



Report 07.487
Date 30 July 2007
File E/06/16/03

Committee Landcare
Author Geoff Dick, Divisional Manager

Divisional Manager's Report - Catchment Management

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee about Western Flood Protection activities, and progress of matters since the last meeting.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Managers report

The Flood Protection Manager's report is attached. The report has covered the activities since last report in good detail. A summary and my over view from a Divisional perspective are covered in section 4 below.

4. Comment

Activity Summary

The Flood Protection Department had a busy and challenging year. Overall I am pleased with the progress the Department made over the wide range of projects currently underway.

Routine maintenance of our river and streams was completed, aided in no small part by the lack of a major flood event in the western part of the region. The operations team were successful in obtaining resource consent to undertake "wet" extraction in the lower Hutt River, and this work is now well underway.

Good progress was made with the Waiwhetu investigation; however it is now going to take until June 2008 to complete the new flood plan. This investigation grew considerably in size and scope with the inclusion of the contaminated sediment project. Similarly a lot of work has gone into the

Hutt/Boulcott stopbank upgrade investigation and we are at the point where decisions on the options should be able to be made.

Overall we were under budget with the capital spend largely due to delays in land acquisition negotiations for three projects; Chrystalls Extended, Whirinaki Crescent and South Waitohu. However the Ava rail bridge improvements is proceeding largely to programme. The good news is that the land and statutory processes for both Chrystalls and Whirinaki Crescent are complete, with construction due to get underway in the spring.

Boulcott/Hutt workshop

The workshop scheduled for 10.00am on 13 August 2007 is a key milestone for this project. I attended an officers briefing on the technical work completed for this investigation and feel the information is now available on which decisions can be made. Hutt River Advisory Committee members will be fully briefed on the new information, and the summary of pro's and con's for the three options under consideration, at the workshop. All Landcare Committee members are welcome to attend. Your participation would be appreciated as we head towards a decision on this important project.

Waiwhetu

At the time of preparing this report we have had no response from the Minister for the Environment, or the Ministry, about the request for the additional funding for the contaminated sediment project. In the mean time John Eyles and his team continue to progress the flood plan investigations. An update on the investigations will be provided to the Waiwhetu Stream Advisory Committee at its meeting on 22 August.

5. Communication

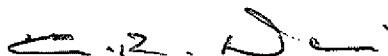
No communication is required.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the content of the report.*

Report prepared by:



Geoff Dick
Divisional Manager, Catchment Management

Attachment 1: Flood Protection Manager's report for the period ending 20 July 2007