Natural Resources Working Party

Wednesday 6 March 2019 at 1.00pm
Natural Resources Working Party Agenda

Meeting to be held in the Council Chamber
36 Water Street, Whangārei
on Wednesday 6 March 2019, commencing at 1.00pm

Please note: working parties and working groups carry NO formal decision-making delegations from council. The purpose of the working party/group is to carry out preparatory work and discussions prior to taking matters to the full council for formal consideration and decision-making. Working party/group meetings are open to the public to attend (unless there are specific grounds under LGOIMA for the public to be excluded).

MEMBERSHIP OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES WORKING PARTY

Chairman, Councillor Justin Blaikie
Councillor David Sinclair
Councillor Rick Stolwerk
Councillor Joce Yeoman
Councillor Bill Shepherd (Ex-Officio)
Non Elected Member from TTMAC

Item

1.0 APOLOGIES

2.0 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

3.0 REPORTS

3.1 RECORD OF ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING
   a. RIPARIAN BUFFER DISTANCES – verbal update (John Ballinger & Duncan Kervell)

3.2 NORTHERN WAIROA FIF UPDATE – verbal update (Imogen Field)

3.3 DUNE LAKES FIF UPDATE (Lisa Forester)

3.4 HILL COUNTRY EROSION FUNDING UPDATE
   a. 2018/19 BOOST FUNDING (David McDermott)
   b. 2019/22 SUSTAINABLE HILL COUNTRY AND REGIONAL PRIORITIES (SHARP) PROGRAMME & 1BT (Duncan Kervell)

3.4 CONTRACT ARRANGEMENTS FOR POPLARS AND WILLOWS (Duncan Kervell)

3.5 SUMMARY OF FARM PLAN PHONE SURVEY (Lorna Douglas)

3.6 AWANUI LTP RIVER WORKS PRESENTATION (Joseph Camuso)

3.6 WAIPU AND PAPAROA FLOOD MAPS (Joseph Camuso)

3.7 WETLAND MAPPING IN NORTHLAND (Cr Justin Blaikie)
Executive summary
The purpose of this report is to present the Record of Actions of the last meeting (attached) held on 4 December 2018 for review by the meeting.

Attachments/Ngā tapirihanga
Attachment 1: Record of Actions

Authorised by Group Manager
Name: Bruce Howse
Title: Group Manager - Environmental Services
Date: 28 February 2019
Natural Resources Working Party Record of Actions

Meeting held in the Kaipara Room
36 Water Street, Whangārei
on Tuesday 4 December 2018, commencing at 1.00 pm

Present:

Chairman, Councillor Justin Blaikie
Councillor Bill Shepherd (Ex-Officio)
Councillor Joce Yeoman
Councillor Penny Smart
Juliane Chetham – Non Elected Member from TTMAC

In Attendance:

Full Meeting
Malcolm Nicolson, NRC Chief Executive
Colin Dall, Group Manager – Regulatory Services
Duncan Kervell, Land Manager & Deputy Group Manager
Suzanne Takiwa, Communications Manager
Tamara Lee, Communications & Engagement Specialist
Lorna Douglas, Eastern Coast Land Manager
Lisa Forester, Biodiversity Manager
Ricky Eyre, Coastal/Water Quality Field Operations Manager
Rachel Ropiha, Kaiarahi – Kaupapa Maori
Imogen Field, Land Management Advisor – Freshwater Project
James Griffin, Policy Analyst
Jonathan Gibbard, Group Manager – Strategy, Governance & Engagement

The meeting commenced at 1.00 pm.

Apologies:

Councillor Rick Stolwerk
Councillor David Sinclair

Declarations of conflict of interest: Nil

Stewardship of our Ancient Iconic Trees (Item 3.0)

Presented by: Paul Gosling

Mr Gosling advised that he is a tree surgeon with 25 years’ experience nationally and overseas. He wanted to raise his concern about the lack of protection for trees in Northland, in contrast to other areas for example, Auckland City. He has talked to the district councils and wanted to make the Northland Regional Council aware of the situation.
Chairman, Cr Blaikie advised that under the Resource Management Act, the Northland Regional Council looks after soils but not trees. Protection of trees comes under the district councils within their district plans.

Cr Yeoman advised Mr Gosling that the Far North District Council will be consulting on their district plan and that making a submission to the district plan will be the best way to influence the council and its rules.

Record of Actions from Previous Meeting and Matters arising (Item 4.0)

Presented by: Cr Justin Blaikie

Subtidal habitat surveying

Ricky Eyre presented three options for discussion:

Option 1: status quo;

Option 2: preferred option is to take a gap analysis in consultation with relevant parties. There is potential for funding to do this;

Option 3: undertake surveys of subtidal habitat. This might be premature and would require a lot of resource.

Cr Shepherd reminded the working party it does not have delegation for approving work outside of usual business. However, it could make recommendations to council.

Agreed action points:

- Retain status quo.

Section 128 Reviews of Consents for Farm Dairy Effluent Discharges to Water (Item 5)

Presented by: Colin Dall

Agreed action points:

- Keep working with farmers.

Final draft of Environment Fund Criteria Review (Item 6)

Agreed action points:

- Staff to check the science around the benefits of fencing vs riparian planting and provide an update to council. **Action: Duncan Kervell**
• Staff to check the district council rules/initiatives around wetlands for the Whangārei District. **Action: Duncan Kervell/Lisa Forester**

**Hill Country Erosion Fund Contract Bid (Item 7)**

Presented by: Duncan Kervell

Agreed action points:

• Report back to Natural Resources Working Party to advise results of funding round.  
  **Action: Duncan Kervell**

**Water Strategy and Communications/Engagement Plan (Item 8.0)**

Presented by: Suzanne Takiwa – Communications Manager

The communications and engagement strategy has been completed. An overview of the “Where’s your Wai” campaign was provided.

**Flood Strategy and Communications/Engagement Plan (Item 9.0)**

Presented by: Suzanne Takiwa – Communications Manager

The communications and engagement strategy has been completed and communication plans have been developed for the Awanui and the Taumarere communities.

**Manuka research for E.coli and Nitrogen Reduction (Item 10.0)**

Presented by: Duncan Kervell

**Conclusion**

The meeting concluded at 3.05pm.