

AGENDA

RĀRANGI TAKE

Huihuinga O Te Kāhui Māori O Taitokerau

**Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party
Thursday 8 April 2021 at 11.00am - 3.00pm**

Rārangi Take O Te Kāhui Māori O Taitokerau **(Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party Agenda)**

Meeting to be held in the Council Chamber
36 Water Street, Whangārei
on Thursday 8 April 2021, commencing at 11.00am - 3.00pm

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).

NGĀ MANA WHAKAHAERE
(MEMBERSHIP OF THE TE TAITOKERAU MĀORI AND COUNCIL WORKING PARTY)
Heamana Tokorua (Co-Chairs): Marty Robinson, Councillor and Pita Tipene, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hine

Alan Riwaka, Te Rūnanga O Ngāti Whātua
Amy Macdonald, Councillor
Anameara Kake, Te Waiāriki, Ngāti Korora, Ngāti Taka Hapū Iwi Trust
Colin Kitchen, Councillor
Georgina Connelly, Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust
Hadyn Edmonds, Ngātiwai Trust Board
Hoki Tua, Te Rūnanga o Whāingaroa
Jack Craw, Councillor
Janelle Beazley, Te Rūnanga-Ā-Iwi-O-Ngāpuhi
Joce Yeoman, Councillor
Juliane Chetham, Patuharakeke Te Iwi Trust Board
Justin Blaikie, Councillor
Lynette Wharerau, Te Whakaminenga O Te Hikutu Hapu-Whanau
Mariameno Kapa-Kingi, Te Rūnanga Nui o Te Aupōuri
Michelle Elboz, Ngāti Kuta, Patukeha
Mike Kake, Ngāti Hau
Mira Norris, Te Parawhau Hapū Authority Charitable Trust
Nora Rameka, Te Rūnanga O Ngāti Rehia
Penny Smart, Councillor (Chair, NRC)
Rick Stolwerk, Councillor
Rihari Dargaville, Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa
Rowan Tautari, Te Whakapiko Hapū
Terry Archer, Councillor
Thomas Hohaia, Te Roroa
Victor Holloway, Ngāti Tara

KARAKIA / WHAKATAU

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At the March 2020 meeting of the Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party identified the following key areas of focus for the 2019 – 2021 triennium:

- Development of an overarching water strategy
- Development of a climate change strategy
- Development of an economic development strategy with a focus on Māori economic development
- Development of a marine strategy as it pertains to Te Taitokerau
- Build tāngata whenua capacity and capability e.g. LTP etc
- Strengthen Māori representation in local body politics.

Commonly used terms and abbreviations

Appointed member – one of the (up to) twenty-one appointed iwi and hapū members from Te Taitokerau tāngata whenua. Members are appointed in accordance with the [Terms of Reference](#). In addition to appointed members there are nine elected members (councillors)

AP - Annual Plan

TTMAC caucus – is comprised of appointed (tāngata whenua) members

CEO - Chief Executive Officer

CPCA - Community Pest Control Areas

DOC - Department of Conservation

FNDC - Far North District Council

GIS - Geographic Information System

HEMP - Hapū Environmental Management Plan

IEMP - Iwi Environmental Management Plan

ILGACE - Iwi and Local Government Chief Executives Forum

KDC - Kaipara District Council

LAWA – Land, Air, Water Aotearoa

LEA - Local Electoral Act 2001

LGA - Local Government Act 2002

LGNZ - Local Government New Zealand

LIDAR – Light detection and ranging

LTP - Long Term Plan

MBIE – Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment

MFE - Ministry for the Environment

MOT - Ministry of Transport

MPI - Ministry for Primary Industries

MTAG - Māori Technical Advisory Group (a sub-group of TTMAC)

NES - National Environmental Standards

NINC - Northland Inc. Limited

NIWA - National Institute of Water and Atmosphere

NPS - National Policy Statement

NPS-FM - National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management

RMA - Resource Management Act 1991

RP – Regional Plan

TAG - Technical Advisory Group

TKoT – Te Kahu o Taonui

TTMAC - Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party

TTNEAP – Tai Tokerau Northland Economic Action Plan

TOR - Terms of Reference

TPK - Te Puni Kōkiri (Ministry of Maori Development)

TWWAG – Tāngata Whenua Water Advisory Group

WDC - Whangarei District Council

TITLE: **Record of Actions – 11 February 2021**

ID: A1421324


From: Sally Bowron, Strategy, Governance and Engagement Team Admin/PA

**Authorised by
Group Manager:** Ben Lee, GM - Strategy, Governance and Engagement, on 30 March 2021

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Record of Actions of the last meeting (attached) held on 11 February 2021 for review by the meeting.

Attachments/Ngā tapirihanga

Attachment 1: Unconfirmed Record of Actions from 11 February 2021 [↓](#) 

Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party
11 February 2021

Tuhituhi o ngā Mahi O Te Kāhui Māori O Taitokerau **Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party Record of Actions**

Appointed Members caucus meeting held in the Council Chamber
36 Water Street, Whangārei and via Zoom
on Thursday 11 February 2021, commencing at 11.00am - 3.00pm

Tuhinga (Present):

Co-Chair, Marty Robinson
Councillor Justin Blaikie
Councillor Jack Craw
Councillor Colin Kitchen (via Zoom)
Councillor Amy Macdonald
Councillor Penny Smart
Councillor Rick Stolwerk
Councillor Joce Yeoman (via Zoom)
Patuharakeke Te Iwi Trust Board, Julianne Chetham
Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hine, Pita Tipene
Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust, Georgina Connolly
Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa, Rihari Dargaville
Ngāti Kuta, Patukeha, Michelle Elboz
Te Parawhau Hapū Authority Charitable Trust, Mira Norris
Te Rūnanga O Ngāti Rehia, Nora Rameka
Te Whakapiko Hapū, Rowan Tautari
Ngāti Tara, Victor Holloway
Te Rūnanga-Ā-Iwi-O-Ngāpuhi, Janelle Beazley
Te Rūnanga O Whāingaroa, Hoki Tua
Te Roroa, Thomas Hohaia (Zoom)
Te Whakaminenga O Te Hikutu Hapu-Whanau, Lynette Wharerau
Ngāti Hau, Mike Kake
Te Waiariki, Ngāti Korora, Ngāti Takapari, Anameara Kake

I Tae Mai (In Attendance):

Huihuinga i te katoa (Full Meeting)

GM, Strategy Governance and Engagement
GM, Environmental Services
Kaiwhakahaere Hononga Māori – Māori Relationships Manager
Kaiārahi – Tikanga Māori
Kaiārahi – Kaupapa Māori
PA/Team Admin Strategy Governance and Engagement
Ngātiwai Trust Board Resource Manager

Huihuinga i te wahanga (Part Meeting)

Strategic Policy Specialist
Biosecurity Manager
Biosecurity Manager – Marine
Media, Susan Botting

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The meeting commenced at 11.07am.

Karakia / Whakataua

Mike Kake provided the opening karakia for the meeting in the appointed members caucus session prior to the formal meeting. Pita Tipene and Rihari Dargaville paid respects in their mihi to Rudy Taylor and others recently passed, emphasising the legacy they leave behind and the importance of collectively continuing to support their kaupapa. Rihari Dargaville closed the meeting with the karakia whakamutunga.

Ngā Whakapahā/Apologies (Item 1.0)

Te Rūnanga Nui o Te Aupōuri, Mariameno Kapa-Kingi
Chair Penny Smart
NRC Chief Executive

Nga whakapuakanga (Declarations of Conflicts of Interest) (Item 2.0)

It was advised that members should make declarations item-by-item as the meeting progressed.

Record of Actions – Rāpare te 12 o Whiringa-a-Rangi | Thursday 12 November (Item 4.1)

It was agreed that the Record of Actions was an accurate reflection of the meeting.

Agreed action points:

- To add the Tāngata Whenua Water Advisory Group as a general business item
- For staff to develop a mechanism that reports progress on TTMAC's six key areas of focus, including the mahi done by other working parties on which there are TTMAC representatives.

Appointment of Co-Chair (Item 4.2)

This paper sought a nomination from appointed members for the position of Co-Chair to fill the position that was left vacant with the passing of Co-Chair Rudy Taylor in October 2020.

TTMAC appointed members nominated Pita Tipene as their Co-Chair with Georgina Connelly as proxy Co-Chair. Their nominations will go to the next council meeting for approval.

Agreed action points:

- That the nominations be taken to the next full council meeting for approval.

Secretarial Note: At their 23 February 2021 meeting, council approved appointment of Pita Tipene as Co-Chair and Georgina Connelly as proxy co-Chair.

Māori Constituencies (Item 4.3)

Kaiwhakahaere Hononga Māori provided an update about the Māori constituencies process. The key point being that the Minister for Local Government has confirmed that the option to demand a poll will be revoked with new legislation to be passed in late February 2021. With the uncertainty around holding a poll removed, the next step is for council to progress work on an Initial Representation

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Review Proposal (eg the number of seats and constituency boundaries), which under the Local Electoral Act 2001, must be adopted by council by 31 August 2021. Staff will bring further information to TTMAC's April meeting.

Agreed action points:

- To circulate a copy of council's submission on the Local Electoral (Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill to TTMAC.

Secretarial Note: Council's submission was circulated later the same day.

Regional marae-based hui (Item 4.4)

Member Holloway confirmed that Ngāti Tara is hosting the 11 March regional hui at Parapara Marae, Taipā on 11 March 2021.

It was agreed that the 13 May regional hui will be hosted at Ngāti Manawa marae, Panguru (Rihari Dargaville).

Agreed action points:

- Staff to arrange shared transport to support the kaupapa of participating in TTMAC hui and to reduce council and members carbon footprint. Members are to confirm their hui attendance as soon as possible so an appropriate vehicle can be arranged.

Whakamānawa ā Taiao | Environmental Awards 2021 and Tū i te Ora Scholarships (Item 4.5)

Members were asked to nominate an appointed member to participate in the judging panels for the annual Tū i te ora Scholarships and Whakamānawa ā Taiao | Environmental Awards, and to encourage nominations to the awards and scholarships.

It was agreed that:

- Rowan Tautari be nominated to the Tū i te Ora Scholarships selection panel, which will convene the week of 22 February 2021, and
- Mike Kake be nominated to the Whakamānawa ā Taiao | Environmental Awards 2021 judging panel, which will convene the week of 19 April 2021.

Agreed action points: Nil.

Secretarial Note: Item 4.6 was addressed following Item 4.7.

The Clean Hull Plan (Item 4.6)

The Biosecurity Manager – Marine presented on the development of an inter-regional approach to managing marine pests (the 'Clean Hull Plan') across Northland, Auckland, Waikato and Bay of Plenty regions with support from DOC and Biosecurity New Zealand. Staff updated members on the objective, what potential rules would look like in practice, what it may cost, and the process to decide how the plan will be funded, including guiding principles/criteria. TTMAC advice was sought on ways to best engage early and more broadly with Māori and key stakeholders.

Agreed action points:

- Individual members are to provide feedback directly to council's Biosecurity Manager and Biosecurity Manager – Marine.

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Hapū Manawhakahono a Rohe (Item 4.7)

Mana Whakahono a Rohe (MWR) is a tool in the Resource Management Act 1991. In December 2020 Patuharakeke and Ngāti Rehia signed separate hapu-based MWR with council. Most of the work to develop the single multi-hapū-based MWR was led by the Māori Technical Advisory Group and, with only four signed MWR in Aotearoa, marks a significant milestone for TTMAC. The next step is to identify any implementation issues, before deciding to do a wider active roll out with hapū, including the level of internal capability needed to support MWRs and what resourcing is available through other partnerships, such as Kaimahi for Nature.

Agreed action points:

- That staff engage with members from Te Parawhau Hapū Authority Charitable Trust, Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust and Te Whakaminenga O Te Hikutu Hapu-Whanau regarding signing the multi-hapū-based MWR
- That staff come back to TTMAC in six months with a review of implementation issues.

Te Oneroa-a-Tōhe/Ninety Mile Beach Board (Item 4.8)

On Monday 25 January 2021 a formal beach management plan – Te Rautaki o Te Oneroa-a-Tōhe – came into effect. This paper provided background into the process undertaken to develop the plan and key action items that are important for council to acknowledge. The plan is available online at www.teonerora-a-tohe.nz.

Agreed action points: Nil.

complete Item 4.0 and other matters of general business.

Updates from other working parties (Item 4.9)

This item was taken as read, with verbal updates provided by councillors Amy Macdonald, Jack Craw, Colin Kitchen and Joce Yeoman. Clarification was sought about the process to replace members on working parties who are unable to attend due to other commitments or where representatives of appointed members have changed. A number of options were discussed.

Agreed action points:

- Staff to bring a paper to the next TTMAC formal meeting about the process of appointing and replacing members on working parties that ensures good TTMAC representation on working parties
- Provide a calendar with the dates of working party meetings in TTMAC formal agendas so members have oversight of when meetings occur
- Staff to bring an update on hazard maps to a future TTMAC meeting.

Tāngata Whenua Water Advisory Group (General Business)

The appointed members caucus asked that the relationship between TTMAC and the Tāngata Whenua Water Advisory Group (TWWAG) be clarified. In particular, whether TWWAG reports to TTMAC, similar to how the Māori Technical Advisory Group reports to TTMAC, or whether TWWAG reports directly to council. Also raised again was the need for a review of the current working party representation and how that aligns with TTMAC's strategic areas of focus.

Agreed action points:

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- Staff to bring a paper to the next TTMAC meeting addressing the relationship between TTMAC and TWWAG
- See action point to Item 4.9 above regarding a review of working party representation and attendance and alignment against TTMAC's strategic areas of focus.

Three Waters Reform (General Business)

Councillor Blaikie raised the issue of the impact of the Three Waters reform on Te Taitokerau and its communities and what input there could be into the new regulatory structure. Under the reform it is anticipated that Aotearoa will end up with a handful of water regulators and a tighter framework around Te Tiriti o Waitangi. It was agreed to wait for specifics before deciding on a course of action. Given the extent of the kōrero, it will be important to put energy into the right place at the right time.

Agreed action points:

- Staff to provide a report to the next TTMAC meeting giving a picture of what is coming from central government on water reforms.

Conclusion

The meeting concluded at 2.43pm.

TITLE: Receipt of Action Sheet

ID: A1427937

From: Sally Bowron, Strategy, Governance and Engagement Team Admin/PA

**Authorised by
Group Manager:** Ben Lee, GM - Strategy, Governance and Engagement, on 30 March 2021

Executive summary/Whakārapopototanga

The purpose of this report is to enable the meeting to receive the current action sheet.

Recommendation

That the action sheet be received.

Attachments/Ngā tapirihanga

Attachment 1: Action sheet [↓](#) 

Outstanding Actions as at 22/03/2021

TTMAC Meeting	Target Date	Officer/Group Responsible	Item/Issue	Action/Next step	History/Comment
14/05/20	9/07/20	MTAG	Mātauranga Māori Framework	MTAG were tasked at the 12/03/20 meeting to scope the development of a Mātauranga Māori Framework and report back to TTMAC.	When reporting back to TTMAC, MTAG's feedback was that Mātauranga Māori is led by Māori. Instead that a staff engagement toolkit be developed for how council engages with Māori, which staff are progressing.
09/07/20	June 2021	Staff	Kaipara Moana Remediation Programme	Add Kaipara Moana Remediation project to a future TTMAC agenda.	An update will be provided at the June 2021 TTMAC meeting.
09/07/20	In due course	MTAG	Draft NRC Climate Change Strategy	Work with council to further develop the draft NRC Climate Change Strategy so it better includes and articulates Te Ao Māori tools.	In progress. Initial presentations by Matt De Boer in November 2020 to MTAG with a further MTAG update planned for their April 2021 meeting.
09/07/20	In due course	MTAG	MTAG mahi	That MTAG commence developing advice for TTMAC consideration on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disposal of human remains and scattering of ashes at sea practices Cultural Impact Assessments Project. 	MTAG planning to report back to TTMAC's June 2021 meeting.
12/11/20	In due course	MTAG	Developing a draft freshwater water strategy	The next steps are to wait for council decisions on the Long Term Plan and Environment Court decisions on the Proposed Regional Plan.	Council is scheduled to approve the Long Term Plan at their 15 June meeting. Environment Court decisions are expected in 2022.
12/11/20	In due course	Economic development sub-Group	Northland Inc – Statement of Intent	That an economic development subgroup be formed to work with Northland Inc on input into their annual Statement of Intent and overall economic development strategy, comprising: members Tipene, Beazley, Dargaville and Rameka.	The first meeting of the Economic Development Sub-Group with Northland Inc was on 10 March. There is a second meeting scheduled for 6 April.
12/11/20	April 2021	Staff	Coastal Occupation Charges	TTMAC were supportive of council considering further the introduction of coastal occupation charges.	Returning to TTMAC for further advice. Item 4.7 on the agenda.
11/02/21	8/04/21	Staff	Working parties	Provide a paper about the process of appointing/replacing members that ensures	Item 4.6 on the agenda.

Outstanding Actions as at 22/03/2021

TTMAC Meeting	Target Date	Officer/Group Responsible	Item/Issue	Action/Next step	History/Comment
				good TTMAC representation on working parties.	
11/02/21	12/08/21	Staff	Hapū Mana Whakahono a Rohe (MWR)	That staff engage with members from Te Parawhau Hapū Authority Charitable Trust, Te Uri o Hau Settlement Trust and Te Whakaminenga O Te Hikutu Hapu-Whanau regarding signing the multi-hapū-based MWR.	MWRs were signed with Patuharakeke and Ngāti Rehia in December 2020. Discussions have commenced with Te Parawhau and Te Hikutu, and a date for signing to be confirmed with Te Uri o Hau.
11/02/21	12/08/21	Staff	Hapū Mana Whakahono a Rohe	Staff bring a review of implementation issues to TTMAC in about six months' time.	Update scheduled for October TTMAC meeting.
11/02/21	8/04/21	Staff	Tāngata Whenua Water Advisory Group	Bring a paper addressing the relationship between TTMAC and TWWAG.	Item 4.9 on the agenda.
11/02/21	April 2021	Staff	Clean Hull Plan	A presentation was given at the February TTMAC meeting about the Clean Hull Plan. Further high level engagement to be sought through TTMAC's pānui.	The pānui to TTMAC members is being sent early April and includes a request for feedback/engagement on the Clean Hull Plan.
11/02/21	8/04/21	Staff	Record of Actions	Develop a mechanism that reports progress on TTMAC's six key areas of focus, including the mahi done by other working parties on which there are TTMAC representatives.	Item 4.3 on the agenda.
11/02/21	8/04/21	Staff	Māori constituencies / Representation review	Council to progress work on an Initial Representation Review Proposal (eg the number of seats and constituency boundaries), which under the Local Electoral Act 2001, must be adopted by council by 31 August 2021. Staff will bring further information to TTMAC's April meeting.	Item 4.10 on the agenda. A copy of council's submission on the Local Electoral (Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill was circulated to TTMAC on 11/02/21.
11/02/21	In due course	Staff	Working parties	Bring an update on hazard maps to a future TTMAC meeting	Item 4.8 on the agenda.
11/02/21	8/04/21	Staff	Three Waters Reform	Provide a report giving a picture of what is coming from central government on water reforms.	Item 4.4 on the agenda.

TITLE: Key focus areas - progress tracker

ID: A1422094

From: Ben Lee, GM - Strategy, Governance and Engagement

Authorised by Ben Lee, GM - Strategy, Governance and Engagement, on 30 March 2021
Group Manager:

Whakarāpopototanga/Executive summary

This paper provides a summary of the mahi that council is undertaking as it relates to the six priority focus areas identified by members at their meeting in May 2020. **Ngā mahi tūtohutia/Recommended actions**

1. That the report 'Key focus areas - progress tracker' by Ben Lee, GM - Strategy, Governance and Engagement and dated 9 March 2021, be received.

Tuhinga/Background

At the May 2020 TTMAC meeting, TTMAC considered and decided that their strategic priorities are:

1. Development of an overarching water strategy
2. Development of a climate change strategy
3. Development of an economic development strategy and with a focus on Maori Economic Development
4. Development of a marine strategy as it pertains to Taitokerau
5. Build tangata whenua capacity and capability e.g. LTP etc
6. Strengthen Maori Representation in local body politics.

It was also agreed that MTAG would flesh out these priorities and bring them back to TTMAC. This has not occurred to date.

At the February 2021 TTMAC meeting it was agreed that staff would provide a summary of the work happening across council as it relates to each priority – hence this paper.

Development of an overarching Water strategy

Staff started developing a water strategy in early 2020 and had tested a draft with council and the Māori Technical Advisory Group (July 2020), however:

- The Government released the 'essential freshwater' package which came into effect in September 2020 and included a new National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management, National Environmental Standards for Freshwater and Livestock Exclusion Regulations – these documents significantly changed the policy framework and councils' obligations for freshwater management.
- Appeals to the Proposed Regional Plan water quality and water quantity provisions will also result in further changes – for example the Environment Court released final decisions on water quantity provisions on 16 March 2021 and a hearing on water quality appeals is scheduled for May 2021.
- Three Waters reforms will also have implications (especially for drinking water supplies).

It is anticipated that the draft strategy will be reviewed and revised following decisions on council's Long Term Plan and the appeals on the Proposed Regional Plan. In the meantime, staff are providing updates to the council website on key water related activities that are confirmed.

Development of a Climate Change strategy

The *Te Taitokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy* is in development through the Climate Adaptation Taitokerau group which includes district council staff and tangata whenua representatives. The strategy will outline a collaborative approach to working with communities to develop adaptation plans and is planned to be released in the second half of 2021.

Supporting reports will include:

- Climate risk overview (stage one risk assessment)
- Coastal risk assessment and risk profiles
- Adaptive pathway planning approaches/methods
- Implementation plan.

Northland Regional Council is also developing an organisational climate change strategy, that will outline high-level direction for NRC work program for emissions reductions, carbon removals and adaptation. The *NRC climate change strategy* is planned to be delivered mid-2021, accompanied by an implementation plan outlining future programs of work.

The final form of the strategies and resourcing available for implementation will depend on Long Term Plan outcomes.

Development of an Economic development strategy and with a focus on Maori Economic Development

Council has opened the opportunity for the three district councils to take a joint ownership stake in Northland Inc. Ltd (currently 100% owned by council) and to make an increased financial contribution to economic development in Northland.

Kaipara District Council (KDC) and Far North District Council (FNDC) are consulting with their community through their LTP process about taking up this opportunity. Public consultation on this matter is a requirement of the Local Government Act 2002. WDC has decided not to take up the opportunity, although they may join at a later date.

If KDC and FNDC agree, following consultation, to take a joint ownership stake, the new structure will take effect from 1 July 2021.

The development of an economic development strategy is seen as a priority for the local authorities as they move into the new era of cooperation and collaboration.

One of the big issues is the breadth of the strategy. Should it be a local authority only strategy (and therefore focus on what council's do in the economic development space) or one developed with other partners.

Development of a Marine strategy

Council has no immediate plans to prepare a marine strategy. The Regional Plan sets objectives and policies and rules for the coastal marine area – but is a regulatory focused document and just on matters within the scope of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).

Government have signalled their intention to replace the RMA with new legislation including a Strategic Planning Act. The Strategic Planning Act will provide a framework for mandatory regional spatial planning for both land and the coastal marine area. The new legislation is expected late 2022.

Council has had some initial discussions and is likely to signal intent to move quickly into preparing a regional spatial plan once the new legislation is enacted.

Build tangata whenua capacity and capability e.g. LTP etc

In May to December 2020 MTAG, as endorsed by TTMAC, were involved in a process of identifying priority areas of spending that were recommended to council for inclusion in the development of their Long Term Plan 2021-2031.

The formal consultation period for the Long Term Plan 2021-2031 began on 13 March, with feedback invited until 16 April. Supporting information is available on council's website:

www.nrc.govt.nz/futureplan

Council is proposing new spend on a range of tangata whenua capacity and capability activities (in addition to current spend), most of which were recommended by TTMAC:

- To fund the recently signed Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreements, to give tangata whenua more opportunities to be involved in RMA processes, \$30,000 a year is budgeted.
- Employing a kaiāwhina kaupapa Māori (Māori technical advisor) , to support council's commitment to partnerships with Māori. There's a budget of \$102,000 a year for this, and one-off capital spend of \$2,200.
- Starting in 2022/23, \$10,000 a year has been budgeted to support the development of Iwi and Hapū Environmental Management Plans (IHEMP).
- To support the process of introducing Māori seats in the 2022 election, as the council has voted to do, council has budgeted \$20,000 in 2021/22 and 2022/23.
- To further develop and support cultural capacity, council is planning new spend of \$127,000 in 2021/22, and \$138,000 each year following to implement mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) across council activities, plan for systems that improve the way tangata whenua engage with council, and develop a Māori internship to build understanding and capacity across council activities. Capital spend of \$2,200 is also budgeted in 2021/22 to support the intern position.
- For the first time, council plans to carry out a 'health check audit' of their legislative compliance and key performance indicators with Treaty of Waitangi/Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations and best practice within the local government sector. Being the first time a health check of this type has been carried out, it will cost slightly more in the first year to establish a baseline. Council have budgeted \$50,000 in 2021/22, and \$25,000 each year following. In addition, \$100,000 is proposed each year from 2022/23 for implementing the health check, ensuring budget is available to make any required changes to plans, policy or other operations, as highlighted by the health check.
- \$25,000 a year has been budgeted to increase TTMAC members' allowances to recognise the increasing time, technical capability and experience required of them.
- \$250,000 a year starting in 2022/23 is budgeted to better support tangata whenua involvement in freshwater management. This is driven by the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 and its greater emphasis on "Te mana o te wai".

Following the formal consultation period, council will deliberate on all proposed areas of spend and make decisions on what to include in the final plan, a process which takes into consideration all feedback received. Deliberations are planned to take place in May 2021, with the final Long Term Plan 2021-2031 to be formally adopted in June 2021.

Strengthen Maori Representation in local body politics

The main activity at present is the establishment of Māori seats on council:

- Council decision to include Māori constituencies was made in October 2020

- The law was changed to remove the requirement to go to a poll if requested to by a petition in March 2021
- TTMAC appointed (tangata whenua) members caucus met and provided feedback to council on Māori constituencies in December 2020. This included:
 - preference for an 11-member council (three Māori seats and eight general seats) over a nine-member council (two Māori seats and seven general seats)
 - a single Māori constituency, with all Māori councillors elected from a region-wide constituency, with a review after 2022 elections.

Council is working up the proposal (the numbers of seats and the geography of the general seat constituencies) will formally release the proposal in the next few months.

Ngā tapirihanga/Attachments

Nil

TITLE: Resource Management Reform

ID: A1423350

From: Justin Murfitt, Strategic Policy Specialist

Authorised by Ben Lee, GM - Strategy, Governance and Engagement, on 17 March 2021
Group Manager:

Whakarāpopototanga/Executive summary

This report provides an overview of the proposed resource management system reforms recently announced by the Government. The reform includes the replacement of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) with a Natural and Built Environment Act, a Strategic Planning Act and Climate Change Adaptation Act. The proposed reforms are based on the findings of the review of the resource management system by the independent Resource Management Review Panel led by Hon Tony Randerson, QC released in June last year.

The reform process includes release of an exposure draft of the Natural and Built Environment Bill that will be referred to a special select committee during May – September 2021. The Strategic Planning and Climate Change Adaptation Bills are intended to be introduced to Parliament by late 2021. All three Bills are anticipated to be enacted by the end of 2022. The reform is the most significant review of the resource management system since the advent of the RMA in 1991. Council is likely to provide input into the reform proposals and it is requested that staff be able to seek advice from the Māori Technical Advisory Group in developing submissions.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia/Recommended actions

1. That the report 'Resource Management Reform' by Justin Murfitt, Strategic Policy Specialist and dated 12 March 2021, be received.
 2. That the Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party approves the engagement of Māori Technical Advisory Group in council's response to reform proposals.
-

Tuhinga/Background

The review of the resource management system was commissioned in response to broad consensus that the current system (largely as a result of the RMA) has not adequately protected the environment (particularly in relation to cumulative effects on ecosystems) or enabled urban development where it was needed especially housing supply. Other concerns with the RMA include that it has not adequately enabled participation by Māori, is poorly integrated with other acts, is complex and unwieldy and has not responded to climate change.

The Review Panel, led by retired Court of Appeal Judge Hon Tony Randerson QC, reported in June 2020 and recommended that the RMA be repealed and replaced with three new Acts:

- a Natural and Built Environments Act (NBA) to provide for land use and environmental regulation (this would be the primary replacement for the RMA)
- a Strategic Planning Act (SPA) to integrate with other legislation relevant to development and require long-term regional spatial strategies
- a Climate Change Adaptation Act (CCAA) to support New Zealand's response to the effects of climate change.

A report to Cabinet in February 2021 supported the recommendations of the panel¹. It also proposed a prioritising development of the NBA and referring it to a select committee inquiry process prior to introduction of the Bill to Parliament given its significance. The exposure draft is to contain the main structure and headings of the NBA – it will be progressed by a Ministerial Oversight Group that will liaise with Māori, local government and selected stakeholders and have delegations to make policy decisions on all three proposals. The SPA and CAA are to follow ‘normal’ legislative process but are to be developed in parallel to the NBA, with the intention that all three of the new laws would be enacted by December 2022. More detail on the process to develop the SPA is likely to be reported to Cabinet in early-mid 2021.

The Governments objectives for the reform include:

- protect and where necessary restore the natural environment
- enable development within biophysical limits, including improvement in housing supply, affordability and choice, and timely provision of appropriate infrastructure
- give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and provide greater recognition of te ao Māori and mātauranga Māori
- better preparation for climate change adaptation and the risks from natural hazards, and better mitigation of emissions.
- improving system efficiency and effectiveness, reducing complexity while retaining appropriate local democratic input.

Staff will provide a presentation to the working group meeting providing more detail on the reform proposals. The Government has signalled there will be consultation / engagement with Māori, local government and key stakeholders prior to enactment so there will be a chance to provide input as detail emerges and to lodge submissions on the Bills as they progress.

Input from the Māori Technical Advisory Group will assist council in developing input / submissions on the proposals, particularly in relation to how the new legislation provides greater participation for Māori, gives effect to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and enables greater recognition of te ao Māori and mātauranga Māori. The approval of Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party for staff to engage with the Māori Technical Advisory Group on council input into the reform proposals is requested. Staff will provide further updates on the reforms and draft council input / submissions.

Ngā tapirihanga/Attachments

Nil

¹ The Cabinet paper is available here: https://www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/RMA/cabinet-paper-reforming-the-resource-management-system_1.pdf

TITLE: Regional Hui

ID: A1422009

From: Arama Morunga, Kaiārahi Tikanga Māori

Authorised by Ben Lee, GM - Strategy, Governance and Engagement, on 22 March 2021
Group Manager:

Whakarāpopototanga/Executive summary

This paper seeks agreement on who will host the 8 July 2021 regional marae-based hui and reminds members that the 13 May regional hui is at Ngāti Manawa Marae, Panguru.

There is no report from the March regional hui as, due to Covid-19 considerations and ensuring the health and wellbeing of those attending, the hui was cancelled.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia/Recommended actions

1. That the report 'Regional Hui' by Arama Morunga, Kaiārahi Tikanga Māori and dated 9 March 2021, be received.
2. That TTMAC appointed tāngata whenua members confirm _____ will host the 8 July 2021 regional marae-based hui.

Tuhinga/Background

Not applicable.

Ngā tapirihanga/Attachments

Nil

TITLE: The process of appointment and replacement of members on working parties

ID: A1422031

From: Auriolē Ruka, Kaiwhakahaere Hononga Māori

Authorised by Group Manager: Ben Lee, GM - Strategy, Governance and Engagement, on 30 March 2021

Whakarāpopototanga/Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to provide an opportunity for appointed members to review appointments to working parties.

Circumstances change and having members consider whether they are still able to meet the demands of being on a working party is both useful and timely given there is a vacancy to fill with the resignation of Toa Faneva from Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa.

Matters / issues to consider may include:

- regular attendance or apologies if unable to attend
- members capacity to participate fully in the discussions
- commitment to attend ongoing meetings
- match for the skills required
- capacity to provide working party updates regularly to TTMAC
- opportunities for others to put their names forward for nomination.

Effective, equal participation of TTMAC and councillor representation on working parties reflects the partnership of council and tangata whenua in areas of significant importance to Te Taitokerau, notably, water and land, climate change, biosecurity and biodiversity.

As mentioned, the resignation of Toa Faneva as Chief Executive from Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa has created a vacancy on the Climate Change Working Party for TTMAC tangata whenua members to nominate a replacement, which is then to be endorsed by TTMAC. Also required is a nomination to replace Toa Faneva as one of the two TTMAC representatives on the Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee which was established to provide an opportunity for collaborative governance on a local government response to the impacts of climate change.

The relevant meeting schedule is **attached** so that members understand the commitment required to attend these meetings.

A further recommendation is to annually review the working party membership.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia/Recommended actions

1. That the report 'The process of appointment and replacement of members on working parties' by Auriolē Ruka, Kaiwhakahaere Hononga Māori and dated 9 March 2021, be received.
2. That 'Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party confirm member _____ as replacement for member Toa Faneva on council's Climate Change Working Party.

3. That Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party confirm member _____ as replacement for member Toa Faneva on the Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee.
4. That Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party review the working party membership annually to ensure it is representative of equal membership and appointed members have the capacity and support to participate fully in the areas of work.

Tuhinga/Background

In November 2019 after a comprehensive governance review that included TTMAC tangata whenua members feedback and discussion, the newly elected council confirmed a governance structure for the 2019-2022 Triennium. Recommendations for appointments, including their delegations and terms of reference are listed below and reflected council's desire to continue and enhance its relationship with Māori:

Water and Land Working Party

Chair: Cr Blaikie

Members: Crs J Crow, A Macdonald, M Robinson, J Yeoman

Māori Representation: Five members of Te Taitokerau Māori and Council (TTMAC) Working Party

Ex officio: Cr P Smart (full voting rights)

- Provide oversight on activities that contribute to or influence the quality & quantity of water including land management and environmental monitoring.

Climate Change Working Party

Chair: Cr A Macdonald

Members: Crs J Crow, M Robinson, J Yeoman

Māori Representation: Four members of Te Taitokerau Māori and Council (TTMAC) Working Party

Ex officio: Cr P Smart (full voting rights)

- Provide oversight on the council's climate change activities and make recommendations on climate change matters.
- Oversee council's climate change work programme, with key focuses being on, adaptation planning and the development & implementation of a regional adaptation strategy, improving resilience across Northland.

Te Taitokerau Māori and Council (TTMAC) Working Party

Co-chairs: Cr M Robinson and 1 x member of TTMAC

Members: All of Northland Regional Councillors

Māori Representation: 20 Māori representatives TBA

- Monitor and advise on council's compliance with its legislative obligations to Māori including under the Local Government Act 2002 and the Resource Management Act 1991.
- Provide advice to council on topics referred to it by council.
- Develop pathways (and processes) that will achieve lasting and meaningful relationships between Māori and council.
- Ensure the views of Māori are taken into account in the exercise of council functions.

Biosecurity and Biodiversity Working Party

- Chair: Cr J Crow
- Members: Crs J Blaikie, M Robinson, R Stolwerk
- Māori Representation: Four members of Te Taitokerau Māori and Council (TTMAC) Working Party
- Ex officio: Cr P Smart (full voting rights)
- Provide oversight on council's biosecurity and biodiversity activities.
 - Oversee the implementation of the Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP), Marine Pathway Plan (MPP) and regularly report progress to council.

Planning and Regulatory Working Party

- Chair: Cr J Yeoman
- Members: Crs J Blaikie, A Macdonald, C Kitchen
- Māori Representation: Four members of Te Taitokerau Māori and Council (TTMAC) Working Party
- Ex officio: Cr P Smart (full voting rights)
- Provide oversight on council's resource management planning and regulatory activities.
 - Oversee the implementation of the Proposed Regional Plan.
 - Be the governance entity for the policy implementation of the government's Essential Freshwater Package.
 - Make recommendations to council on appeals and recommendations to accept, adopt or reject private plan change applications.

TTMAC appointed members for equal tangata whenua membership

Subsequently, at the 12 March 2020 TTMAC meeting, council invited non-elected members of TTMAC to nominate² equal membership of non-elected members (of TTMAC) to councillors onto each of the four working parties:

- Water and Land Working Party
- Climate Change Working Party
- Biosecurity and Biodiversity Working Party
- Planning and Regulatory Working Party.

The following nominations were approved by council:

Water and Land Working Party:

- Victor Holloway, Ngāti Tara
- Georgina Connelly, Te Uri O Hau Settlement Trust
- Anthony Thompson (proxy for Alan Riwaka), Te Rūnanga O Ngāti Whātua
- Janelle Beazley, Te Rūnanga-Ā-Iwi-O-Ngāpuhi
- Mira Norris, Te Parawhau Hapū Authority Charitable Trust (interim until another member puts their name forward).

Climate Change Working Party:

- Toa Faneva, Te Rūnanga O Whāingaroa
- Hadyn Edmonds, Ngātiwai Trust Board
- Thomas Hohaia, Te Roroa
- Rowan Tautari, Te Whakapiko Hapū.

² No proxies were nominated.

Biosecurity and Biodiversity Working Party:

- Georgina Connelly, Te Uri O Hau Settlement Trust
- Juliane Chetham, Patuharakeke Te Iwi Trust Board
- Barb (Michelle) Elboz, Ngāti Kuta, Patukeha.

Planning and Regulatory Working Party

- Mira Norris, Te Parawhau Hapū Authority Charitable Trust
- Juliane Chetham, Patuharakeke Te Iwi Trust Board
- Pita Tipene (Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hine)

There is currently nothing in the TTMAC Terms of Reference to guide the appointment or replacement of TTMAC representatives on these working parties.

Ngā tapirihanga/Attachments

Attachment 1: Northland Regional Council meeting schedule 2021 [↓](#)  |

Council meeting schedule 2021

Representation on working parties as at 17 March 2021

Committees and Working Parties	TTMAC representatives
Māori Technical Advisory Group	J Beazley, J Chetham, G Connolly, H Edmonds, M Norris, N Rameka, R Tautari
Planning and Regulatory Working Party	J Chetham, M Norris, R Tautari, P Tipene
Water and Land Working Party	J Beazley, G Connolly, V Holloway, M Norris, A Riwaka
Climate Change Working Party	H Edmonds, T Hohaia, R Tautari, one vacancy
Biosecurity and Biodiversity Working Party	J Chetham, G Connolly, M Elboz, N Rameka
Tāngata Whenua Water Advisory Group	N Rameka, A Riwaka, R Tautari
Economic Development Sub-Group	J Beazley, R Dargaville, N Rameka, P Tipene
Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee	One vacancy, T Hohaia

Northland Regional Council formal calendar

Venue	Date/time	Venue
April 2021		
Te Taitokerau Maori and Council Working Party	8 April, 11:00am	NRC Council Chambers
Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee¹	12 April	NRC Council Chambers
WDC/NRC Whangārei Public Transport Working Party	14 April, 11:00am	NRC Council Chambers
Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē Board	16 April, 10:00am	Te Ahu Centre, Kaitāia
Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee	19 April, 9:30am	TBC
Council meeting	20 April, 10:30am	NRC Council Chambers
May 2021		
Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee	17 May, 9:30am	TBC
Council meeting	18 May, 10:30am	NRC Council Chambers
Planning and Regulatory Working Party	26 May, 9:30am	NRC Committee Room
Water and Land Working Party	26 May, 1:00pm	NRC Council Chambers
June 2021		
Regional Transport Committee	9 June, 9:30am	NRC Council Chambers
Te Taitokerau Maori and Council Working Party	10 June, 11:00am	NRC Council Chambers
Council meeting	15 June, 10:30am	NRC Council Chambers
Climate Change Working Party	16 June, 9:30am	NRC Ngunguru Room
Civil Defence Emergency Management Group	16 June, 11:00am	NRC Council Chambers
Biosecurity and Biodiversity Working Party	16 June, 1:00pm	NRC Council Chambers
Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē Board	18 June, 10:00am	Te Ahu Centre, Kaitāia
Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee	25 June, 9:30am	TBC
Audit and Risk Subcommittee (Note that the majority of matters, if not all, will be discussed in public excluded)	30 June, 10:00am	NRC Council Chambers
Investment and Property Subcommittee (Note that the majority of matters, if not all, will be discussed in public excluded)	30 June, 1:00pm	NRC Council Chambers
July 2021		
Council meeting	20 July, 10:30am	NRC Council Chambers
Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee	22 July, 9:30am	TBC

¹ The meeting schedule for the Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee will be decided at the first meeting of the committee on 12 April 2021. There are likely to be three meetings a year.

Venue	Date/time	Venue
August 2021		
Regional Transport Committee	11 August, 9:30am	NRC Council Chambers
WDC/NRC Whangārei Public Transport Working Party	11 August, 11:00am	NRC Council Chambers
Te Taitokerau Maori and Council Working Party	12 August, 11:00am	NRC Council Chambers
Council meeting	17 August, 10:30am	NRC Council Chambers
Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē Board	20 August, 10:00am	Te Ahu Centre, Kaitiāia
Planning and Regulatory Working Party	25 August, 9:30am	NRC Council Chambers
Water and Land Working Party	25 August, 1:00pm	NRC Council Chambers
September 2021		
Climate Change Working Party	8 September, 9:30am	NRC Ngunguru Room
Civil Defence Emergency Management Group	8 September, 11:00am	NRC Council Chambers
Biosecurity and Biodiversity Working Party	8 September, 1:00pm	NRC Council Chambers
Council meeting	21 September, 10:30am	NRC Council Chambers
Audit and Risk Subcommittee (Note that the majority of matters, if not all, will be discussed in public excluded)	29 September, 10:00am	NRC Council Chambers
Investment and Property Subcommittee (Note that the majority of matters, if not all, will be discussed in public excluded)	29 September, 1:00pm	NRC Council Chambers
Regional Transport Committee	13 October, 9:30am	NRC Council Chambers
October 2021		
Te Taitokerau Maori and Council Working Party	14 October, 11:00am	NRC Council Chambers
Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē Board	15 October, 10:00am	Te Ahu Centre, Kaitiāia
Council meeting	19 October, 10:30am	NRC Council Chambers
November 2021		
Climate Change Working Party	10 November, 9:30am	NRC Ngunguru Room
Civil Defence Emergency Management Group	10 November, 11:00am	NRC Council Chambers
Biosecurity and Biodiversity Working Party	10 November, 1:00pm	NRC Kaipara Room
Council meeting	16 November, 10:30am	NRC Council Chambers
Audit and Risk Subcommittee (Note that the majority of matters, if not all, will be discussed in public excluded)	24 November, 10:00am	NRC Council Chambers
Investment and Property Subcommittee (Note that the majority of matters, if not all, will be discussed in public excluded)	24 November, 1:00pm	NRC Council Chambers
December 2021		
Planning and Regulatory Working Party	1 December, 9:30am	NRC Council Chambers
Water and Land Working Party	1 December, 1:00pm	NRC Council Chambers
Regional Transport Committee	8 December, 9:30am	NRC Council Chambers
WDC/NRC Whangārei Public Transport Working Party	8 December, 11:00am	NRC Council Chambers
Te Taitokerau Maori and Council Working Party	9 December, 11:00am	NRC Council Chambers
Council meeting	14 December, 10:30am	NRC Council Chambers
Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē Board	17 December, 10:00am	Te Ahu Centre, Kaitiāia

TITLE: Coastal Occupation Charges

ID: A1421947

From: Michael Payne, Policy Specialist

Authorised by Ben Lee, GM - Strategy, Governance and Engagement, on 30 March 2021
Group Manager:

Whakarāpopototanga/Executive summary

At the November 2020 TTMAC meeting Ben Lee provided a presentation on the possibility of introducing coastal occupation charges in Northland.

While the TTMAC members in attendance provided feedback, it was noted that not all members were present. Given the significance of the coastal marine area to tangata whenua, the Planning and Regulatory Working Party have asked staff to put this item back on the TTMAC agenda for feedback.

Staff will give a presentation at the meeting.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia/Recommended actions

1. That the report 'Coastal Occupation Charges' by Michael Payne, Policy Specialist and dated 9 March 2021, be received.

Tuhinga/Background

There are over 3,500 coastal structures in Northland (the vast majority are moorings), from the small (such as steps and culverts) to the large (such as marinas and marine farms). Each of these structures provide benefits, some are public but many of the benefits of the structures are private.

The Resource Management Act enables regional councils to apply charges to structures that occupy space within the coastal marine area – known as 'coastal occupation charges'. There are currently no coastal occupation charges in Northland.

Revenue from coastal occupation charges must be spent on the sustainable management of the coastal environment. This could be anything from helping to pay for navigation aids, supporting coastal kaitiaki or new coastal research.

The council is considering introducing coastal occupation charges. If council decided to pursue coastal occupation charges, it would require a 'plan change' to the Regional Plan. This would be a formal process where all members of the community have an opportunity to lodge submissions and have their say.

Staff will give a presentation at the meeting.

Ngā tapirihanga/Attachments

Nil

TITLE: Coastal hazard maps and adaptation planning

ID: A1422040

From: Matt De Boer, Climate Change Resilience Coordinator and Justin Murfitt, Strategic Policy Specialist

Authorised by Group Manager: Jonathan Gibbard, Group Manager - Environmental Services, on 16 March 2021

Whakarāpopototanga/Executive summary

Northland Regional Council have recently developed new coastal hazard assessments including:

- Coastal erosion – 11 new sites and updates for the existing 30 sites
- Coastal flooding – new hydrodynamic models of Rangaunu and Kaipara harbours, and a complete ‘bathtub’ model of the remainder of the coastline

The hazard assessments allow the development and extension of coastal hazard zones – administrative setback lines that are published on NRC’s natural hazards portal and implemented in planning instruments at regional and district levels. The zones include a new extreme sea level rise scenario (1.5m of sea level rise in 100yrs).

The maps are also used to inform the joint council work program on climate change adaptation, as they help identify areas potentially impacted by coastal flooding, erosion and permanent tidal inundation due to sea level rise.

The new coastal hazard maps will be published to NRC’s natural hazards portal in early April, and planning work is well under way, including:

- GIS map development
- Joint council comms plan, NRC comms and website updates
- Working with district council planning teams around implementation in district plans
- Identifying affected landowners prior to sending letter of advice
- Councillor workshops and CE forum presentation
- Links with regional climate change adaptation work program

The maps will be released in draft form prior to being adopted, to provide a period of time for affected landowners to be notified and for both landowners and the public to provide feedback.

Staff presented to councillors on this topic on the 9th February.

This agenda item is to provide an update for our iwi and hapū representatives on the working party ahead of the maps being published in draft form on the NRC website in April. Staff will provide a brief presentation on the draft maps and communication approach.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia/Recommended actions

1. That the report ‘Coastal hazard maps and adaptation planning’ by Matt De Boer, Climate Change Resilience Coordinator and Justin Murfitt, Strategic Policy Specialist and dated 9 March 2021, be received.

Ngā tapirihanga/Attachments

Nil

TITLE: Tāngata Whenua Water Advisory Group

ID: A1422018

From: Alison Newell, Natural Resources Policy Manager

Authorised by Group Manager: Ben Lee, GM - Strategy, Governance and Engagement, on 30 March 2021

Whakarāpopototanga/Executive summary

The Tangata Whenua Water Advisory Group (TWWAG) met for its inaugural meeting on 19 January 2021. At that meeting the group discussed, amongst other matters, logistics and the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) which council staff had prepared as the basis for discussion.

The TWWAG subsequently met without council staff and provided feedback and comments on the draft ToR. The next formal meeting of the group is scheduled for 30 March where the suggested changes to the ToR will be discussed and confirmed, and a verbal update will be provided at the TTMAC meeting.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia/Recommended actions

1. That the report 'Tāngata Whenua Water Advisory Group' by Alison Newell, Natural Resources Policy Manager and dated 9 March 2021, be received.
2. That TTMAC confirm that the advice from TWWAG will be provided to TTMAC for information to ensure open and transparent communications, and to council for decision-making purposes.
3. That TTMAC consider recommending council initiate a review of the appointed members policy.
4. That TTMAC consider endorsing the revised ToR (to be provided at the meeting) for adoption by council.

Tuhinga/Background

The Tangata Whenua Water Advisory Group (TWWAG) was established on the recommendation of TTMAC and approval by council to be a key mechanism for providing input to the development of the freshwater quality plan change from a tangata whenua perspective. The group was appointed after a public call for Expressions of Interest, with the submissions being reviewed by the delegated selection panel. TWWAG met for its inaugural meeting on 19 January 2021.

Council staff prepared a draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the group based on the Maori Technical Advisory Group recommendations for establishing the group using the existing TTMAC ToR as a starting point. The draft ToR were shared with TWWAG at the 19 January meeting for discussion and the group provided feedback and recommended changes to that draft. Council will need to approve the final ToR for the group.

Key matters raised in the feedback from TWWAG to date include:

- 1) Clarification that the recommendations from TWWAG will be provided to TTMAC for information and to council for decision-making.

The reporting mechanism and relationship between the TWWAG and TTMAC was omitted from the details and purpose of the group. The suggested changes clarify that the TWWAG

will provide regular reports to TTMAC and maintain open communication channels, and that TTMAC will provide that advice to council in order to assist council in its decision-making on the freshwater quality plan change.

This recognises the relationship between the two of TWWAG as teina and TTMAC as tuakana. TTMAC would retain ability to comment separately to council on the recommendations and advice provided by TWWAG if deemed necessary, but that TTMAC would not have the ability to over-ride or change the recommendations from TWWAG to council. The emphasis is on ensuring open and transparent communication between the two.

- 2) Increase in the proposed remuneration above that which is provided for in the current council policy for appointed members.

The current rate is \$170/meeting, and the feedback from TWWAG is that this should be increased and be in line with remuneration provided to members on similar Crown advisory groups (\$250/meeting). Feedback also noted the need to recognise that significant work may be required of specific individual members of the group depending on the matter under discussion, to prepare for meetings and that separate remuneration should be provided (at a rate of \$70/hr) in addition to the meeting allowance. Questions also arose over the travel claims policy, particularly as several members reside outside of the region.

There are also other changes proposed by the TWWAG which add to and improve the ToR as drafted (for example having co-chairs) or that require further discussion with the group (e.g. allocation of budget for specific research or work required to support the work of the group, including for a separate secretariat for the group in addition to the secretarial support provided by council). Other additions have been included after discussion with TW-WAG which address intellectual property, dealing with sensitive information, and media.

Staff will provide copies of the revised ToR after the 30 March TWWAG meeting for further consideration by TTMAC and endorsement prior to council consideration and approval.

Ngā tapirihanga/Attachments

Nil

TITLE: Representation Review - communications and engagement

ID: A1427598

From: Natasha Stubbing, Marketing and Engagement Manager and Tamara Lee, Communications and Engagement Specialist

Authorised by Group Manager: Ben Lee, GM - Strategy, Governance and Engagement, on 30 March 2021

Whakarāpopototanga/Executive summary

Following on from previous conversations about the Representation Review, this paper outlines the proposed communications and engagement approach to support the consultation process.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia/Recommended actions

1. That the report 'Representation Review - communications and engagement' by Natasha Stubbing, Marketing and Engagement Manager and Tamara Lee, Communications and Engagement Specialist and dated 23 March 2021, be received.
2. That TTMAC provides feedback on and endorsement of the general approach to communications and engagement for the Representation Review.

Tuhinga/Background

As a council, we're required to review our council's representation arrangements at least every six years. That means looking at how many councillors we have, and whether the boundaries of our constituencies are in the right place.

Normally the representation review process is of fairly limited interest to our wider community (we don't generally get lots of submissions on it).

This year's representation review is likely to be of much higher interest as, for the first time, it includes Māori seats on council. As TTMAC is aware, this has created some polarisation in the community, with some strong voices both for and against Māori seats.

To support the consultation process, we're proposing a communications and engagement approach that:

- Helps people understand what the process is and isn't. (For example, this process isn't about whether Māori seats should be created – that decision has already been made).
- Reinforces the importance of having the right representation around the council table.
- Encourages people to get involved in the process.
- Give peoples from across the region a fair opportunity to have their say.

While the approach outlined below doesn't cover the subsequent local government elections process which happens in 2022, it should (ideally) have a positive flow-on effect in terms of community engagement with the elections process.

Below is an overview of the proposed approach.

Information

Having good, clear information is critical to help explain the process, dispel misinformation and support the promotional activity. This can also be used by TTMAC members to disseminate through their networks and support conversations they are having in the community.

Along with the consultation document that outlines proposed representation arrangements, we're proposing to develop:

- Explainer videos (in English and Te Reo), covering the process and what it means, ideally fronted by someone relatively well-known in Te Taitokerau
- A simple overview and Q&A handout
- Web information
- Map-based information (ideally via our GIS system) so people can easily see where the proposed lines are and how it relates to them.

Promotion

Using a range of channels and mechanisms will ensure a good regional and demographic spread for our promotion, to ensure people have a fair opportunity to get involved if they want to.

We're proposing to:

- Develop strong, simple messaging, imagery and creative that resonates with our communities.
- Use a mix of general and Māori-focussed promotional channels (print, radio, social etc)
- Use NRC's own promotional channels including:
 - Electronic direct mail (EDM) via NRC channels (e.g. TTMAC pānui, council news which can be forwarded and shared)
 - Council news in print (if timing aligns).

Kanohi ki te kanohi

The ability to do face to face engagement as part of the Representation Review process will depend on the timeframes of this statutory process and availability of councillors to be involved.

Having an information stand at a number of markets across the region would provide a relatively informal setting to raise awareness of the process, answer questions and engage with the community.

(Note that, either way, people will still be able to provide face-to-face feedback at a hearing).

Ngā tapirihanga/Attachments

Nil

TITLE: Working Party Reports

ID: A1422100

From: Sally Bowron, Strategy, Governance and Engagement Team Admin/PA

Authorised by Group Manager: Ben Lee, GM - Strategy, Governance and Engagement, on 30 March 2021

Whakarāpopototanga/Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to present records of actions from council's other working party meetings that have occurred since the last Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party (TTMAC) meeting. It is also an opportunity for working party Chairs and TTMAC members on working parties to provide a verbal update and answer any questions that may arise.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia/Recommended actions

1. That the report 'Working Party Reports' by Sally Bowron, Strategy, Governance and Engagement Team Admin/PA and dated 9 March 2021, be received.

Tuhinga/Background

Planning and Regulatory Working Party (Chair: Cr Joce Yeoman)
(TTMAC representatives: Juliane Chetham, Mira Norris, Pita Tipene, Rowan Tautari)

The Planning and Regulatory Working Party met on Wednesday 24 February 2021. The topics for discussion included:

- Planning and Policy Work Programme
- Regulatory Services Work Programme
- Regional Plan Update
- Freshwater Management Plan Change Update
- Regional Policy Statement Review
- Process for managing consent compliance monitoring.

Following discussion, the Planning and Regulatory Working Party provided advice on the following next steps:

- Coastal Occupation Charges (COC) to be put back on the TTMAC agenda to allow a robust conversation to take place, after which a council workshop to be held on COC
- Look at the driving factors behind continued non-compliance – ignorance, cost of other disposal etc
- Staff to follow up regarding information/data limitations around mitigation modelling for forestry
- Prepare a paper for consideration by council for approval to hold off on initiating the Regional Policy Statement review until the broader planning framework is confirmed.

Water and Land Working Party (Chair: Cr Justin Blaikie)
(TTMAC representatives: Janelle Beazley, Georgina Connelly, Victor Holloway, Mira Norris, Alan Riwaka)

The Water and Land Working Party met on Wednesday 24 February 2021. The topics for discussion included:

- Retirement Fencing Project Update
- Sediment Monitoring
- Summer Weather Update
- Water Tank Sensor Trial Update
- Summer Swimming Site Monitoring Results

Following discussion, the Water and Land Working Party provided advice on the following next steps:

- Contact details to be provided to the Kaipara Moana Land Management Specialist as to opportunities for the project in terms of catchment restoration groups in the Kaikohe and Hokianga Area.
- An update on the usage of water over the Christmas/New Year period to be provided.
- After completion of the monitoring, a more detailed report of the full swimming site monitoring results for the 2020/2021 summer to be provided to the working party.
- A media release to be done summarising this seasons results.

Biosecurity and Biodiversity Working Party (Chair Cr Jack Crow)

The Biosecurity and Biodiversity Working Party met on 10 March 2021. The topics for discussion included:

- Draft Biosecurity Operational Plan
- Deer Response
- Kauri Dieback
- Freshwater Update

Following discussion, the Biosecurity and Biodiversity Working Party agreed to the following next steps:

- Working Party members providing feedback to Group Manager – Environmental Services regarding Biosecurity Operational Plan
- Review further kauri dieback information after National Programme meeting.

Climate Change Working Party (Chair Cr Amy Macdonald)

The Climate Change Working Party met on 10 March 2021. The topics for discussion included:

- Climate Change Commission Advice – Joint Submission
- NRC Zero Carbon Transition
- Regional Updates
- RMA Reform
- Updated Coastal Hazard Maps

Following discussion, the Climate Change Working Party agreed on the following next steps:

- Investigate electric bus implementation

- Ensure timely engagement with TTMAC and MTAG on draft submission for upcoming legislative changes
- Brief Councillors on the hazard map content being published and how the map viewer works, prior to release
- Present the maps and communication approach to TTMAC prior to public release.

Ngā tapirihanga/Attachments

Nil

TITLE: Chief Executive Officer's report to March council meeting

ID: A1426095

From: Sally Bowron, Strategy, Governance and Engagement Team Admin/PA

Authorised by Ben Lee, GM - Strategy, Governance and Engagement, on 30 March 2021
Group Manager:

Whakarāpopototanga/Executive summary

The Chief Executive Officer's monthly report to council provides a summary of work across council that isn't included elsewhere in the council agenda. The most recent report is attached for members information so they can get a broad view of activity across council.

Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party members feedback is sought on whether this report should be included as a standing item in the agenda.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia/Recommended actions

1. That the report 'Chief Executive Officer's report to March council meeting' by Sally Bowron, Strategy, Governance and Engagement Team Admin/PA and dated 16 March 2021, be received.
2. That the Chief Executive Officer's monthly report to council should / should not be included as a standing item on the agenda.

Tuhinga/Background

Not applicable.

Ngā tapirihanga/Attachments

Attachment 1: Chief Executive's report to council's March meeting 2021 [↓](#) 

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TITLE: Chief Executive's Report to Council
ID: A1416522
From: Malcolm Nicolson, Chief Executive Officer
Authorised by Malcolm Nicolson, Chief Executive Officer, on 09 March 2021
Group Manager:

Recommendation

That the report 'Chief Executive's Report to Council' by Malcolm Nicolson, Chief Executive Officer and dated 28 February 2021, be received.

8.3.1 HIGHLIGHTS

Reported Koi Carp Sighting at Lake Taharoa

On 2 February 2021, a report of a suspected koi carp sighting at Lake Taharoa was lodged with the Department of Conservation. A koi carp incursion into these lakes of national and international importance would result in severe ecological damage, ruin recreational activities affecting revenue from tourism and negatively impact on Māori cultural values. If koi were to become established eradication in these lakes would be extremely difficult.

Council biosecurity staff were notified on 3 February and proceeded to initiate a response in collaboration with key stakeholders. After consultation, Northland Regional Council was selected to lead the response with close support from other stakeholders.

Key stakeholders in the response are:

- Department of Conservation (powers under the Conservation Act and Freshwater Fisheries Act)
- Northland Regional Council (powers under the Northland Regional Pest Management Plan and the Biosecurity Act)
- Kaipara District Council (administrator of Taharoa Domain)
- Te Roroa (affected iwi)
- Te Kūhihi (affected hapū).

After a media release on 15 February (<https://www.nrc.govt.nz/news/2021/february/public-help-wanted-to-find-suspected-lake-taharoa-koi/> and <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/436529/search-on-for-koi-carp-in-new-zealand-s-largest-dune-lake-after-10-year-old-s-sighting>) an intensive surveillance operation utilising netting and aerial drone surveying of Lake Taharoa began on 17 February.

The response involves up to 15 staff onsite daily from Fish and Game, the Department of Conservation, Te Roroa and council. To date no further reports of koi have been received, and no koi have been detected. Recent eDNA sampling has returned a negative result which, whilst encouraging, cannot be considered conclusive. The response will be reviewed at the end of February.

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Koi surveillance netting underway at Lake Taharoa (23 February 2021)

8.3.2 CEO'S OFFICE

Current Legal Proceedings

Department	Description	Status
Consent decision appeal	APP.041365.01.01. Replacement consents for, and new consents for, an expansion of Doug's Ōpua Boat Yard in Walls Bay, Ōpua. Consents granted by council in 2020.	No further update.
Consent decision appeal	APP.039650.01.01. Early replacement of consents, and new consents, for an upgrade of facilities at Doug's Ōpua Boat Yard in Walls Bay, Ōpua. Consents declined by council in 2018.	No further update.
Consent decision appeal	Replacement discharge consents for East Coast Bays Wastewater Treatment Plant (Taipā)	Joint memo and draft consent order resolving appeals has been provided to the Court for its consideration. Awaiting Court decision on draft consent order.
Economics - REL	Instructed council lawyers to continue pursuing the bankruptcy proceedings against both defendants and worked on necessary documentation.	Continue to work with lawyers.
Regional plan appeals	Various appeals to Environment Court on the council decisions on the Proposed Regional Plan. Two appeals to the High Court, both challenging Environment Court decision on the application of the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater in the coastal marine area.	Environment Court – appeals at various stages. The appeals are packaged into a range of topics. High Court – appeals have only just been lodged (early March).

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Department	Description	Status
Māori Land Court appeal – Poroti Springs	A claim by Whatitiri Māori Reserves Trustees and the New Zealand Māori Council regarding customary title of the water of the Poroti Springs and damages against the Northland Regional Council in respect to its management of the water.	Council has lodged notice of intention to participate and an initial statement of defence. Awaiting Court direction.

8.3.3 CORPORATE EXCELLENCE

Cyber Security

In February, a targeted email phishing attack was directed at several Northern Transport Alliance (NTA) email addresses with some accounts being affected. For our council, the attack was mostly defended through the recent deployment of Multi Factor Authentication (MFA). Although our journey through implementation was not without its challenges, it is good to see its effectiveness and payback in these early stages.

The attack in question was designed to take the user to a legitimate looking website where they were prompted to enter their O365 credentials. The credentials are then subsequently used to launch another attack to the newly compromised user's contacts with a fresh email - something which wouldn't have been possible with Multi Factor Authentication (MFA) in place.

On Tuesday 2 March, NRC was the target of a zero-day exploit (HAFNIUM) on our internal email exchange server, with the vulnerability exploited before Microsoft had released a patch on Wednesday 3 March. Our security software detected the attack and alerted the security operations centre. They were able to contain and isolate the server in 12 minutes.

Disruption was limited to the delivery of internal notifications from some systems. The recovery of the service along with full forensic analysis of the attack is ongoing.

RSHL Growth – Bay of Plenty Regional Council

BoPRC have been actively involved in the work on IRIS NextGen. At their request, RSHL management were meeting to give them an update on Regional Software Holdings Ltd and IRIS NextGen.

BoPRC made it clear that they are very interested in what we are doing and totally committed to the collaborative and industry best practice approaches that we have been developing.

BoPRC have written to RSHL confirming their intention to join Regional Software Holdings Ltd as a shareholder and to implement IRIS NextGen. This is a very encouraging endorsement of our strategy and reflects well on the IRIS NextGen RFP Project activities.

Fraud Declaration

I am not aware of any fraud nor am I investigating any incidence or suspected incidence of fraud at this time.

Council Property Update

- Sale of an industrial area property has gone unconditional.
- Kaipara Service Centre below ground works are completed and the erection of the superstructure is underway. Project running one day ahead and on budget.
- Demolition of a CBD property is occurring in March.

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8.3.4 REGULATORY SERVICES

Consents in Process

During February 2021, a total of 39 Decisions were issued. These decisions comprised:

• Moorings	2
• Coastal Permits	0
• Coastal Discharge Permits	0
• Air Discharge Permits	6
• Land Discharge Permits	1
• Water Discharge Permits	1
• Land Use Consents	20
• Water Permits	4
• Bore Consents	5

The processing timeframes for the February 2021 consents ranged from:

- 86 to 6 calendar days, with the median time being 59 days;
- 27 to 3 working days, with the median time being 20 days.

Thirty-seven applications were received in February 2021.

Of the 113 applications in progress at the end of February 2021:

- Fifty-one were received more than 12 months ago (most awaiting further information from the applicant);
- Eight were received between six and 12 months ago (most awaiting further information from the applicant);
- Fifty-four less than six months.

Appointment of Hearing Commissioners

No commissioners were appointed in February 2021.

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

The current level of notified application processing activities at the end of February 2021 is (by number):

• Applications Publicly/Limited Notified During Previous Month	0
• Progress on Applications Previously Notified	5
• Hearings and Decisions	2
• Appeals/Objections	3

COMPLIANCE MONITORING

The results of compliance monitoring for the period 1 - 28 February 2021 (and year-to-date figures) are summarised in the following table and discussed below.

Classification	Total	Full compliance	Low risk non-compliance	Moderate non-compliance	Significant non-compliance	Not exercised during period
Air Discharge	31	28	3	0	0	0
Bore Consent	1	1	0	0	0	0
Coastal Discharge	29	26	0	2	1	0
Coastal Permit	63	47	9	3	0	4
Land Discharge	75	62	10	3	0	0

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Classification	Total	Full compliance	Low risk non-compliance	Moderate non-compliance	Significant non-compliance	Not exercised during period
Land Use Consent	31	27	3	0	0	1
Water Discharge	57	43	3	6	5	0
Water Permit	21	19	2	0	0	0
Water Take	91	47	27	16	0	1
Total	399	300	57	30	6	6
Percentage		75.2%	14.3%	7.5%	1.5%	1.5%
Year to date	3,807	2,707	466	324	114	196
Percentage		71.1%	12.2%	8.5%	3.0%	5.1%

Coastal

The majority of consents monitored during the reporting period related to coastal discharges (treated municipal sewage and other industrial discharges), marinas (water quality sampling) and coastal structures.

Water, Waste, Air and Land Use (WWALU) Compliance Monitoring

- Water Use*

The rain received mid-February in the region took some pressure off the majority of water supplies in Northland. Chloride and water levels in coastal communities continue to be monitored closely, with results showing little decline in levels and quality when compared with last year. Queries continue to be received by staff from the public regarding water use after they have seen irrigation occurring and want to check the legality of the activity.

- Wastewater*

Staff made the most of the dry weather periods during this summer to assess the effectiveness of onsite wastewater treatment systems as they were likely to be experiencing peak loading.

- Earthworks and Forestry*

Ongoing dust complaints were received from neighbours who reside next to large development sites and dusty roads. The rain that fell during the month was too infrequent to alleviate dust generation for long.

The newly renamed Northland Forestry Environmental Working Group met. No major issues were highlighted and a field trip to a forest is being planned for the next group meeting. The Earthworks and Harvesting Guidelines have been updated and passed to the group for final peer review.

- Contaminated Land Management*

Seven incidents involving the discharge of hazardous substances and ten enquiries regarding contaminated land were received and responded to. One site was added to the Selected Land Use Register (SLR) and 222kg of hazardous waste was disposed of.

The monthly amnesty collection day in February yielded significantly less waste than previous events.

Environmental Incidents

There were no environmental incidents reported in February which resulted in a significant environmental impact.

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ENFORCEMENT

Abatement Notices, Infringement Notices and Formal Warnings

The following enforcement actions were taken during the period:

Nature of Offence	Infringement Notice		Abatement Notice		TOTAL *	
	No. Offences	No. Notices	No. Offences	No. Notices	No. Offences	No. Notices
Earthworks/land use	0	0	1	1	1	1
Illegal activity in CMA	2	2	2	2	3	4
Illegal use of lakebed or riverbed	0	0	2	2	2	2
Other water discharge	0	0	1	2	1	2
Stormwater discharge	1	1	0	0	1	1
TOTAL	3	3	6	7	8	10

*An infringement notice and an abatement notice may be issued for the same offence. This means that in the above table, Column 5 (Total No. Offences) is not necessarily the sum of Column 1 (Infringement Notice No. Offences) + Column 3 (Abatement Notice No. Offences).

Other Enforcement

- Sand dune removal – Tokerau Beach*

Sentencing proceeded on 2 February 2020, with the defendant being required to undertake community work (300 hours) preferably on the local Marae. An enforcement order was also granted for \$5,968.58 for the costs of remedial work and weed control.

- Timber treatment plant*

Charges were filed in the Whangārei District Court on 12 March 2020 against a company and an individual for discharges from a timber treatment processing plant. An agreement was reached between parties to withdraw the prosecution charges and apply for an enforcement order to address the discharge issues at the site. The Court granted and issued a slightly amended enforcement order on the 9 February 2021.

- Earthworks without erosion and sediment controls – Tōtara North*

Charges were laid in the Kaitiā District Court on 20 July 2020 against an individual for earthworks undertaken without controls, and work within a watercourse and the riparian management zone. There are six charges against the individual. A sentencing indication hearing was undertaken on 8 December 2020. The defendant advised the Court on 2 February 2021 that he did not accept the sentence indication. The council has been directed to file statements of evidence by 12 March 2021 and the case has been adjourned to the nominal date of 27 April 2021.

- Open burning on industrial/trade property – Whangārei*

Charges were laid in the Whangārei District Court on 27 November 2020 against an individual for open burning on industrial/trade premises, the burnt items also included prohibited items. There are two charges against the individual. The first court date was 20 January 2021 - the case has been adjourned until 31 March 2021 to allow time for disclosure to be provided and considered.

COASTAL & WATER QUALITY

All routine water quality and ecological monitoring programmes were undertaken, including:

- Weekly recreational bathing sampling at more than 60 sites.
- Monthly sampling runs (coastal and freshwater water quality, periphyton and cyanobacteria).
- Quarterly lakes monitoring.

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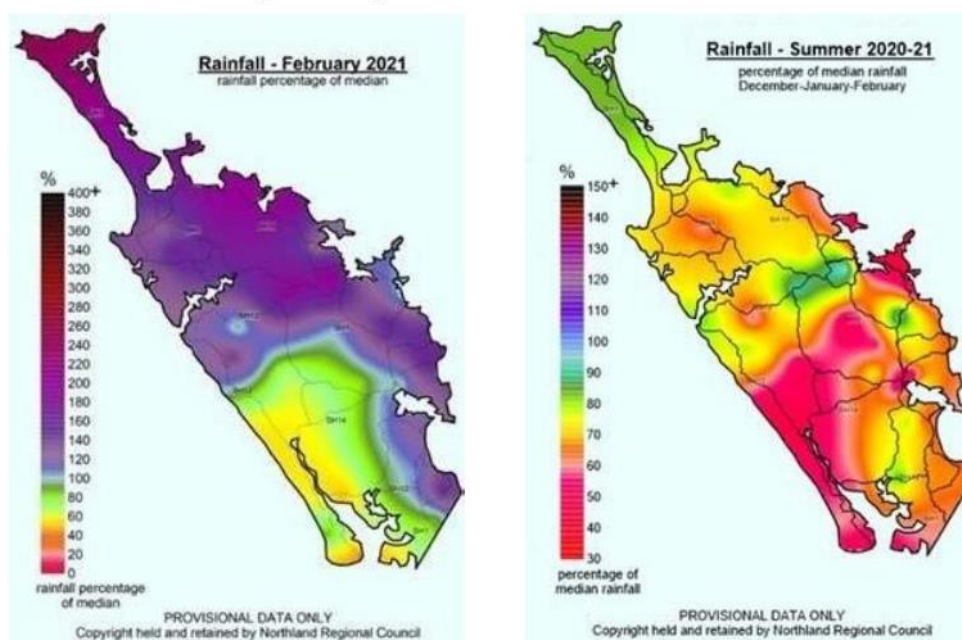
NATURAL RESOURCES DATA

- Electronic data collection forms are operational for recreational swimming, periphyton, sedimentation, groundwater, river and coastal water quality programmes. Electronic meter calibration forms have replaced the paper forms. Hydrology forms will now be developed.
- Development of the new environmental data portal for the NRC website is well underway. The testing phase started late February 2021 and the data will be brought online over two phases
 - Phase 1: rainfall, water level, water quality, drought and coastal, wind and wave data.
 - Phase 2: biological data for periphyton, fish, macroinvertebrates and cyanobacteria.
- The data team is delivering large numbers of data requests to external consultants and providing ongoing assistance to the Science Team during the network review.

HYDROLOGY

Rainfall

- Rainfall on 14 and 15 February provided the bulk of the rainfall for February 2021, with averages of 97mm in the Far North, 79mm in the Whangārei District and 41mm in the Kaipara District during this event. Broadly speaking, for February 2021, the top half of the region received above typical February rainfall, while Dargaville, Ruawai, Paparoa, Maungaturoto were drier than typical for the month.
- The 2020-21 summer rainfall map shows a dry summer for most of Northland. All NRC rainfall stations recorded below 100% of normal rainfall totals, the areas to the north of the Bay of Islands had 70-90% and to the south mostly around 50-70% of the expected summer rain, with most of the rain occurring in February.

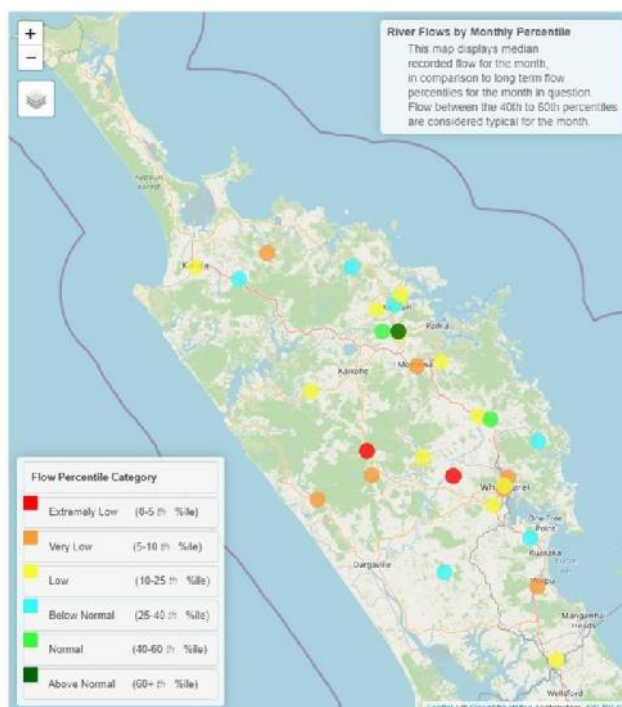


- In December 2020, NIWA predicted a wet summer ahead due to a La Nina event. NIWA recently classed this event as a non-traditional La Nina and revised the outlook to more extended dry spells over the Autumn months – more detailed information can be found in the February 2021 Hydrology Climate report available on the NRC website:

<https://www.nrc.govt.nz/environment/river-and-rainfall-data/hydrology-climate-report/>

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River Flows

- Most river catchments received some rain over the 14-15 February 2021 rain event and rivers responded with a moderate peak in flows but receded quickly.
- Flows over February 2021 varied across the region from extremely low in the Mangakāhia and Mangere Rivers to above normal in the Waitangi catchment.

Groundwater

- Groundwater levels are below typical levels for this time of year at all stations except Aupōuri which is above normal. Porotī and Mangawhai are particularly low (0-5th percentile for February).

Area	Status (Feb 21)	Percentile
Aupōuri	Above Normal	> 60th
Taipā	Low	10 - 25th
Russell	Below Normal	25 - 40th
Kaikohe	Below Normal	25 - 40th
Whangārei	Low	10 - 25th
Porotī	Extremely Low	0 - 5th
Mangawhai	Extremely Low	0 - 5th
Marsden - Ruakākā	Below Normal	25 - 40th

Hydrology Projects

- Low flow gaugings were carried out at 26 locations in the Otaika catchment as part of the continuing summer low flow gauging project.
- Data processing from eight rainfall stations was checked and archived.
- Wairua at Purua flow data was quality-assured and provided to Tonkin & Taylor. This was part of a wider data request for data to produce a flow model for water allocation in the Wairua in light of climate change.

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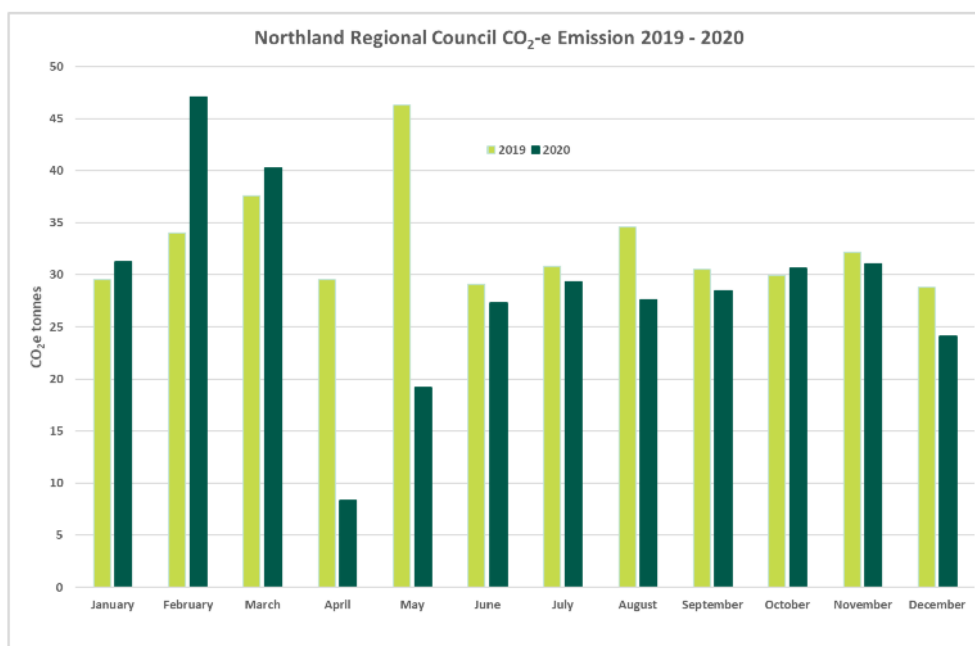
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NATURAL RESOURCES SCIENCE

Air quality and carbon emission

- Ambient PM₁₀ monitoring results for January 2021 for the Robert Street, Mairtown (Whangārei) and Marsden Point stations showed compliance with the National Environmental Standards for Air Quality.
- Ambient PM_{2.5} monitoring results for the Robert Street station for January 2021 were within the Ambient Air Quality Guideline value.
- Council's CO₂-e (carbon dioxide equivalent) monthly emissions in 2019 and 2020 are presented in the graph below. Since April 2020, council's monthly CO₂-e emissions have been lower than the corresponding 2019 emissions, with the exception of October, indicating the effect of COVID-19 restrictions. The graph is based on currently available data and therefore figures for the last few months are subject to change.



- A comparison of CO₂-e emission between different energy types for 2019 and 2020 is given in the table below. There is an overall decrease in council's CO₂-e emissions in 2020 compared with same period in 2019. The significant decrease in air travel is a major contributor for the decrease in CO₂-e emissions in 2020.

Energy type	CO ₂ -e production (tonnes)		Increase tonnes (%)	Decrease tonnes (%)
	2019	2020		
Fuel	256.2	270.2	14.0 (5.5)	
Air travel	90.7	31.9		58.8 (64.7)
Electricity	40.7	35.3		5.4 (13.1)
Waste	5.1	6.4	1.3 (24.7)	
Total	392.7	343.8		48.9 (12.2)

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Coastal

- An ecological survey of Waipū Estuary was carried out with kaitiaki from Patuharakeke Trust Board. Waipū Estuary has been identified as a Significant Ecological Area (SEA) in the Proposed Regional Plan for Northland (PRP) and is a māhinga mātaītai site of cultural importance to Patuharakeke. The survey involved an assessment of bird life, shellfish abundance, marine invertebrates and seagrass. Council staff will now analyse the data and produce a baseline assessment of the estuary. Kaitiaki will develop a cultural health assessment of the estuary. The baseline assessment will help council to assess the effectiveness of the PRP at protecting and maintaining the ecological values of this SEA in future.
- Council has undertaken litter surveys at 16 popular recreational bathing beaches throughout Northland. The average litter density per 1,000m² was 31 items and the percentage of litter items that were plastic was 66%. The same 16 beaches will be re-surveyed next summer to assess trends in the quantity and type of litter found over time. All the results including a breakdown of the items found can be viewed at: <https://litterintelligence.org/>.

8.3.5 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

LAND MANAGEMENT

Sustainable Hill Country and Regional Priorities

Milestones	Status
Farm Environment Plans (FEPs)	
	Because we no longer prepare FEPs, an alternative reporting format has been approved by MPI to cover the rest of 2020-21. This deliverable will need to be renegotiated for 2021-22
Stakeholder engagement	
	Press releases are in development.
Land treatments	
Contractor capacity development	Twenty-seven contracting companies or individuals thinking about setting up a contracting business have been invited to 3 planting workshops at the end of March. Seventeen attendants have accepted the invite to date. Additional workshops will be held with nurseries and forest managers prior to the planting season.

Poplar and Willow Nursery

Objective	Status
Maintenance	The nursery now has an office/lunchroom for staff and contractors. This is a considerable improvement on the shed used previously. Vehicle access to the entire site has been a problem in winter due to wet conditions. New culverts and gravelling of access races have largely fixed this issue.
Expansion	With irrigation coming online earlier in the season, coupled with some good rainfall, the trees in the newly planted blocks are off to a great start.
Harvest	Contractors are beginning the high prune in preparation for the harvest. A preliminary audit has indicated 6,000-7,000 3m poles will be available this year - approximately 3,000-4,000 poles short of our 10,000-pole target under SHaRP. This is due to several factors, including rushed expansion in the past resulting in poor tree establishment. A programme of replanting coupled with a change to a 'clear-fell' instead of a 'cherry-pick' harvest regime means we will under deliver in the short term. Following the transition, however, the nursery will achieve higher, more consistent production, coupled with better quality poles.

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New office (left), and planted blocks (right)



Access races, before (left) and after graveling (right)

Kaipara Moana Remediation Project

The Year 1 Work Programme comprises projects to meet the programme's investment objectives, plus budget for administrative and governance functions.

Good progress has been made on many of the Year 1 projects, in particular key strategies for engagement and communications, nurseries and workforce, and in projects providing grant funding to landowners in north Kaipara and progressing grant funding through arrangements with a third party in south Kaipara.

Some delays to project start dates have taken place due mainly to limitations on staff resource and the challenge of commencing all projects at largely the same time. External factors have also been relevant, particularly where a project involves engagement with third parties.

The KMR Joint Committee will begin considering a Year 2 Work Programme in March, with the aim of providing the Ministry for the Environment a draft work programme at the end of April, a number of the Year 1 projects will run also under the anticipated Year 2 Work Programme. In the development of a Year 2 Work Programme, budgets and project objectives for these multi-year projects can be reassessed and adjusted as necessary.

The Whangārei urban awa project

Two fencing contractors have now been engaged with all health and safety paperwork approved and short form contracts written. Four quotes have now been received from our contractors and the corresponding applications are due to be signed off this week – these total around 10km of fencing. We are trying to select properties that are close together and complete them in batches to minimise transport costs. A planting contractor has been selected for the upcoming planting season too.

FIF WAIMĀ WAITAI WAIORA PARTNERSHIP

Te Kawa Waiora – An Iwi-led Research Project delivered by Reconnecting Northland

Ko Waiora tangata e haere, Ko Waiora ia e kore e haere

People of the Waiora depart life, but the Waiora current never leaves

- **Research Objectives:**

To address questions of importance to the iwi, hapū and whānau communities of the rivers as the basis by which their contribution to increasing the health, wellbeing and mauri of the rivers may be achieved and the development of meaningful knowledge derived from mātauranga Māori which can be used to inform land management practices of the Waiora Catchment

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- **Update:**
The focus for Te Kawa Waioira this quarter was to get the communications strategy on track to share the research with a wide audience and grow hapū and marae involvement. The first full day hapū training workshop and second hui wānanga were held. Progress with hui wānanga and interviews has helped socialise the project with marae and hapū.
- **WAlora Mobile App:**
The partnership is working with Maanaki Whenua to develop a mobile app for a kaupapa Māori assessment tool for three hapū to simplify the involvement and empower hapū in freshwater management. The app enables hapū to assess the condition of freshwater from a Te Ao Māori perspective.

Te Orewai Freshwater Survey Wānanga

The Te Orewai freshwater fish survey and noho marae was held at Pipiwai by the Te Orewai Land Trust. This is an annual event supported by the Waimā Waitai Waioira partnership where a total of eight sites are surveyed for freshwater species and water quality. Survey techniques combine mātauranga Māori with western science. The event is an opportunity to engage and build capacity of whānau and hapū.



Partnership hapū rangatira and rangatahi participating in learning about freshwater biodiversity from a Te Ao Māori perspective



A hapū coordinator has been recruited for the partnership

BIODIVERSITY

FIF Dune Lakes Project

Objective	Status
Aquatic weed and pest fish control	A full LakeSPI survey will be undertaken in Lake Ngatu by NIWA divers during lakes ecological survey week in late March as part of EPA monitoring requirements. Advice is being sought from NIWA, and staff are planning for further control of hornwort in the lakes at Poutō and Mt Camel in the spring of 2021. The second grass carp operation is planned for March at Roto-otua (Lake Swan), Poutō.
Sediment and nutrient mitigation	A contract is in place with Fulton Hogan to undertake sediment and nutrient mitigation earthworks at Lakes Ngatu and Rotokawau in autumn 2021.
Māori Lakes Strategy	A planning hui was held with iwi for a wānanga on the 26-29 April at Wai ora Marae in Ngataki, hosted by Ngati Kuri
Education Days	Two more dune lakes education events are planned: Kai Iwi Lakes in May and at Poutō in June.

Wetlands

A joint visit with Biosecurity was made to give advice to landowners who are interested in a major restoration project for parts of a farm near Pipiwai which has several wetlands and a large area of gumland, ranked as one of Northlands Top Wetlands. Gumland, which used to be common in

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Northland, is now identified as a Nationally Critical habitat type because of their rarity and habitat values for threatened species. Options for the project such as a CPCA and covenants are being investigated.

Progress is being made by a wider council team on development of a wetland monitoring programme led by the Biodiversity Department which fulfills the NPS Freshwater requirements.

A meeting was held with Morpium Environmental Ltd, which has been contracted by MfE to provide a national wetland mapping methodology using Northland as a test case. Machine learning is being used to identify wetlands and biodiversity staff have been asked to review the results and verify sites.

CoastCare

CoastCare and Biodiversity staff attended Renew School, Whangārei to give a lesson on coastal ecosystems and monitoring. This was part of a focus on the beach environment for level three education for sustainability and level two science. It was also in preparation for field-trips in March and April when the students will undertake dune, beach and fauna surveys.

BIOSECURITY INCURSIONS AND RESPONSE

Check, Clean, Dry Programme

The Kai Iwi Lake Koi Carp incursion threat has highlighted the vulnerability of these relatively ecologically pristine catchments. The lakes are a much-loved by Northlanders and are an increasingly popular destination, with campground and day visitor numbers commonly in excess of 1000/day over the summer season.

The recent focus of the Check, Clean, Dry programme has been to, increase public awareness of the negative impacts of freshwater pests through:

- Increased lake side advocacy and Check, Clean, Dry collateral distribution through collaboration with Kai Iwi Lakes campground management and advocacy by staff.
- A Check, Clean, Dry advocacy stall at the Waitangi Day Festival through partnership with White Bait Connections.
- Providing businesses with Check, Clean, Dry information and collateral handouts.



Check Clean Dry Advocacy at the Waitangi Day Festival 2021

WILD ANIMAL CONTROL

Feral deer reports

Two Fallow deer incidents have been reported. One sighting (Hikurangi area) is confirmed by trail camera. The animal is tagged, so it either a deer farm escape or the liberation of farmed stock. The other sighting (Whakapara area) is still to be confirmed. The deer response contractor is following up on both incidents.

Deer farms

Council staff are establishing a working relationship with a Haruru Falls deer farmer to help engage with the wider Northland deer farming community. This relationship is important for building trust and relationships, thereby reducing the risk of deer farm escapes. Council's communication team is also assisting with the development of an engagement plan targeting deer farmers and the surrounding landowners.

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KAURI DIEBACK

Kauri dieback sites

The kauri dieback team are nearing completion of the aerial survey soil sampling project, with only a small number of properties left to visit where the landowners have resisted council staff entering their land. Biosecurity staff are working through process to get access to take the samples. One new kauri dieback site has been identified and staff are working with the landowner to develop a kauri dieback management plan.

Hapū Engagement

Kauri Dieback workshops are scheduled once a week from March to deliver kauri dieback education and key hygiene messages to hapū, community groups, and schools around Northland.

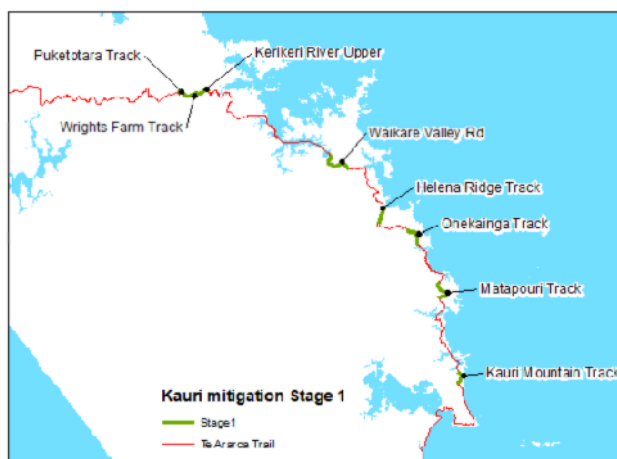
Kauri Dieback Track Mitigation Project

Council received \$2M in December last year from the Provincial Growth Fund to upgrade walking trails around Northland to protect kauri. The project will create new jobs, boost local economies and improve trail walking experience along the Te Araroa Trail in Northland.

There are eight project areas on the Te Araroa Trail spanning between Kauri Mountain and Puketotara.

Johnson Contractors have a contract to carry out the construction of the boardwalks and have employed local kaimahi to do the work.

Project works have commenced with construction well underway at Kauri Mountain and orders for supplies for Onekainga Track will be placed before the end of February.



Kauri dieback Track Mitigation Project areas.

Kauri Protection Fund

Council has also received \$120,000 from the Kauri Protection Fund (Ministry for Primary Industries) to increase the capacity of the kauri dieback team. The funding is being used to appoint an 18-month fixed term position focused on developing and implementing a community and stakeholder engagement plan. This will ensure our key messages around kauri dieback are reaching all corners of Northland communities.

Kauri Ora – an iwi collaboration

The Department of Conservation have allocated \$3.5M as part of the Jobs for Nature programme to four Northland iwi (Te Roroa, Te Rarawa, Ngāti Wai and Ngāti Kuri). The funding is being used for a range of measures to undertake forest protection. Kauri Ora will engage with other agencies and wishes to sustain a relationship with council.

Changes to the National Kauri Dieback Team

The National Kauri Dieback Team at MPI is undergoing a restructure on the back of the last election. The Government has committed \$32M over 5 years to roll out a National Pest Management Plan (the strongest form of protection under the Biosecurity Act). Council staff are meeting with the Ministry for Primary Industries and other stakeholders in March to discuss the proposals.

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PARTNERSHIPS

Kiwi Coast

Two kiwi releases were done in the month:

- *Pukenui Western Hills Forest Trust*: Council staff assisted with the night capture of 14 kiwi on Motuora island for translocation into Pukenui Forest on 13 February. Four of these kiwi were taken to Whangārei Intermediate School where a crowd of approx. 150 people gathered to meet them before they were released into the forest.
- *Pārua Bay*: Staff also assisted with the collaborative Backyard Kiwi Release on 14 February where five kiwi were captured off Matakōhe/Limestone Island and released into the Pārua Bay area. Around 90 people attended the whakawātea ceremony performed by Te Parāwhau kaumātua in Onerahi when the kiwi arrived back on the mainland. Around 250 people came to the Pārua Bay community hall prior to the release to hear about kiwi and their threats.



Young female kiwi ready for release in the Pārua Bay area

Western Northland HVA

The Te Toa Whenua and Maunganui Bluff Community Pest Control Areas (Te Roroa led), which have a primary focus on possum control are now well underway with the key infrastructure in place and possum control started. Trapping for mustelids continues with the Kaitiaki Kiwi, Pūpūrangi, and Wekaweka Community Pest Control Areas.

Preliminary discussions have begun about establishing a kiwi / kōkako Community Pest Control Area at Matarāua that is close to the Department of Conservation led kōkako project in the Matarāua/Waipoua Forest.

Predator Free Whangārei

Work completed to date includes landowner engagement, development of communication resources and council staff hosted a Predator Free Whangārei information stall at the Pārua Bay kiwi release this month.

Predator Free Bay of Islands

Staff are in the final stages of securing a significant financial grant of \$4M from Predator Free 2050 Ltd for a proposed landscape scale predator eradication project in the Bay of Islands.

MARINE BIOSECURITY

Hull Surveillance Programme

Out of 94 inspections made this period, there were no incidents of concern.

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2020/2021 Hull Surveillance Programme Results 26/01/2021 – 23/02/2021	Total this month	Total YTD
Pathways Plan Compliance		
Number of vessels surveyed this month	94	1047
% Pathways Plan Compliance (all vessels) *	47.1%	59.7%
% Pathways Plan Compliance (recent arrivals) **	n/a	84.7%
Vessels found with Marine Pests		
<i>Sabella spallanzanii</i> (fanworm)	0	40
<i>Styela clava</i> (clubbed tunicate)	2	29
<i>Undaria pinnatifida</i> (Japanese kelp)	0	1
<i>Eudistoma elongatum</i> (Australian droplet tunicate)	0	0
<i>Pyura doppelganger</i> (sea squirt)	0	0

* Percentage of all vessels surveyed that complied with the acceptable level of light fouling as defined in the Marine Pathways Plan.

** Percentage of vessels on anchor that complied with the acceptable level of light fouling as defined in the Marine Pathways Plan.

Ōpua Sabella Incursion Response

Contract divers have continued with search and destroy methods for the Mediterranean fanworm the past month in Ōpua and will shortly be wrapping up the latest round of diving. Biosecurity staff, with colleagues at the Ministry for Primary Industries and the Cawthron Institute, expect to have the data analysed and a report outlining next steps available to present to council by the end of March.

PEST PLANTS

Wilding Conifers

Wilding pine control is currently underway at Kauri Mountain with contractors a week into drilling and filling work. 500 trees have been killed standing and another 1000 to go. The picture to the right shows the spread of wilding pines along the dunes at Kauri Mountain Beach Whangārei Heads.



Kaipara Spartina

Four staff continued control of the eradication pest plant spartina, at sites in the Kaipara Harbour, with satisfying results with no plants found at the two sites on Floodgate Road, Te Kōwhai (Rūāwai) and only three plants located at the Tikinui Wharf site, (Te Kōpuru). The old Matakōhe bridge site near Paparoa, only had 27 plants. Staff did, however, locate and treat a new large site on Neems Road, Tinopai.

RIVERS

Long Term Plan Projects

Rivers	Comments
Awanui	The Southern Spillways project is approximately 70% completed. Preliminary work for Allan Bell Park is underway. Church Road Rock Stabilization work is expected to start early March.
Kerikeri-Waipapa	Consent lodged with FNDC and NRC, Staff working through questions.

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Matangirau	Progress with key landowners has been slow or stalled. It is unlikely we will be able to complete significant works this season.
Otiria/Moerewa	Staff are proceeding with a feasibility study and early contractor engagement.
Kawakawa	Staff are sensitivity modelling testing to determine best protection without requiring a storm water pump station. Staff have visited with the affected business owners regarding a lower level of flood protection.
Kaeo	Work is progressing in the Pupuke Catchment

NATURAL HAZARDS

Work Streams	Status	Comments
Coastal erosion hazard mapping	100% complete	Maps being prepared for publication
Coastal erosion research	Phase 2 underway	Analysis underway with publication of results due mid-2021
Region-wide coastal flood mapping	99% complete	Final maps received and being prepared for publication
Region-wide river flood mapping	75% complete	Far north models complete, awaiting maps
Whangārei river flood model	Underway	Model set up started
Public release of new coastal hazard maps	Planning phase	Publication of maps to NRC website expected early April 2021. NRC staff working with TA planning teams to align with district plan reviews.

CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE

Work Streams	Status	Comments
NRC Climate Change Strategy	Draft	Draft strategy, including the proposed NRC carbon neutral plan, to be presented to Climate Change Working Party in March
Climate Adaptation Te Taitokerau - Adaptation Strategy	In development	Climate Risk Assessment 1 - Risk descriptions – draft complete and under internal review. Release planned March 2021 Climate Risk Assessment 2 - Coastal risk spatial analysis - community risk profile analysis underway Regional Adaptation Strategy due Late 2021
Joint Standing Committee on Climate Change Adaptation	Planning	Inaugural meeting 12 April at NRC

Northland Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR)

Continuing to receive excellent feedback from the Northland community regarding the LiDAR data set. A final deliverable data set is expected by end of March.

MĀORI ENGAGEMENT

Ko te manu e kai ana i te miro nōnā te ngahere, Ko te manu e kai ana i te mātauranga nōnā te ao **Te Oneroa-a-Tōhe Beach (TOATB) Management Plan**

The beach management plan, now that it has been adopted by the Board, identifies 54 key action items that will assist in achieving the Boards vision, values outcomes and objectives for Te Oneroa-a-

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Tōhe beach management area. Of these 54 action items, 18 are a priority to be completed in the short term (39% of the action items contained in the plan).

A further eight action items have been identified as a priority due to their association with a proposed regional policy statement, regional plan change, or district plan change process update. Although these seven action items are not classified with a short-term delivery time frame, it may be more practicable for councils to fulfil their obligations in relation to these action items by completing them alongside other action items with short term delivery timeframes.

The priority focus of the TOATB 2021 workplan will be on enhancing the values of Ngā Ture Wairua/Spiritual Value and Ngā Kaiārahi/Leadership.

Te Whāriki/Responsiveness to Māori Framework

The Te Whāriki core cultural competency level one workshops are continuing to produce positive outcomes with valuable feedback provided from council staff. This feedback helps to assist in the quality delivery of the programme. Level two workshops will commence in June 2021 and will provide a more indepth programme focusing on our operational staff that are working directly with Māori.

"I have the beginnings of understanding, and look forward to building on this over the next few years as we learn how to work more closely with Maori in the future."

"The deconstruction of the terms manaakitanga, kotahitanga and whanaungatanga was very important, these terms are used in the workplace every day, but not necessarily understood well or used in the correct context."

"Understanding the pōwhiri was extremely useful. Additionally, the breakdown of the treaty, what it means and most importantly what was signed and agreed to as opposed to what was sent to the crown for signing"

Other activities that support the cultural competency of the council:

- Regular workshops facilitated by the Kaiārahi Kaupapa Māori with councillors to assist them in their knowledge and practice of tikanga/protocols and correct application of te reo Māori.
- Weekly speed te reo me ona tikanga Māori sessions facilitated by Sally Bowron with a core group of staff that are now champions for karakia, mihihi and use of te reo Māori within council day to day operations.
- Commemoration of the Treaty of Waitangi event was an opportunity to engage with staff and celebrate the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and what it represents for our organisation.

Mātauranga Māori

The work to develop an overall approach to Mātauranga Māori is ongoing and a stock take of the projects and components of Mātauranga Māori is a priority for our team over the next quarter.

The matauranga māori monitoring fund criteria for iwi and hapū has been reviewed and is outlined below:

- Provision of a project plan/scope that outlines aspirations, objectives and outputs of the environmental monitoring being undertaken
- Endorsement of the project proposal by an iwi or hapū
- Output reports and findings are available for NRC to use

Where eligible quality applications exceed the \$20,000 available, preference will be given to:

- iwi or hapū who have existing IHEMPs
- proposals that align with NRC monitoring network and/or existing work programmes
- freshwater monitoring proposals.
- an equitable geographic distribution of funding.

A critical component to the success of this fund is to work with our environmental monitoring teams to understand the capacity of our staff to support and sustain the projects identified in collaboration

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with iwi and hapū partners. Two joint monitoring projects are currently being conducted in partnership with Patuharakeke and Te Uri o Hau and others to be identified will assist our competency in these joint programmes to build capacity of hapū and iwi.

Mana Whakahono-ā-rohe

Implementation with Patuharakeke and Ngāti Rehia with our resource and consents, planning and policy team is now the focus for council. A meeting is scheduled in March to meet and form a programme/plan with key council managers and Juliane Chetham/Nora Rameka with a review in six months to present progress and updates to TTMAC and council. Te Hikutu/Hokianga, Te Uri o Hau and Te Parawhau have all signaled their desire and intent to have a Mana Whakahono-ā-Rohe agreement and discussions are now progressing with each of these hapū. This also relates to the work we are doing with the Māori Technical Advisory Group and the development of a resource consent/CIA guideline for tangata whenua and applicants.

Awanui Flood Works Project

A relationship with Te Paatu iwi and representatives is progressing as there have been issues raised that they have not been consulted as mana whenua for specific earthworks in their areas. Meetings in Kaitiāia continue to address this and how we can have a working relationship over the next three years has been our focus whilst engaging a cultural monitor mandated by Te Paatu. To provide clarity when engaging cultural monitors as consultants/contractors for earthworks and land disturbance activities undertaken by council we have reviewed and updated the operational 'engaging a cultural monitor policy'.

8.3.6 STRATEGY, GOVERNANCE AND ENGAGEMENT

NATIONAL INITIATIVES

Resource Management System Reforms

The Government has announced high-level direction on reform of the resource management system based on the findings of the review by an independent Review Panel led by Hon Tony Randerson, QC released in June last year. The reform includes replacement of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) with three new acts:

- the Natural and Built Environments Act (NBA) to provide for land use and environmental regulation (this would be the primary replacement for the RMA);
- the Strategic Planning Act (SPA) to integrate with other legislation relevant to development and require long-term regional spatial strategies; and
- the Managed Retreat and Climate Change Adaptation Act (CAA) to support New Zealand's response to the effects of climate change.

Key features of the NBA are likely to be:

- reference to the concept of Te Mana o te Taiao (the mana of the environment) and give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- include a list of 'outcomes' and stronger government direction for the natural environment, built environment, Tikanga Māori, historic heritage, natural hazards and climate change (replacing matters of national importance in Part 2 RMA)
- include a 'national planning framework' (to set out matters of national significance and to provide consistency) - essentially a combination of government policy direction in national policy statements, standards and regulations and environmental 'bottom-lines'
- natural and built environment plans - combined regional and district planning documents (including the CMA) that give effect to national direction / standards are to replace the 100+ district and regional plans and regional policy statements with 14 combined plans – with a changed role for councils in developing and approving these plans
- an improved nationally consistent monitoring and reporting system.

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Key features of the SPA are likely to be:

- integration with the NBA, CAA and other key legislation relevant to development (such as the Local Government Act, Climate Change Response Act and Land Transport Act)
- a requirement for statutory long-term (30 years) 'multi-agency' regional spatial strategies - combined plans under the NBA are to be consistent with regional spatial strategies and NBA 'outcomes' are to be provided for in regional spatial strategies
- spatial strategies are to be prepared at the regional scale by joint committees comprising representatives of central government, regional councils, territorial authorities and mana whenua (to be independently chaired and agreed by consensus).

Key features of the CAA have yet to be confirmed, as recommendations for the CAA are one of the least developed areas in the report of the review panel, but drivers for this new act are identified as:

- a lack of national direction and guidance from central government for managing the effects of climate change
- difficulties addressing contentious issues in local planning and the ability to plan for managed retreat
- lack of clarity on the roles and responsibilities of central and local government for adaptation
- particular issues in relation to risks for Maori
- the need for an 'all of system' approach given the links across the three proposed pieces of law (and especially spatial planning required under the SPA and National Adaptation Plans developed under the Climate Change Response Act 2002).

The government has signalled an 'exposure draft' of the Natural and Built Environment Bill will be referred to a special select committee mid-late 2021. The Strategic Planning and Climate Change Adaptation Bills are intended to be introduced to Parliament by late 2021 and all three Bills are anticipated to be enacted by the end of 2022.

The reform is the most significant review of the resource management system since the advent of the RMA in 1991. Staff will continue to track the reform and report to council as details emerge.

REGIONAL PLANNING

Proposed Regional Plan

Since the last update provided to council, staff have been working with parties to refine matters which are set down for hearing, in particular with the Minister of Conservation in regard to the water quality standards they seek (Topic 5: water quality) which is scheduled for hearing on 4-7 May.

Ngāti Manuhiri Kaitiaki Trust has sought to join the appeals on Topic 14: fishing controls (marine protected areas) in support of Te Uri o Hīkiahiki. The parties to the appeals have indicated the number of their expert witnesses they intend to call (now a total of 55-57 expert witnesses) and the Court has allocated a third week for the hearing (12-23 July and 2-6 August) and appointed Judge Harvey (Māori Land Court) to sit alongside Judge Smith. Given the extremely large number of experts that will be called, discussions are ongoing with the Court as to how best to manage the case.

Agreement has been reached and documents requesting a consent order have been signed by all parties in relation to Regionally Significant Infrastructure and lodged with the Court.

Work has also begun on mapping of Outstanding Natural Landscapes in the coastal marine area as directed by the Court, with a draft methodology having been agreed by the landscape experts involved and submitted to all parties and the Court for agreement.

Negotiations on other unresolved matters are ongoing including in relation to Vehicles on Beaches and Aquaculture.

Forest and Bird Protection Society of NZ has lodged an appeal to the High Court against the Environment Court's decision relating to the interpretation that the National Environmental Standard for Freshwater Regulations 2020 does not apply in the coastal marine area (except in

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limited circumstances). The appeal was only lodged on the day of writing of this report, so staff have yet to work through the implications of this. However, it will likely to mean many of the other Environment Court appeal 'topics' will be put on hold until the High Court makes a decision.

National Policy Statement-Freshwater Management (NPS-FM)

The visit by Chief Freshwater Commissioner, Professor Peter Skelton is likely to be in early April at Northland Regional Council (pending Covid restrictions). He will meet with councillors and council staff to discuss the new Freshwater Hearings Panel and associated freshwater planning process. A briefing on this upcoming visit was provided to Council on Tuesday 23 February.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Investment and Growth Reserve – Projects Report

Project	Update	Future developments/ reporting
Extension 350	Quarter 2 report and third quarter invoice received.	
Te Hononga	Project completion report received.	
Manea Footprints of Kupe		Awaiting project completion report (due February).

Other Work Undertaken

- Joint economic development initiative – advertisement for the role of director of Northland Inc. opened and closed; work with lawyers on term sheet for shareholder agreement.
- Ngāwhā Innovation and Education Centre – Northland Inc. confirmed that the additional support they were seeking on top of the lease arrangement was no longer required.
- Oruku Landing Conference and Event Centre – staff are preparing information to bring back to council to help inform their decision to fund.
- Provided economic data for a variety of council related documents including LTP consultation material, regional transport plans and civil defence and emergency management plan, and to support the proposed regional plan.

ONLINE CHANNELS

Highlights: A Tsunami Alert on 11 February and some heavy rain on 15 February contributed to increased visits to the website this month. Posts about marine pests and koi carp sighting contributed to an increased reach on our Facebook page this month.

Most popular content on Facebook: A post asking the public to help us monitor the spread of the Australian droplet tunicate (*Eudistom elongatum*) around Northland's coast. The post reached 31,083 people and engaged with 611 people on our page, including the post being shared 154 times.

*Engaged – number of people who 'reacted', commented or shared the post

Key Performance Indicators	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21
WEB					
# Visits to the NRC website	29,500	30,400	32,213	36,300	40,200
E-payments made	12	5	7	6	12
# subscription customers (cumulative)	1,265	1,255	1,257	1,270	1,286
SOCIAL MEDIA (CUMULATIVE)					
# Twitter followers	1,540	1,546	1,549	1,551	1,558
# NRC Facebook fans	9,920	10,065	10,144	10,200	10,200

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Key Performance Indicators	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21
# NRC Overall Facebook Reach	61,000	149,121	216,341	189,600	211,800
# NRC Engaged Daily Users	4,681	9,203	10,133	7,365	8,283
# CDEM Facebook fans	21,200	21,200	21,200	21,300	21,900
# CDEM Overall Facebook Reach	20,400	49,400	50,561	83,600	262,600
# CDEM Engaged Daily Users	4,681	2,570	3,123	14,800	34,100
# Instagram followers	1,256	1,284	1,315	1,320	1,330

NOTE:

Nov – increased in reach due to increase in post volume and extremely popular post on toxic seas slugs

ENVIROSCHOOLS / EDUCATION

Ngā Tupuranga o Te Taitokerau

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, Ngā Tupuranga o Te Taitokerau was again postponed from February to 24-30 April. The week-long intensive programme - in partnership with the Ministry of Youth Development and the Untouched World Foundation - is aimed at developing future leaders in sustainability for senior secondary and post school youth.

Ngā Tupuranga o Te Taitokerau will still be held Te Tii Marae in Waitangi and the Hon. Priyanca Radhakrishnan, Minister of Youth Development, will be visiting.

Enviroschools communities facilitated

During February, Enviroschools Facilitators held 64 specific interactions with school and early childhood communities.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Emergency Services Promotion

Over summer we ran a multi-channelled campaign to promote the lifesaving work of our emergency services. The campaign included radio and print advertising primarily focused on Surf Lifesaving Northern Region (SLSNR) and our emergency services partnerships. On social media we supported this advertising by running a small social campaign for SLSNR, where we directed the public to the NRC website, providing them with the times and locations when lifeguards would be on duty in Northland.

Over the campaign period we saw a 29% increase in page views on our 'Supporting our emergency services' page vs the same period the previous year. We also had 97 page views on the new 'Lifeguards on duty' page.

Northland Regional Council Tū i te ora Scholarships

Eight \$3,000 scholarships are being offered to support students studying or training in areas aligned to work council does in the environmental, economic or community resilience fields. Scholarship entries closed on 14 February and 91 complete applications were received. Judging is currently underway to decide on the eight recipients and a media release will be issued once this decision has been made.

North Kaipara A&P Show (Paparoa)

Biosecurity pest animals, and weeds were represented at the Paparoa Show on 6 February. The show was very busy this year and seems to be expanding. A significant number of pest animal enquiries were received.

Northland Home and Lifestyle Show

The Transport team attended this three day event (12-14 February) with messages on City Link, Bus Link services, Beecard and the Total Mobility scheme. It was the first time council has attended this

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event and the team were very positive about the levels of engagement and number of enquiries received.

Northern Wairoa A&P Show (Arapohue)

Chair Penny Smart represented council at this event on 13 February with information on pest animals and weeds, and general enquiries.

North Hokianga A&P Show (Broadwood)

Staff were prepped to attend this show on 20 February, which was cancelled due to Level 2 COVID-19 restrictions.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION (LGOIMA) REQUESTS

Month	LGOIMA requests received 2019/20	LGOIMA requests received 2020/21
July	15	25
August	22	17
September	16	12
October	29	14
November	11	14
December	12	17
January	14	16
February	21	16
March	13	
April	12	
May	13	
June	15	
TOTAL LGOIMA REQUESTS RECEIVED	193	131
LGOIMA requests not responded to within 20 working days*	18	5

8.3.7 CUSTOMER SERVICE – COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

TRANSPORT

Regional Transport Committee

A Regional Transport Committee was held on Wednesday 10 February 2021. At the meeting, the following papers were presented:-

- Northland Regional Land Transport Plan 2018 – 2021 Funding Uptake Report;
- Northland Rail Upgrade – KiwRail Update;
- Northland Road Safety Update;
- Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Update;
- Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2027 and Regional Public Transport Plan 2021-2031: Progress Report.

Draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2027 and Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2021-2031

At their meeting on 10 February, the Regional Transport Committee (RTC) approved the proposed changes to the “Strategic Front End” of the Draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2027 (RLTP) and the Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2021-2031 (RPTP) and approved their release for public consultation.

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On 9 December 2020, the RTC held a “Project Prioritisation” workshop. This entailed prioritising all State Highway Improvement, Road to Zero Programme and Local Road Improvement projects listed in the RLTP. At this workshop the RTC members agreed the prioritised ranking of these projects. However, following the workshop, a number of significant changes were made to the State Highway Improvement and Road to Zero Programme projects which necessitated further prioritisation workshops having to be held to agree to the requested changes.

The RTC formally approved the inclusion of the amended prioritised lists of State Highway Improvement, Road to Zero Programme and Local Road Improvement projects for inclusion in the RLTP for release for public consultation.

The Draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2027 and the Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2021-2031 were released for consultation on Wednesday 24 February 2021 with submissions closing on 26 March 2021. During this period, a number of drop in “have your say” sessions have been scheduled, as listed below:

Location	Date	Time	Venue
Whangārei	Monday 8 March	9.00 - 11.00am	NRC Council Chambers 36 Water Street, Whangārei
Dargaville	Monday 8 March	3.00 - 5.00pm	Town Hall 42 Hokianga Road, Dargaville
Opononi	Tuesday 9 March	10.00am - 12.00pm	War Memorial Hall 13 State Highway 12, Opononi
Kaikohe	Tuesday 9 March	3.00 - 5.00pm	FNDC Council Chambers Memorial Avenue, Kaikohe
Mangawhai	Thursday 11 March	11.30am - 1.30pm	Domain Hall 73 Moir Street, Mangawhai
Kaitiāia	Friday 12 March	10.00am - 12.00pm	Main Hall Te Ahu Centre, Kaitiāia
Kerikeri	Friday 12 March	3.00 - 5.00pm	Kingston House 123 Hone Heke Road, Kerikeri

PASSENGER TRANSPORT ADMINISTRATION

*BusLink figures are reported one month in arrears, due to the required information being unavailable at the time of the agenda deadline.

Bus Link stats for January 2021 (revenue ex GST)	Actual	Budget	Variance	Year/Date Actual	Year/Date Budgeted
City Link Passengers	16,149	24,562	-8,413	181,167	198,808
CityLink Revenue	\$23,331	\$33,199	-\$9,868	\$232,289	\$268,391
Mid North Link Passengers	183	144	39	1153	1104
Mid North Link Revenue	\$696	\$720	-\$24	\$4,221	\$5,520
Hokianga Link Passengers	108	78	30	749	552
Hokianga Link Revenue	\$588	\$543	\$45	\$3,863	\$3,840
Far North Link Passengers	289	580	-291	2,542	4,066
Far North Link Revenue	\$872	\$1,552	-\$680	\$6,623	\$11,120
Bream Bay Link Passengers	52	24	28	357	186
Bream Bay Link Revenue	\$352	\$86	\$266	\$2,330	\$669

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Hikurangi Link Passengers	41	48	-7	111	156
Hikurangi Link Revenue	\$109	\$125	-\$16	\$258	\$405
Whangārei Heads Link Passengers	2	24	-22	44	78
Whangārei Heads Link Revenue	\$9	\$104	-\$95	\$176	\$339

At its meeting of 24 February 2021, the Waka Kotahi Board agreed to continue to fund at 100% FAR fare revenue shortfalls due to the impact of COVID-19 and *net* increase in current public transport service costs associated with implementing COVID-19 measures until 30 June 2021. From 1 July 2021 councils' normal FARs will apply to public transport programmes, including extra COVID-19 costs.

Ocean Beach Holiday Service

The summer trial service that ran to Ocean Beach over the holiday period carried 38 passengers on the four days it operated in January.

COVID-19 Response

NRC staff worked with the Community Engagement Team on public transport messaging when Northland went to Level 2, and then to Level 1. The contracted bus operators are being reminded that under Alert Level 1, the wearing of masks on public transport is mandatory and that this should be advertised and promoted on the buses. It is, however, important to note that the responsibility to ensure a mask is worn on public transport lies with the individual and not with the operator or council.

Total Mobility

	Total Clients	Monthly Actual Expend	Monthly Budgeted Expend	Monthly Variance	Year/Date Actual Expend	Year/Date Budgeted Expend	Annual Variance
Jan 2021	1,510	\$18,861	\$25,000	-\$6,139	\$148,022	\$175,000	-\$26,978

ROAD SAFETY UPDATE

Road Trauma Update:

Fatalities this year	Far North	Whangārei	Kaipara	Northland	National
Local roads	1	0	0	1	18
State highways	3	1	0	4	17
TOTAL	4	1	0	5	35

2021 Year to Date Road Death Statistics:

- National = 35 deaths compared to 45 in 2020
- Northland = 5 deaths compared to 2 in 2020

Road Safety Delivery

Motorcycle Safety - Ride Forever (R4E) Rider Training Update

For the 2020/21 financial year ending June 2021, 104 riders have participated in the Ride Forever (R4E) rider training programme across Northland:

- Bronze course 35
- Silver course 37
- Gold course 32

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Total riders 104

Heavy Vehicle Operation

A Truck Education/Health Stop was held on Wednesday 24 February, which coincided with the annual Truck Driver Appreciation Week. This took place at Uretiti with support from the Northland Freight Group partners.

Fatigue / Driver Reviver Stop

This took place on 5 February and was very well attended and supported. Over two hundred motorists and their passengers stopped and took advantage of the refreshments and road safety resources. Some of the supporters were very creative in interacting with the public and volunteers, which was very well received.



The next Stop is planned for Thursday 1 April 2021 (Easter).

Road Safety Promotion/Media:

Road safety promotion work continues supporting Police and partners with road safety promotion through various media platforms including at events.

CUSTOMER SERVICES

Telephone inbound call statistic & enquiries

	February 2021 (As at COB 25 February)	KPI
Call volumes via Customer Services	2079	
Conversion rate	97.7%	>95%
Average wait time	6 sec	
Calls answered in under 30 sec	96.2%	>90%

The heightened COVID-19 status in the third week of the month is likely to have been the reason for the significant drop in calls. For most of the week volumes were at only 75% of normal levels. All Service Centres continued to operate as normal with increased protection for visitors and staff.

Satisfaction monitoring

Feedback cards, compliments and complaints

Feedback cards have been included with the tallies for compliments and complaints, as appropriate.

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Compliments received	Total
Service provided by a specific person/people Maritime – S Meldrum	1
Total compliments recorded	1

Complaints received	Total
Staff or contractor behaviour/attitude Bus – City link (2) Monitoring	3
Disagree with decision or process Consents Monitoring	2
Lack of information or communication Monitoring	1
Issue has occurred repeatedly for me Monitoring	1
Total complaints recorded	7

The compliment for our maritime officer included positive feedback from several teachers following an educational session at one of the schools.

The lack of compliments this month can be most likely attributed to a lack of reporting as staff have been exceptionally busy.

Unusually, there have been several complaints received by our compliance monitoring team. Three of these have been resolved and have been caused primarily by customer frustration that we are not able to resolve issues which are outside of our jurisdiction. The consents complaint and the remaining monitoring complaint relate to ongoing issues and are being attended to by senior staff.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

National

The National Emergency Management Development Group (NEMDG) met on 24 and 25 February at the Beehive in Wellington. Victoria Harwood attended on behalf of the Northland CDEM Group. Topics covered included the review by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) Policy Team of three pivotal CDEM documents including the CDEM Act 2002, National CDEM Plan and Guide 2015 and the National Disaster Resilience Strategy and the Emergency Management Sector Vision for the next ten years.

Discussion was held regarding the ongoing COVID-19 resurgence operations and the role of CDEM Groups. More work is being done nationally to better align the border control, regional boundaries, locations with public information for future Alert Level changes.

A short debrief was held by NEMA for Group Managers regarding the operational procedures the NEMA and GNS carried out for the 11 February Tsunami Advisory event.

The challenges faced by people in rural areas and residential drinking water collecting infrastructure has been raised through the Northland Social Wellbeing Governance Group (NSWGG), nationally it has been agreed that funding options will be investigated to potentially support improvement projects for the region.

Regional

The Northland CDEM Group staff responded to the Tsunami National Advisory on 11 February at 02:41hrs. CDEM staff were alerted through the National Warning System.

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Public information was distributed through the Northland CDEM Facebook page, the National Emergency Alerting system was used to inform the public of the Tsunami Advisory. The NRC Harbourmaster was informed, the yellow tsunami light at the Marina was activated for a short time, the region's CDEM coastal Community Response Groups were contacted by phone and email until the threat was cancelled at 09:17hrs the same day. A hot debrief was carried out with CDEM staff and feedback with recommendations provided to NEMA.

The Northland COVID-19 Resurgence Action Plan for Alert Level 2 was reviewed and revised as the alert levels changed during 15-17 February. The Group Controller liaised with the Auckland and Waikato CDEM Groups, NEMA, Northland DHB and Northland Police regarding border control and any support required.

The review of the Northland CDEM Group Plan 2016-2021 continues - a progress information report will be presented to the CDEM Joint Standing Committee in March.

MARITIME

- Aids to Navigation maintenance work has been ongoing, including a major refurbishment of the Fraser Rock light and work done on the Hātea River buoys. The Pouto point light has also been replaced as well as work carried out in Rangaunu Harbour.
- The Just Add Water programme has started with a very successful two days at Springbank School educating children on maritime safety issues. Very good feedback was received, and other schools are due to be visited soon.
- Survey work by contractors is starting in the Kerikeri River to determine seabed composition for the pile mooring replacement project.
- Nine Incidents have been logged in February, the most serious being a Harbour Warden abused by a speeding jet-skier with Police called to attend.
- Three super yachts were piloted into the Bay of Islands.
- The major extension to the Windsor Landing mooring area now has 30 new mooring applications, which if installed will fill the newly extended area.
- The New Zealand Offshore Power Boat Association has lodged an application to hold a large power boat race in Whangārei Harbour.

Attachments/Ngā tapirihanga

Nil