC staff:	Tammy Wooster, Greg Wilson, Andrew McPhee, Craig
Ambler	
Hera Dear	Member of the public
David Reed	Member of the public

APOLOGIES

David Stewart-Jones	, Middle Kerikeri catchment area
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Resolved: That the apology from David Stewart-Jones be accepted.

Joe Carr : Di Maxwell

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: That the Minutes of 10 August 2015 be accepted.

Joe Carr : Fred Terry

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

BUDGET

NRC staff summarised the 2016-2017 budget for the Kerikeri-Waipapa River Management Scheme for the benefit of attendees.

Resolved: That the 2016-2017 budget be approved.

Di Maxwell : Fred Terry

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2014-2015 WORKS PROGRAMME UPDATE

NRC staff summarized the 2015-2016 Works Programme Update and covered the following topics which include river maintenance work:

- Wairoa Stream spillway (Cobham Road)
- Kerikeri River (Tuatahi Place) island removal
- Kerikeri Basin rock island removal, rock disposal

2016-2017 WORKS PROGRAMME

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

- Removing and disposal of fallen trees from Kerikeri and Waipapa Rivers and other streams on a prioritised basis where these are likely to cause problems to dwellings.
- Follow up maintenance of the Whiriwhiritoa Stream through the Waipapa commercial estate and downstream of SH 10.

NRC staff welcomed feedback from attendees on any other works that need to be undertaken. Joe Carr requested that before any works are undertaken that staff approach Hugh Rihari for input from a Maori holistic approach. NRC staff were requested to keep in touch with Fred Terry and John Dawn prior to works being undertaken. Staff were requested to find out how much monies was spent by the previous Harbour Board and scope the costs of improving the river programme.

Action: Joseph Camuso

Resolved: That the 2016-2017 Works Programme be accepted.

Di Maxwell : Fred Terry

SPILLWAY RESOURCE CONSENT UPDATE

NRC staff provided an update on the spillway resource consent process. It was noted staff commissioned a second valuation report to assess differences in the original NRC valuation and the valuation of the main landowner of the proposed Kerikeri River spillway. Two court mediations have been held with Brownlee Brothers Ltd to date and a further court mediation has been set down to be held in August. The Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee confirmed their support for NRC's approach in terms of process to be followed.

UPDATE ON SCHEME – RECALIBRATION OF THE MODEL

NRC staff provided a verbal update on recalibration of the model. It was noted a river level gauge has been installed downstream of SH 10 Bridge. The NRC Hydrology team has captured two low level gaugings. This is a priority for the team to obtain high level gaugings in order to develop a higher confidence level with the flow data. A peer review was undertaken during the resource consent process.

IRRIGATION FUND UPDATE

NRC staff summarized the update on the irrigation fund. Joe Carr expressed concern over the delay in implementation of the Stage 2 project.

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Resolved: That the Kerikeri-Waipapa River Liaison Committee supports the urgent implementation of Stage 2 of the Northland Irrigation Study which was approved at the NRC Council meeting 3-4 months ago.

Joe Carr : Di Maxwell

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Local Body Elections

Di Maxwell advised she would not be restanding for FNDC at the forthcoming elections. Joe Carr thanked Di for her support and hard work over the last three year period. He recorded his appreciation to Committee members and NRC staff for their expertise and assistance.

Meeting closed at 10.50 am

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
Thursday 7 July 2016
Woodlands Motel and Conference Venue commencing at 1.00 pm

Present :

Committee Members

Dover Samuels	Acting Chair - Northland Regional Council
Albie Apiata	Iwi representative
Rhonda Gordon	Ratepayer representative – Waitangi River catchment
John Kooge	NZTA
Chris Richmond	(Living Waters representative),
Marty Robinson	Ratepayer representative -

Also in Attendance

Bruce Howse	Northland Regional Council
Joseph Camuso	Northland Regional Council
Doug Foster	Northland Regional Council
Nola Sooner	Northland Regional Council
Hera Dear	Member of the public
Jeffrey Reihana	Member of the public
Tana Apiata	Member of the public
Jon Craven	Member of the public
Rio Greening	Member of the public

Apologies: Gareth Johnstone - Top Energy, Joe Carr

Resolved: That the apologies for absence from Gareth Johnstone – Top Energy and Joe Carr be accepted.

Dover Samuels : Rhonda Gordon

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: That the Minutes of 10 August 2015 be received.

Rhonda Gordon : Albie Apiata

MATTERS ARISING

Waiaruhe River Bridge Concrete Wheelhouse

Confirmed that the NRC has accepted the Historic Places Trust request for the wheelhouse to remain in place. It was confirmed that the District Plan can give it authority to remain.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Environmental Management Committee meeting on 27 June 2016 passed a resolution to remove the Mid Lower Waitangi River representative position from the Terms of Reference for the Waitangi River Liaison Committee – the amendment was received.

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It was noted the Waioira Northland Water Catchment Group has finished completing their Catchment Plan and therefore their focus may change from a planning to a “doing” focus and there is potential that it could merge with the Waitangi River Liaison Committee.

WAITANGI RIVER WORKS UPDATE 2015-2016

An update was provided on the Waitangi River Works 2015-2016.

WORKS PROGRAMME 2016-2017

A summary was presented on the works programme 2016-2017 and covered the following topics:

- Removal and disposal of fallen trees on a prioritised basis Estimated cost is \$5,000.
- Provision of willow wands for river bank stabilisation. Estimated cost \$2,000 - \$3,000.
- Spraying of small or regrowth willows. Estimated cost is \$5,000.

The Works Programme 2016-2017 was accepted by consensus. Committee members to advise NRC staff if they are aware of any works that are required.

Suggested that a group email goes out to interested parties advising them of what to do when they find any blockages or works that need to be done. The public can apply via the Environment Fund for assistance for fencing off streams. There is an expectation that landowners will maintain the removal of trees on their own river banks. However, if the trees to be removed are large, and there is a danger to houses of other infrastructure the NRC is prepared to assist.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that there is a navigational problem with trees logging in the estuary. Natural cycles can affect the width/depth of the rivers and during big flushes trees can become washed into the estuary. However, this would typically be outside the scope of River work for removal. It was noted that sedimentation is an ongoing problem in most Northland catchments. Catchment groups have a focus of reducing sedimentation and stream bank erosion. Reported there was rubbish in the river. NRC fund Sea Cleaners and they may be able to help them remove rubbish e.g. around the mangroves. Staff will contact the Sea Cleaners initially and report back to Albie on progress. **Action: Bruce Howse**

Appreciation

Dover thanked attendees on behalf of Joe Carr and himself for their support and participation at the Waitangi River Liaison Committee meeting during their term as Councillors for Northland Regional Council.

The meeting closed at 2.35 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 and Natural Hazards Programme Manager, Whangarei Office 09 4701200 / 027 438 4639

RUAKAKA RIVER LIAISON COMMITTEE

Report of the meeting of the Ruakaka River Liaison Committee, held on Wednesday
Tuesday 12 July 2016
At Tom Pow's residence – 2443 State Highway 1, RD 1, Mata, Whangarei
commencing at 10.30 am

Present :

Committee Members

Craig Brown	Chair
Juliane Chetham	Iwi representative
Tom Pow	Ratepayer representative
Warren Daniel	Ratepayer representative

Also in Attendance

Bruce Howse	Northland Regional Council
Victoria Rowe	Northland Regional Council
Joseph Camuso	Northland Regional Council
Rick Stolwerk	Member of the public

APOLOGIES

Peter Batten	Ruakaka Residents and Ratepayers Association
John Kooge	NZTA
Phil Halse	Whangarei District Council

Moved (Brown/Pow)

That the apology from Peter Batten, John Kooge and Phil Halse for absence be received.

Carried

MINUTES

Moved (Pow/Daniel)

That the Minutes of the Ruakaka River Liaison Committee meeting held on 23 July 2014 are accepted as read.

Carried

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

MINOR RIVERS & ENVIRONMENT FUND

The works completed under the NRC minor rivers work budget were summarized, as per the table below.

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Ruakaka River Clearance Works (Minor Rivers Budget)

Site	Item	Cost
Springfield Road	Willow Removal	\$10,350
Ruakaka	Tree removal	\$4,600
Environment Fund		\$29,176
Total		\$44,126

It was noted that the community has undertaken mangrove removal work.

Staff advised some work can be done using the minor rivers work budget (\$150,000) noting that it is a Northland wide budget and will be allocated based on the following priorities in this order:

1. Risk to Life
2. Risk to Houses
3. Risk to infrastructure
4. Risk to access
5. Risk to farmland

Representatives need to decide if larger scale works are wanted by the committee then this would be paid for out of targeted rates.

NRC staff explained the method used predominantly for targeted rates is to identify the catchment, then rate the properties within the catchment area. Those with direct or greater benefits from works would typically be rated higher. This would need the support of the committee and also be adopted or rejected through an annual plan process.

NRC staff will look at the 5 sub-catchments of the Ruakaka Catchment to assess time of concentration of each and whether more could be done to stagger the time that water reached the estuary. **Action: Joseph Camuso**

It was agreed prior to the next meeting, NRC will look into scenarios for cleaning the river between Flyger Road and SH 15a including: **Action: Joseph Camuso**

- Work program
- Cost benefit analysis
- Different rating scenarios.

It was planned to hold the next meeting in November. The next meeting date will be advised in due course.

Craig thanked everyone for their input which was greatly valued.

The meeting closed at 12.30 p.m.

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**ISSUE: Environmental Monitoring for the period
1 June – 31 July 2016**

ID: A863914

To: Environmental Management Committee Meeting, 29 August 2016

From: Colin Dall, Group Manager Regulatory Services

Date: 2 August 2016

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 June – 31 August 2016. 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 some of the State of Environment monitoring undertaken during the reporting period.

Legal Compliance and Significance Assessment:

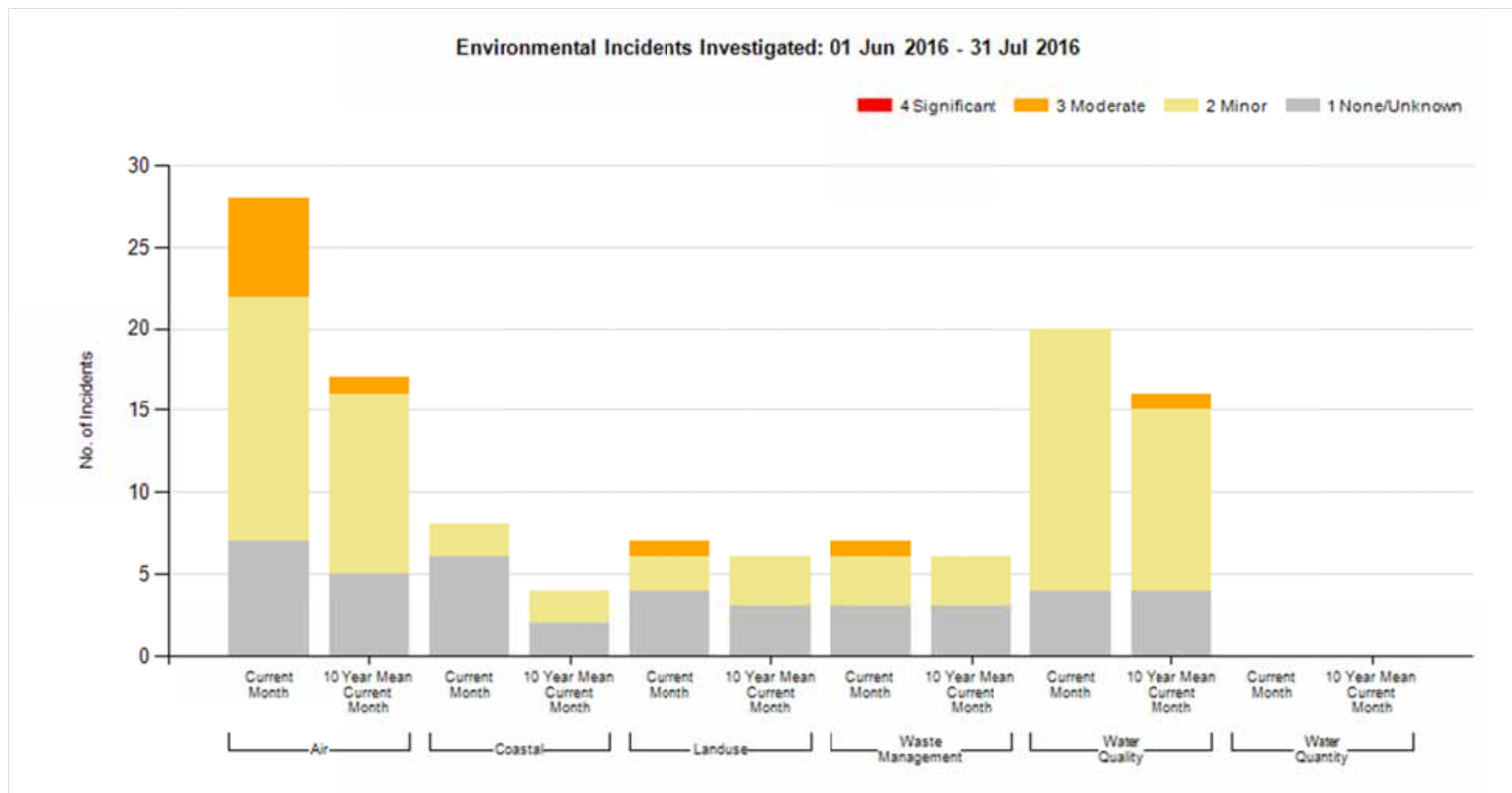
The receiving of this report is provided for in the council's 2015-25 Long Term Plan, meets the council's obligations under section 35 of the Resource Management Act 1991, and is in line with the council's decision making process and sections 76-82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

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.

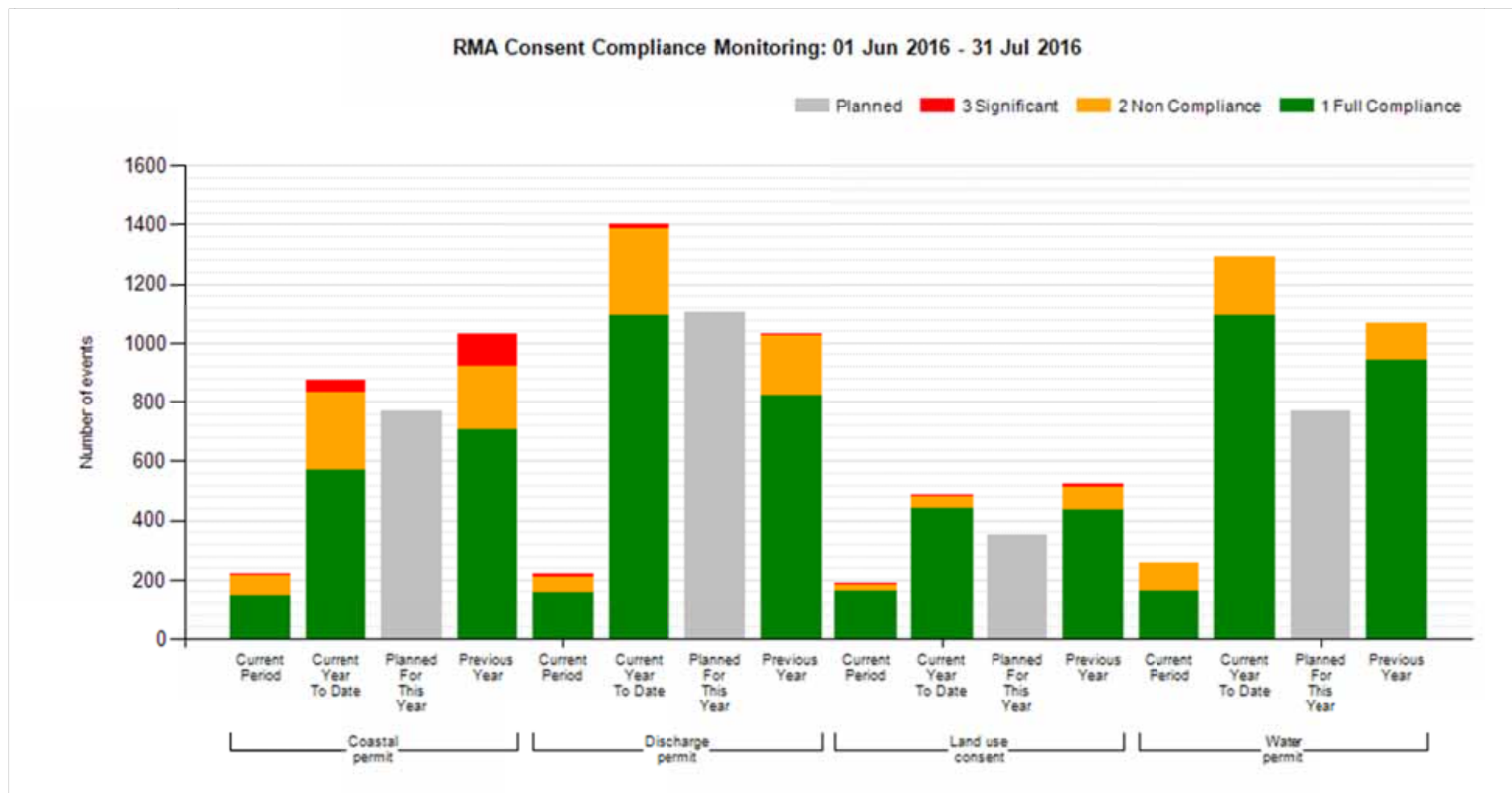
Recommendation:

-
1. That the Environmental Monitoring report for the period 1 June – 31 July 2016 from Colin Dall, Group Manager Regulatory Services, dated 2 August 2016 be received.
-

Environmental Incidents Investigated: 1 June – 31 July 2016



Resource Consent Compliance Monitoring: 1 June – 31 July 2016



Attachment 2 to Item 15

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ABBREVIATIONS KEY

WDC	Whangārei 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		

SIGNIFICANT NON-COMPLIANT EVENTS

COASTAL ACTIVITIES

Date	Consent Reference No.	Name	Description	Notes	Environmental impact
18/07/2016	REG.002667.01	Far North District Council - Opononi WWTP	Discharge treated municipal sewage and coastal outfall @ Opononi & Ōmāpere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality test results were outside RC limits. Formal enforcement action taken. FNDC have engaged a specialist to fully investigate plant process. 	Minor

DISCHARGES TO WATER OR LAND

Date	Consent Reference No.	Name	Description	Notes	Environmental impact
15/07/2016	REG.001108.01	Far North District Council - Paihia WWTP	Discharge treated municipal sewage @ Paihia WWTP, Waitangi Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality test results were outside RC limits. CH is currently reviewing long term treatment options. 	Moderate
15/07/2016	REG.004007.01	Far North District Council - Taipā WWTP	Discharge treated municipal sewage @ Taipā Sewage Treatment System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality test results were outside RC limits. Long term treatment solutions are being assessed as part of the RC renewal process. 	Moderate
21/06/2016	REG.004111.01	Far North District	Discharge treated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality test results were outside 	Moderate

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Date	Consent Reference No.	Name	Description	Notes	Environmental impact
		Council - Kerikeri WWTP	municipal sewage @ Kerikeri WWTP	RC limits. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new plant, which is at a different location, is expected to be operational by 2017. 	

LAND USE

Date	Consent Reference No.	Name	Description	Notes	Environmental impact
10/06/2016	REG.030711.01	New Zealand Transport Agency	Earthworks & associated activities for road upgrade and realignment @ SH1, Akerama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large areas of exposed earthworks had not been covered as required by a winter earthworks extension approval. A follow-up site visit on 23 June 2016 confirmed stabilization of the exposed areas. 	None
08/07/2016	REG.036826.01	New Zealand Transport Agency	Activities associated with upgrade and widening of SH1 @ Brynderwyn Hills (northern side)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sediment controls were overwhelmed in rain event resulting in discharge to land. 	Unknown
08/07/2016	REG.037637.05	Marsden Maritime Holdings Limited	Earthworks & stormwater related activities associated with construction of a road & hardstand area; boat ramp & stream crossings; culvert crossing and sewer pipeline @ Marsden Cove Marina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commencement of works not notified to council as per RC conditions. ESCP was not in accordance with TP90 standards. 	Unknown

ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS

Date	Reference No.	Description	Notes	Environmental Impact
1/06/2016	REQ.580777	Slash and sediment in floodplain of river @ Kirikopuni Valley Rd, Tangiterōia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discharge of sediment and debris to waterway. Formal enforcement action taken. 	Moderate

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8/06/2016	REQ.580820	Smoke nuisance @ Ōākura Rd, Ōākura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incident investigation confirmed burning of plastics and household rubbish in an incinerator. A warning letter was sent to the person responsible advising the rules on burning under the RAQP. 	Moderate
10/06/2016	REQ.580850	Burning and smoke nuisance @ SH14, Maunu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incident investigation confirmed non-compliance with the RAQP. The person responsible was advised of the relevant rules on burning. 	Moderate
11/06/2016	REQ.580894	Smoke nuisance @ Port Rd, Whangārei	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incident investigation confirmed open burning at an industrial or trade premise. A written warning has been sent to the person responsible. 	Moderate
17/06/2016	REQ.580896	Smoke nuisance @ Tavinor Rd, Whangārei	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A vegetation fire burned for several days causing smoke nuisance beyond the property boundary. The person responsible has been warned and requested not to light similar fires in the future. 	Moderate
21/07/2016	REQ.581224	Burning plastic @ Ōpua Industrial Estate, Paihia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incident investigation confirmed open burning at trade premise. Formal enforcement action taken. 	Moderate
14/07/2016	REQ.581170	Diesel spill @ Ōpua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large quantity of used fuel dumped around drain. Material was removed and bunds put in place. Investigation to track the offender is ongoing. 	Moderate

SOE MONITORING – AIR, LAKES AND WATER

Classification	Date	Project	Notes
Air Quality	2/06/2016	Whangārei 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, Whangārei, indicated compliance with the National Environmental Standard during May 2016. Routine monthly audit calibration on particulate, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide monitors at Robert Street carried out.
	21/06/2016	Marsden Point Airshed – Ambient Air Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous ambient air monitoring results for PM₁₀ at Bream Bay College, Ruakākā, indicated compliance with the National

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			<p>Environmental Standard during May 2016.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine monthly audit calibration on particulate monitor at Bream Bay College carried out.
	7/07/2016	Whangārei 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, Whangārei, indicated compliance with the National Environmental Standard during June 2016. • Routine monthly audit calibration on particulate, sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide monitors at Robert Street carried out.
	20/07/2016	Marsden Point Airshed – Ambient Air Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous ambient air monitoring results for PM₁₀ at Bream Bay College, Ruakākā, indicated compliance with the National Environmental Standard during June 2016. • Routine monthly audit calibration on particulate monitor at Bream Bay College carried out.
	20/07/2016	Kerikeri Airshed – Ambient Air Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous ambient air monitoring results for PM₁₀ at Edkins Road, Kerikeri, indicated compliance with the National Environmental Standard during June 2016.

ISSUE: Forestry – report on monitoring activities

ID: A862670

To: Environmental Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Tess Dacre, Compliance Monitoring Manager

Date: 27 July 2016

Report Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Normal operations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
Purpose:	<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public service	<input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory function
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislative function	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Executive Summary:

- Commercial Forestry is a significant industry in Northland.
- Resource consent compliance of the large commercial forest managers has improved over the last few years. In 2015/16 there were no significant non-compliances.
- Over the next 5 years the amount of timber harvested on small woodlots is set to increase significantly.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are provided for in the council's 2012-22 Long Term Plan, and as such are in accordance with the council's decision-making process and Sections 76-82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

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

Recommendation(s):

That the report Forestry – report on monitoring activities by Tess Dacre, Compliance Monitoring Manager and dated 27 July 2016 be received.

Background

There are approximately 151,800 hectares of planted production forest in Northland, which are distributed across the region as follows (see figure 1):

Far North District – 85,900 Ha.

Kaipara District – 36,200 Ha.

Whangarei District – 29,700 Ha.

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Northland has the third largest standing volume and the sixth largest area in plantation forest compared with other regions in New Zealand. Radiata pine accounts for 97% of the region's forest estate.

Harvesting volumes have increased rapidly, having grown by 8.4% per annum over the last 10 years and by 12.4% per annum over the last five years. Harvesting reached over 3 million cubic metres in the year ending March 2013. Various estimates place the long-term annual harvest between 3.5 to 4 million cubic metres.

Note: The above figures were sourced from *Tai Tokerau Northland Growth Study Opportunities Report February 2015* by Martin Jenkins.

Most forestry activities in Northland can be undertaken as a permitted activity under the Regional Water & Soil Plan. However, in some cases resource consent is required for earthworks, stormwater control and forest quarries. In Northland there are currently 51 resource consents held by 13 different consent holders (Hancock Forest Management Limited has the most with 15).

Monitoring of forests

All of the forests which have resource consent are visited at least once annually.

Consented monitoring results for 2015/16 year:

Full compliance	93
Non-compliance	5
RC not exercised	6

Of note was that there were no significant non-compliances in the 2015/16 year (compared with 3 in 2014/15 and 8 in 2013/15). This improvement in compliance is commendable.

Permitted activity forests/woodlots are visited either at the request of the forest owner/harvester or when we receive complaints. In the 2015/16 year there were six incidents reported to the Council's Hotline regarding "permitted activity" forestry. Three of these resulted in enforcement action. This highlights the difference between the performance of the large commercial forest managers and the smaller woodlot owners/contractors.

Future directions

It is predicted that between 2015 and 2028 the proportion of wood (by volume) being harvested from woodlots in Northland compared to the large commercial forests is going to increase to almost half the total volume. In anticipation of this development, Council's monitoring team is preparing written education material, workshops and mailouts all aimed at woodlot owners and the smaller contractors.

Issue 2 of the Forestry Earthworks and Harvesting Guidelines for Northland was re-printed in June 2016. This guideline is a collaborative approach between the Northland Regional Council, Hancock Forest Management, Rayonier/Matariki Forests, Chandler Fraser Keating, Northland Forest Managers, PF Olsen, Summit Forests NZ and the New Zealand Farm Forestry Association, which make up the "RMA Northland Forestry Development Group". This is an industry liaison (collaborative) group which has met regularly and will continue to meet every two months throughout 2016. A range of Council staff and some Councillors participate in this group.

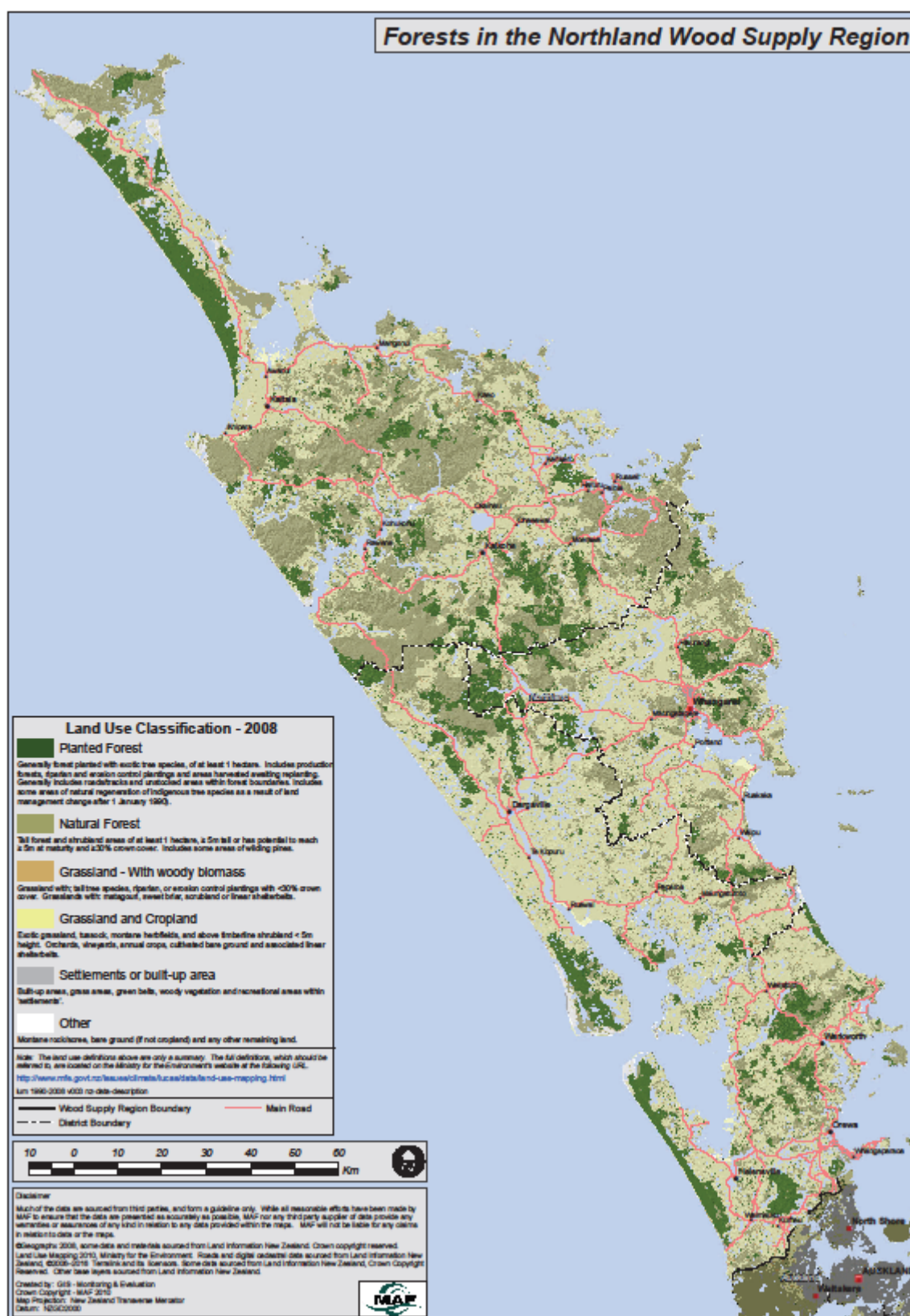


Figure 1. Location of plantation forest in Northland

ISSUE: Resource Management Government Initiatives

ID: A863182

To: Environmental Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Colin Dall, Group Manager Regulatory Services

Date: 2 August 2016

Report Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal operations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decision
Purpose:	<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regulatory function
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislative function	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Executive Summary:

This report summarises recent Government initiatives relating to resource management and upcoming new and potential legislation relating to resource management. It also summarises the commentary recently released by the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment (PCE) on "*Environment Aotearoa 2015*", the first complete state of New Zealand's environment report prepared under the Environmental Reporting Act 2015.

Between the Ministry for the Environment (MfE), Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) and Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE), there is a raft of initiatives relating to resource management which the Northland Regional Council has already commented or submitted on or may choose to comment or submit on when/if the opportunity arises. Some of the initiatives will lead to new or amended resource management legislation that has the potential to impact on the council's operations.

The PCE has recently released comments on *Environment Aotearoa 2015* and made six recommendations in relation to the report. She considered that there are four areas in relation to the state of New Zealand's environment that stand out for particular attention:

- reducing transport emissions to create low carbon cities,
- establishing more marine protected areas to protect precious parts of our oceans,
- reforesting eroding hills to protect soil and reduce sediment in rivers, and
- figuring out how to win the war against the predators killing native birds and animals.

Some existing council work programmes strongly align with the last two areas of attention. It would be sensible for the council to continue to give them particular attention and to at least give the remaining two areas attention when deciding on its future work programmes.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The council activities detailed in this report are provided for in activities described in the council's 2015-2025 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. The matters covered in this report are considered to be of low significance.

Recommendations:

1. That the report "Resource Management Government Initiatives" dated 2 August 2016 by Colin Dall, Group Manager Regulatory Services, be received.
 2. That the committee recommends that the council gives all "four areas of particular attention" relating to state of New Zealand's environment specified in the PCE's commentary of the state of New Zealand's environment (June 2016) attention when deciding on its future work programmes.
 3. That the committee recommends that the council considers the merits of assisting existing marine protection proposals in Northland when developing its 2017/2018 annual plan and that, if assistance for marine protection proposals is supported by the council, criteria are developed to guide it in the selection of proposals.
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Report

The following is a summary of Government initiatives and upcoming new and potential legislation relating to resource management:

MfE Led Work:

1. **Resource Management Act Reform** – The Resource Legislation Amendment Bill is currently before the Local Government and Environment Select Committee. Its report on the Bill is due on 6 September 2016, which will then be debated by the House at its second reading and voted on. If it passes the vote, it will then be considered in detail by a committee of the whole House and any proposed changes will be voted on. The next stage is its third reading when it is debated and voted on. If successful, the Bill is passed and becomes an Act after Royal Assent (being signed by the Governor-General).
2. **National Monitoring System** – MfE has been conducting an audit of the NMS 2014/15 data. This data is now available for download from MfE's website: <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/rma/rma-monitoring-and-reporting/reporting-201415>

The council has submitted the NMS data for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 to MfE.
3. **National Environmental Standards (NES) for Telecommunication Facilities** – The Government agreed to broaden the scope of the NES for Telecommunication Facilities in 2015, so that consumers have faster access to new technologies. Public consultation was carried out on the proposed amendments between 3 March and 17 April 2015. The Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment

(MBIE) is leading the review and the amended regulations are expected to be released in the near future.

4. **Air Quality NES Review** – MfE has begun initial policy work for amendments to the NES Air Quality and intends to actively engage with local government during the review process.
5. **Contaminated Soil NES** – The review of the NES Contaminated Soil is ongoing. MfE has already consulted on proposed revisions to the Contaminated Land Management Guidelines 1 and 5 and is likely to publish the revised versions in mid-2016. MfE is working towards amendments to the NES Contaminated Soil and Hazardous Activities and Industries List (HAIL) being in place in 2017 and so is likely to consult on proposals in late 2016.
6. **Minamata Convention on Mercury** - The NZ Government signed the Minamata Convention on Mercury in 2013. MfE is now working towards implementation in NZ law so that we can ratify the convention by mid-2017. Although much of the convention is already addressed in existing NZ law, there are some aspects of the convention that MfE expects will require further regulation.
7. **Oil and Gas** – MfE is currently collecting information on how local authorities deal with the environmental management of oil and gas activities. It is seeking council advice on the usefulness of national direction on the subject (including guidance). MfE has also been progressing non-statutory guidance on well integrity for local government which has been developed with input from local government, industry and iwi, and is intended to be published in late 2016.
8. **Dam safety** – MfE and MBIE are working to develop a NES on dam safety with the support of a technical working group. Public consultation on a proposed NES on dam safety is likely to be in 2017.
9. **Biodiversity** – MfE is establishing a collaborative stakeholder group to support the development of a Biodiversity National Policy Statement (NPS) and anticipates that the group could begin formally meeting in the next few months and that the process will take 18 months.
10. **NPS on Urban Development Capacity** – MfE recently consulted on a Proposed NPS on Urban development Capacity aimed at ensuring land supply for housing and business keeps pace with growth. Submissions have closed and are now being considered. The Ministry will prepare a summary of submissions report including recommendations for the Minister for the Environment to consider. If the NPS is approved, it is likely to take effect by the end of 2016.
11. **Natural hazards** – One of the proposed amendments to the RMA is the inclusion of “management of significant risks from natural hazards” as a matter of significance in s6 of the RMA. A national policy statement (NPS) on natural hazards may be developed by 2018 to support implementation of this by councils. Statutory engagement with local government, iwi and other stakeholders will occur after the Resource Management Bill is enacted.
12. **Streamlining the regulatory regime for pest control** – The proposal for a Section 360(1)(h) regulation to streamline the regulatory regime for pest control was publically consulted on from April-May 2016. If adopted, the regulation will

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remove the requirement for resource consents or rules within regional plans for vertebrate toxic agents – namely brodifacoum, 1080 and rotenone.

- 13. National Planning Template** – Policy analysis is being undertaken to ensure the proposed first RMA plan template can be issued by the Minister for the Environment two years after enactment of the RMA amendments. MfE will be testing options for content required for national consistency and the template's implementation and also tested e-plan approaches with councils from Canterbury and Waikato in late June.
- 14. Environmental Reporting** – The Marine Domain Report is due for publication on 27 October 2016, to be followed by the Freshwater Domain Report in April 2017.
- 15. Hazardous Substances and New Organisms** – MfE continues to engage in plan change processes on GMO provisions.
- 16. Freshwater Policy and NPS for Freshwater Management** – Ministers are considering the views presented in submissions on the "Next steps for fresh water" document and deciding how to proceed. The intention is to have a second round of consultation on specific amendments to the NPS for Freshwater Management.
- 17. Stock Exclusion Regulations** - the Government has signalled (in the "Next Steps for Freshwater" discussion paper) potential for national regulations requiring exclusion of stock from waterways (possibly by July 2017).
- 18. Iwi Rights and Interests** – MfE is keen to talk with councils about some of the proposals contained in the freshwater reform discussion document to test their practicality. It intends that these discussions be ongoing and if feasible to begin in mid-2016.
- 19. Implementing the NPS for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM)** – MfE is undertaking a review of the NPS-FM implementation. MfE representatives met with Northland Regional Council representatives (including six Councillors) on the council's implementation of the NPS-FM on 7 July 2016.
- 20. Guidance on the NPS-FM** – MfE is currently developing guidance products for regional councils on identifying values and attributes, formulating freshwater objectives, economic analysis, monitoring and setting limits.
- 21. Water Evidence, Policy Support** – Attribute development work is underway to inform expansion of Appendix 2 of the NPS-FM. MfE is about to embark on a 2-3 year estuaries project to support decisions regarding freshwater inputs into estuarine receiving environments. It intends to establish an advisory group to support this project, and is keen to have strong representation from councils.
- 22. Freshwater Swimmability** – MfE has updated its information on suitability of water for swimming to reflect the requirements in the National Objectives Framework and the 2003 swimming guidelines. Regional councils have provided feedback on the information which is expected to be publicly released by the end of August 2016.

- 23. Freshwater Management Information Strategy** - The Ministry is also developing a Freshwater Management Information Strategy in partnership with MPI and MBIE, with the support of Treasury. This was subject to consultation and should be completed by mid-2016.
- 24. Conservation and Environment Science Road Map** – MfE and the Department of Conservation have released a discussion paper setting out science priorities across 12 themes over the next 20 years. The discussion paper has been developed in conjunction with a Strategic Advisory Group and informed by targeted consultation with a range of science / policy organisations, stakeholders and tangata whenua. Feedback on this science ‘road map’ is sought by 7 September 2016.
- 25. Marine Protected Areas** – Consultation on potential changes to Marine Protected Areas (MPA) legislation was completed in mid-March. Final policy decisions are intended to be sought from Cabinet over the next few months with a view to having a new MPA Act in place by 2017.
- 26. Proposed amendments to the EEZ Act as part of RLAB** – The Resource Legislation Amendment Bill (RLAB) includes a number of proposed amendments to the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012.

MPI Led Work:

- 27. Proposed NES for Plantation Forestry** – MPI has been undertaking further work on an NES for Plantation Forestry. A Cabinet paper and Regulatory Impact Statement is being prepared for Cabinet consideration in mid-2016.
- 28. Good management practice and independently audited self-management schemes** – MPI, MfE, regional council and industry representatives held a workshop in May 2016 to initiate discussions about working together to identify opportunities to develop a common set of GMPs, increase GMP uptake and how independently audited self-management schemes could be recognised in council plans. This work is to enable farmers and growers to effectively and efficiently manage within water limits. It is proposed that this work be progressed collectively.
- 29. Aquaculture** – Central government agencies are working with an expert Reference Group to develop advice and recommendations to Ministers on National Direction for Aquaculture. The key focus for national direction is to provide certainty for re-consenting existing marine farms and address other aquaculture-based issues such as monitoring, on-farm innovation and biosecurity management. The Group Manager Regulatory Services, Colin Dall, recently replaced the CEO, Malcolm Nicolson, as the council's representative on the National Aquaculture Forum. The council has recently provided information to MPI on the status of marine farm consents and re-consenting of marine farms in Northland.
- 30. Pest management: wilding conifers** – New operating funding of \$16 million has been allocated over four years to improve the management of wilding conifers in the highest priority areas. Guidance for regional pest management plan rules related to wilding conifers has been distributed to regional councils.

Impact on Northland Regional Council Operations

It is difficult to be precise about the impacts of the various initiatives and upcoming new and potential legislation, particularly where they are at an early stage. However, a preliminary indicative assessment of their impacts is given in the following table:

Initiative/Legislation	Impact
Resource Management Act Reform	Minor / Moderate (implications for consenting – potential increased pressure on processing consents for controlled activities if reduction of processing timeframe from 20 to 10 working days is passed). New regulation making powers and changes to Schedule 1 plan making processes could also be material.
National Monitoring System	Minor and ongoing, except changes to survey questions may require expenditure on changes to council systems/ databases. Peak workload in July.
NES for Telecommunication Facilities	Minor, may reduce need for some earthworks consents.
Air Quality NES Review	Minor, except if amendments require more monitoring and also Likely to require council response to proposed amendments.
Contaminated Soil NES	Minor as territorial authorities administer the NES.
Minamata Convention on Mercury	Minor, although a change to the regional plan may be required.
Oil and Gas	Uncertain.
Dam safety	Uncertain.
Biodiversity	Uncertain, but likely to require close scrutiny and comprehensive response to proposed NPS.
NPS on Urban Development Capacity	Minor – implications are related to urban growth (currently no urban centres in Northland meet the criteria for medium/high growth).
Natural hazards	Uncertain, but likely to require close scrutiny and comprehensive response to proposed NPS.
Streamlining the regulatory regime for pest control	Minor, although a change to the regional plan may be required. However, council will no longer need to process consents for most pest control operations.
National Planning Template	Uncertain, depends if the new regional plan needs to be changed to the template format before it comes into effect.
Environmental Reporting	Minor and ongoing, except if reporting requirements are increased. Peak work load currently every six months.
Hazardous Substances and New Organisms	Minor, although may require change to RPS.

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Freshwater Policy and NPS for Freshwater Management	Uncertain, depends on changes to the NPS.
Stock exclusion regulations	Uncertain, depends on content of the regulations.
Iwi Rights and Interests	Uncertain.
Implementing the NPS for Freshwater Management	Minor – the council has already met with MfE and considers it is in a good position in regard to implementation of the existing NPS.
Guidance on the NPS-FM	Minor given the stage the council is at in implementing the NPS and in the development of the new regional plan.
Water Evidence, Policy Support	Uncertain, although given the extent of estuaries in Northland, council should be represented on the proposed advisory group.
Freshwater Swimmability	Uncertain. The council already puts significant resources into monitoring the “swimmability” of Northland’s surface freshwater bodies. A response to the expected public release on national swimmability information is likely to be required.
Freshwater Management Information Strategy	Uncertain.
Conservation and Environment Science Road Map	Minor and likely positive as council may well benefit from research outcomes.
Marine Protected Areas	Uncertain, although changes to MPA legislation is likely to result more applications for MPAs and increased council involvement in this area.
Proposed amendments to the EEZ Act	Negligible.
Proposed NES for Plantation Forestry	Uncertain, depends on final content of the NES.
Good management practice	Uncertain, although council should be involved in the proposed collaborative work.
Aquaculture	Minor and ongoing, as the council’s existing and proposed re-consenting provisions for marine is in-line with potential national direction. Sensible that the council continues to be represented on the National Aquaculture Forum.
Pest management: wilding conifers	Government fund is an opportunity for the council to do more work in this area.

Although individually, the impact on council operations of most of the above initiatives and upcoming new and potential legislation is assessed as being minor, the cumulative effect of all the work currently going on in relation to resource management issues is more significant. Furthermore, the impact of some of the work is uncertain and the council will need to keep a close eye on this work as it progresses.

PCE Commentary on State of the Environment

The full commentary is on the PCE website and can be directly accessed via:

<http://www.pce.parliament.nz/media/1666/the-state-of-new-zealand-s-environment.pdf>

Section 5.6 of the commentary (attached) gives the PCE's view on the "four areas [of the State of the Environment report] that stand out for particular attention".

The council's statutory responsibilities directly relate to two of the four areas of attention – soil protection and reduce sediment in rivers, and pest control. The council could also play a role in the remaining two areas of attention – reducing transport emissions to create low carbon cities and establishing more marine protected areas to protect precious parts of our oceans. In regard to the latter, the council has already been involved in two existing proposals for marine protection areas in Northland and is aware of other existing proposals for marine protection in Northland. The council has an opportunity to provide support/assistance to progress such proposals when developing its 2017/18 Annual Plan (either in the form of staff resource or funding).

The PCE has recommended that:

"The Secretary for the Environment prepare a report for the Minister for the Environment, outlining priorities for action in response to the findings of *Environment Aotearoa 2015* and this commentary, and make this report publically available.

5.6 Responding to conclusions about the state of our environment

The Environmental Reporting Act requires state of the environment reports to cover pressures, states and impacts, but to stop short of reporting on 'response' – the policies that could be put in place to address different environmental issues. I support this approach. But in the end the point of reporting on the state of the environment is to improve the way we manage and protect it.

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The Ministry for the Environment is the agency charged with providing high quality policy advice on environmental management and protection. Thus the Secretary for the Environment has the key role in preparing the 'response' to a state of the environment report by undertaking policy analysis and giving advice on options for improving the way we manage and protect our environment.

This should begin with the preparation of a report to the Minister for the Environment that outlines priorities for action following *Environment Aotearoa 2015* and this commentary. This 'response' report should be made available to the public.

In my view, there are four areas that stand out for particular attention.

- a) There is no question that climate change is by far the most serious environmental issue we face. It will impact on the health of our sea, land, and fresh water, our unique and precious biodiversity, and our economy. Urban areas are key to reducing global greenhouse gas emissions, particularly those from transport. We must plan and develop our cities so that they are low-carbon as well as affordable.
- b) On land, we have a long and proud history of protecting precious places in national parks and reserves. At sea, in contrast, we have made very slow progress. The laws for creating marine protected areas to reduce pressure on our diverse and valuable marine life are obsolete and an overhaul has been proposed. It is critical that real progress is made.
- c) Planting trees and supporting forest regeneration on unstable hill country is an environmental win-win. It can slow erosion and the loss of valuable topsoil, reduce the sediment washing into rivers and streams, store carbon dioxide, and provide habitat for native plants and animals.
- d) Our native birds and animals are under sustained attack from predators. The Government's 'Battle for our Birds' has been successful in preventing the damage from 'masts' in some areas. But we must lift our sights from battles that 'hold the line' to figuring out how to win the war.

I recommend that:

6. **The Secretary for the Environment prepare a report for the Minister for the Environment, outlining priorities for action in response to the findings of *Environment Aotearoa 2015* and this commentary, and make this report publically available.**

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**ISSUE: Community-based research: Bream Bay College
investigation of Mair Bank pipi decline
Presentation**

ID: A869435

To: Environmental Management Committee, 29 August 2016

From: Nola Sooner, Committee Secretary

Date: 2 August 2016

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

Sophia Clark, Consents Monitoring Officer has been invited by the Chairman of the Environmental Management Committee to give a brief update on Community-based research: Bream Bay College investigation of Mair Bank pipi decline.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

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

Recommendation:

That the presentation from Sophia Clark be received.
