



*caring about you & your environment*

## **Report 02.729**

11 November 2002

File: Env 15/3/1

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Report to Environment Committee  
from Nigel Clarke, Take Care Co-ordinator

### **Take Care Groups for 2002-3**

#### **1. Purpose**

To inform the Committee of the new care groups to be supported through the *Take Care* Programme.

#### **2. Background**

The *Take Care* Programme's contestable fund was advertised in local papers, *Elements*, an information brochure, and on the Council's website. Groups interested in joining the programme were invited to contact the Council to talk about their project and obtain an application form.

As for last year, we had a good number of enquiries about the programme. At the closing date, eight applications had been received.

During September, we assessed the applications using the criteria detailed in the *Take Care* programme policy report (Report 00.675 to this Committee) and set out for applicants in the brochure. The applications were scored against the criteria, ranked, and their costs over the 4-year care programme cycle evaluated. Next, we determined which staff had the best expertise to support the various projects. Letters advising applicants of the outcome were sent out by 25 September.

#### **3. Groups Participating in the Programme from 2002**

Support for groups in the programme can come either *directly* from the Council (to deal with a particular environmental problem which we want to help resolve, or which is on our land) or through the contestable fund just described (i.e. by *applying* to the Council). In addition, some care groups are also funded out of the RPS implementation budget. For 2002-03, we budgeted to provide support for two new

groups of the first type and two new groups of the second type, whilst retaining support for existing groups.

### 3.1 **Groups Receiving Funding at Greater Wellington's Initiative**

The groups we have begun to support this year in this category (by the Landcare and Wairarapa Divisions) are:

(1) ***Riversdale Stream Care Group***

A project to restore the stream and lagoon Riversdale.

These groups join the following groups which are this year receiving their second or third year of funding:

(1) ***Friends of the Waikanae River***

A project to restore the Waikanae River riparian environment.

(2) ***Queen Elizabeth Park***

A project to restore wetlands and dune systems in Queen Elizabeth Park.

(3) ***Riversdale Beach Care Group***

A project to restore the dune systems and manage the beach environment at Riversdale.

(4) ***Pakuratahi***

A project to assist with restoring the streamsides of the Upper Pakuratahi catchment.

(5) ***Castlepoint Beach Care Group***

A project to restore the dune systems and manage the beach environment at Castlepoint.

### 3.2 **Groups Supported from the Contestable Fund**

With regard to the contestable fund, we have been able to support three additional groups this year rather than just two. This is because some of the applications do not require the full amount we budgeted for. The three groups and their projects are:

(1) ***Silverstream Railway Society and Upper Hutt Forest and Bird Society***

A project to restore the lower reaches of Hulls Creek and adjoining wetland in Silverstream.

(2) ***O Te Pua Wetland Restoration Group***

A joint project by landowners to restore O Te Pua Wetland

(3) ***Guardians Water Quality Monitoring team***

A project to monitor water quality in streams around the Pauatahanui Catchment.

Groups in this category receiving their second or third year of funding are:

(1) ***Pukerua Bay Residents Association***

A project to restore the Waimapehi Stream in Pukerua Bay.

(2) ***Fensham Group, Royal Forest and Bird Society, Wairarapa Branch.***

A project to restore Fensham wetland in Carterton.

(3) ***Otari-Wilton's Bush Trust***

A project to clear weeds and replant the Kaiwharawhara upstream of Otari-Wilton's Bush in Wellington.

(4) ***National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Staff***

A NIWA staff project to restore an area of coastal habitat and create a Blue Penguin breeding colony at Greta Point in Wellington.

(5) ***Royal Forest and Bird Society, Upper Hutt Branch***

A project to restore Moehou stream flowing through Moehou Reserve in Upper Hutt.

(6) ***Manuka Street Residents***

A project to restore a wetland and a stream flowing through Manuka Street Reserve in Masterton.

(7) ***Royal Forest and Bird Society, Kapiti Branch***

A project to restore the Wharemauku Stream at Kaitawa in Paraparaumu.

(8) ***Te Horo Beach Residents Association***

Restoring the coastal environment and Mangaone coastal wetland.

(9) ***Glenside Stream Care Group***

Restoring the streams making up the upper catchment of Porirua Stream.

(10) ***Waimeha Restoration Group***

Restoring the wetlands and dunes in and around the Waimeha Lagoon, near Paraparaumu

(11) ***Ngaio Progressive Association***

An education initiative to support restoration work along the Korimako Stream in Ngaio.

(12) ***Royal Forest and Bird Society, Kapiti Branch***

Part funding for a small nursery for restoration projects on the Kapiti Coast.

3.3 **Groups Supported from the RPS Implementation Budget**

In addition, a further two of this year's applications which were worthy of funding are being supported as RPS implementation projects. These are:

(1) ***Eastbourne Sand Dune Restoration Project***

A project to restore urban sand dunes in Eastbourne. The project is potentially very valuable as an educational tool about the value of dunes.

(2) ***Henley Wetlands***

A project to further develop the wetlands at Henley, Masterton.

These join the following groups receiving their second and third years of funding as RPS projects:

(1) ***Trellisick Park – Ngaio Gorge Working Group***

A project to restore the Lower Kaiwharawhara Stream, and a portion of the Korimako Stream at its junction with the Kaiwharawhara.

(2) ***Waitohu Stream Care Group***

A project to restore the Lower Waitohu and estuary at Otaki.

(3) ***Pauatahanui Wildlife Reserve Management Committee***

A project to develop a freshwater wetland at Pauatahanui Wildlife Reserve in Porirua.

(4) ***Guardians of Pukerua Bay Beach***

A project to clear weeds and replant the unique vegetation on the foreshore.

(5) ***Friends of Greendale***

Restoring the Muapoko Stream near Paraparaumu.

Altogether, this means that Greater Wellington will support 28 groups this year.

#### 4. **Conclusion**

There has been strong interest in the *Take Care* Programme. It is particularly pleasing that the Council is again able to support a larger number of groups than originally planned for. There are a variety of projects, covering different types of ecosystems that are particularly vulnerable, in locations throughout the Region. The projects that the Council is supporting provide significant opportunities to showcase what communities can do to help restore their own environment – and challenge people to examine how their behaviour can be modified in the light of others' efforts to work in these unique environments.

#### 5. **Communication**

The projects and groups that Greater Wellington is supporting will be reported in the next issue of *Elements*. With assistance from their staff facilitator, groups supported by the Council last year received extensive, positive coverage in the media. Individual groups will therefore again be encouraged, and helped, in their efforts to report Council support in their local papers and other media.

#### 6. **Recommendation**

*It is recommended that the Environment Committee:*

- (1) *receive the report; and*
- (2) *note the contents.*

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