



Report 09.623
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Committee Catchment Management
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Divisional Manager's Report

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee about the activities and progress and any matters that have arisen since the previous meeting held on 1 September 2009.

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. Background

The Department Managers' reports are attached.

4. Divisional matters

4.1 BioWorks Manager Appointment

I am pleased to advise that Richard Grimmert will be taking on the part time role of managing BioWorks. Richard is currently Section Leader, Pest Plants within the Biosecurity Department. The new appointment will extend through to 30 June 2011, by which time the Council will have established a clear vision for possum and predator control within the region. A review of our pest delivery structures is then scheduled.

4.2 ACC Audit

Greater Wellington recently applied to ACC for approval to secure secondary accreditation. Successful accreditation will result in reduced ACC fees and, more importantly, acknowledgement of strong health and safety systems within Greater Wellington.

ACC have recently indicated that two sites will be audited to assess whether secondary accreditation is appropriate. Sites selected include the Upper Hutt and Mabey Road Depots. The audit will cover the following Divisions and Departments:

Water Supply, Parks & Forest Division – Parks and Forestry Departments

Catchment Management Division – Biosecurity, Flood Protection, and Land Management Departments

Considerable preparatory work will be required by managers and health and safety representatives within each of the affected Departments prior to the audit on 11 November 2009.

4.3 Flood Protection Field Trip

A field visit to a upper Ruamahanga River site will occur after the Catchment Management Committee meeting on 15 October. The principal objective will be to raise the Committees awareness of current and future issues confronting river engineers as they plan and implement river management schemes. It is proposed to have representatives from Fish & Game NZ, DoC, iwi, and river scheme committees present to provide their perspectives.

5. Communications (Jim Flack)

Recent newspaper articles placed in regional papers included -

- School and community turnouts for Riversdale Beach planting
- Bring out your rooks
- Top tips on minding your stream
- Warning for dog owners after heavy rain potentially washed possums poisoned with 1080 down the Hutt River and onto eastern harbour beaches
- Renewed warning for dog owners
- Kaitoke drinking water clearance

Communication and iwi liaison are planning an orientation event for staff that may be involved in the Wairarapa Moana project. The event will bring staff together from the five partners - Greater Wellington, DOC, South Wairarapa District Council, Rangitane o Wairarapa and Kahungunu ki Wairarapa, as well as regional field officers from Forest and Bird, Fish and Game, and Ministry of Fisheries.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

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

Report prepared by:

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Attachment 1: Departmental Managers' reports
Attachment 2: Financial Report