



Report 05.362
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Committee Landcare
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Recreation and heritage assets performance indicator

1. Purpose

To report to the Committee on progress of the asset management programme for the Greater Wellington's parks and forests during the 2004/05 financial year in order to meet the performance indicator requirements of the Annual Plan.

2. Annual Plan performance indicator

The 2004/05 Annual Plan contains the following Performance Indicator:

Recreation and heritage assets and facilities in the regional parks, forests and water collection areas will be monitored, maintained, protected and enhanced in accordance with the Parks and Forests Asset Management Plan service levels.

Compliance with the Asset Management Plan service levels will be reported to the Landcare Committee following the end of the financial year, within a budget of \$1,236,000.

The performance indicator was **achieved** at a cost of \$1,241,000.

3. Contribution to Take 10 objectives

This performance indicator contributes to the quality of life of the regional community by ensuring that they can at all times safely enjoy using the regional parks and forests while being provided with a wide variety of outdoor recreation opportunities. The intent of this Annual Plan performance indicator is to ensure that the condition of the assets within the parks and forest areas are maintained or enhanced over the long-term so they continue to meet the recreational needs and safety requirements of the community.

4. Monitoring and review process

To ensure that recreational needs and safety requirements are met, we regularly monitor the condition of our assets and have a process to set and review operational work programmes. An important component of the work programme is the ongoing monitoring of assets by rangers to ensure compliance with service standards.

Regular maintenance is undertaken by the Assistant Ranger construction teams (responsible for structures, buildings, and facilities) and landscape teams (responsible for tracks, roads, grounds and environment work).

Park Rangers manage specified projects in the annual work programme - working with the maintenance teams or engaging contractors to do the work. Rangers also monitor routine contract maintenance such as toilet cleaning and grass mowing, environmental protection, enhancement and land management work programmes within the parks to ensure compliance with service standards.

Work programme implementation is the overall responsibility of the Principal Rangers. The Principal Rangers schedule maintenance programmes and oversee the total operation.

5. Annual inspection and audit

During the annual inspection we review the condition of the assets and identify renewals or replacements required. Specialist engineering or heritage consultants independently assess the condition of key assets every three to five years.

In April, May and June 2005, we carried out the annual inspection and audit. The inspection showed that the Parks and Forests assets were in very good condition across the network. The regular maintenance and replacement programmes continue to produce consistently high standards with improvements in many areas. However, the condition of the fences in our grazing lease areas have deteriorated and will need attention in the near future.

Bridge upgrades and replacements have resulted in strong, safe and durable structures with longer life expectancies and reduced ongoing maintenance costs. Programmed painting (preventative maintenance) has ensured the good appearance of buildings. Our priority re-metalling and upgrading of tracks in the past year has resulted in improved standards on all high use tracks. With the launch of the new Council brand, we have continued to upgrade a number of map boards and directional signs.

A summary of services provided in 2004/05 is detailed in **Attachment 1**.

6. Further development of the asset management plan

During 2004 we joined the Yardstick project, which is a system for comparing parks management data. Members include 55% of all territorial authorities plus regional councils and Department of Conservation. We submitted data to the

project in June 2004 and May 2005. The financial, asset and management information gathered by the project is analysed and shared amongst members for the purposes of benchmarking.

7. Key aspects of the work programme achieved

The benchmarking will allow us to see the strengths and weaknesses of our AMP programme and contribute to its improvement.

This year we met the AMP requirements for maintenance of grounds and infrastructure assets in the parks and forests. A number of map boards have been replaced to the new standard.

In addition we implemented the asset renewal programme for the infrastructure assets (12 new structures were built and the staircase at Whareroa in Queen Elizabeth Park was extended). All structures were inspected twice during the year.

8. Communication

This report is part of the verification process for meeting Annual Plan performance indicators. Most of the matters relate to ongoing maintenance.

9. Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1. Receive the report.*
- 2. Note the contents of the report.*

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