

Natural Resources Working Party Record of Actions

Meeting held in the Council Chamber
36 Water Street, Whangārei
on Wednesday 20 March 2024, commencing at 9.30am

Tuhinga/Present:

Working Party Chair, Tui Shortland (NRC Deputy Chair)(online)
NRC Chair, Geoff Crawford
TTMAC Representative, Nora Rameka (apology)
TTMAC Representative, Mira Norris (online)
TTMAC Representative, Geraldine Baker (apology)
Councillor John Blackwell
Councillor Joe Carr
Councillor Marty Robinson (in attendance)

I Tae Mai/In Attendance:

Ruben Wylie (Group Manager, Environmental Services)
Tami Woods (Policy and Planning Manager)
Alexandra Ashkettle (Senior EMO – Compliance Monitoring)
Personal Assistant Pou Tiaki Taiao
Tess Dacre (Compliance Monitoring Manager)
Clark Ehlers (Compliance Monitoring Manager – Coastal and Land)
Gavin Dawson (Governance Specialist)
Janice Kirk (Personal Assistant – Biosecurity)

The meeting commenced at 9.31 am with a karakia by Tui Shortland.

(Secretarial note: please note that agenda item 4.6 in the original agenda became agenda 4.3 with the agreement of the Working Party)

Ngā Mahi Whakapai/Housekeeping (Item 1.0)

Ngā Whakapahā/Apologies (Item 2.0)

Nora Rameka and Geraldine Baker.

Ngā Whakapuakanga/Declarations of Interest (Item 3.0)

Nil.

Reports (Item 4.0)

Record of Actions – August 2023 (Item 4.1)

Staff spoke to the relevant matters raised.

Moved: Crawford/Seconded: Norris – Carried.

Receipt of Action Sheet (Item 4.2)

Staff spoke to the relevant matters raised.

Matters raised:

- Noted that Ōmāpere Trust have now appointed a co-ordinator and emphasised the need to continue to work together to achieve progress at the lake.
- Noted that a paper is coming to council on the Hokianga proposal at the next meeting.

Moved: Carr/Seconded: Crawford – Carried.

Vehicles on Beaches (Item 4.3)

Presented by: Tess Dacre (Compliance Monitoring Manager) and Clark Ehlers (Compliance Monitoring Manager – Coastal and Land).

Matters raised:

- Noted the concerns have been addressed and NRC is working on addressing any further matters or concerns. Explained that the plan change process is available to address their concerns
- Explained the jurisdiction of NRC on beaches and how that links with other local and central government agencies and noted that it requires co-ordination of all agencies on education and enforcement
- Discussed the possible opportunity of creating spaces for the use of recreational vehicle spaces. Noted that jurisdiction plays a big part and determines how it should be structured
- Emphasised the need to include Iwi/hapu in the process to consult establish working groups.

Fish Passage Action Plan (Item 4.4)

Presented by: Alexandra Ashkettle (Senior EMO – Compliance Monitoring)

Matters raised:

- Emphasised the need for good planning to ensure that the relevant government agency is paying for future mid to long term works that may result
- Emphasised the need for action and to keep momentum with the programme through communications and engagement with community and stakeholders
- Discussed situations where the passage ways have had unintended consequences elsewhere in New Zealand. Noted that work is ongoing in identifying and mitigating risk for Northland
- Noted that meeting central government regulations and policy is important
- Noted that the future proposal will include all stakeholders and Iwi/Hapu will be supported to prioritise the work of the action plan

- Emphasised that the purpose of the project is to deal with the biggest barriers in appropriate areas in a cost-effective way for all impacted stakeholders
- Explained that baseline connectivity in the model is the current situation
- Emphasised the need for an efficient model of moving forward that builds on action
- Noted that Iwi/Hapu is critical to the success of the roll out of the project
- *Direction: continue as presented in principle and include in a GMs briefing and decide next steps.*

Freshwater Farm Plan Regulations Implementation (Item 4.5)

Presented by: Ruben Wylie (Group Manager, Environmental Services)

Matters raised:

- Noted that reforms are still be developed and confirmed and may impact on next steps.
- Emphasised that a clear and measured approach to dealing with the whole issue is needed. Discussions are ongoing and matter will be raised as information becomes available
- Noted that auditing of farms may be removed, this is to be confirmed
- Noted that certification/auditing may be done through external regulation of the stakeholder/industry body groups, processing companies, this is to be confirmed
- Emphasised the need for a light touch on matters to still give effect to existing regulations before they are changed
- Noted that there may be changes to Te Mana o te Wai
- Noted that central government are looking to utilise existing compliance structures and encourage a decrease in compliance costs

(Secretarial note: Cr Robinson left the meeting at 11.12 am)

- Discussed how council systems and regulation connect with government systems and regulations
- Emphasised the need to work with all stakeholders to create an effective and efficient model.

Resource Management Reforms (Item 4.6)

Presented by: Tami Woods (Policy and Planning Manager)

Matters raised:

- Noted that the marine farm extensions has caused some concern across the regional govt sector due to the work required in this Aqua culture sector
- Emphasised the need for a clear and measured approach to meeting responsibilities and obligations
- Emphasised that there is clarity needed from officials and programme delivery based on legislation/regulations

- *Action point: Chair Geoff Crawford to write to the MFE minister on getting clarity on statutory change timeframes*

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 11.33 am with a karakia by Deputy Chair Shortland.

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