



Report 10.178
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Committee Catchment Management
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CM Group - General Manager's Report

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee about the activities and progress any matters that have arisen since the previous meeting held on 11 March 2010.

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. Group matters

Group staff have been very busy over the past 2 months progressing a number of significant projects, as well as maintaining normal workloads. In particular, excellent progress has been made with the following:

- Waiwhetu Stream remediation and flood enhancement works;
- lodging of the Notice of Requirement and consent application documents for the new Boulcott / Hutt stopbank with HCC and GW;
- commencing landowner meetings for the WRECI project; and
- advancing various biodiversity enhancement projects with the Community Max scheme workers.

Flood Protection and Land Management staff are about to commence the various river and catchment scheme meetings to consider proposed 2010/11 work programmes.

Biosecurity staff are close to concluding the review of the Key Native Ecosystem programme which has been in existence since the mid 1990's. A report to the Committee on the review is expected in the near future.

An excellent initiative recently implemented by Dave Cameron and Miranda Robinson, in anticipation of the Regional Plans review, involved a joint field day for Environment Policy and Land Management staff. Staff visited Ray Craig's dairy farm at Dalefield and Peter Gawith's hill country farm at Longbush, to hear first hand how farmers manage environmental issues on their land, and the type of relationships they maintain with GW staff. This type of initiative could usefully be applied to other GW Departments to assist in the understanding of rural issues and options for future engagement with rural communities.

5. **Communications (Jim Flack)**

Catchment Management Communications presented papers to the Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Establishment Group at its February meeting on vision, mission, goals and performance indicators and a draft plan for the event to formally launch the Wairarapa Moana project. The launch events will be held on the weekend of June 19 and 20 and will focus on highlighting the work of major players, heritage, planting events and wetland ecology.

Staff co-ordinated and produced a teaching resource focusing on the plight of longfin eels in partnership with Rangitane o Wairarapa and the Department of Conservation.

Media activities included:

- A promotional article for the Waiwhetu Stream Walkover - in the Hutt News
- Eastern Lake Wairarapa landowners wanting private stopbanks included in the LWVDS - in the Wairarapa Times-Age
- Dogs allowed back into the Kaitoke Regional Park after the 2009 poison operation
- Front page pictures of the in river willow-trimming on the section of the Waipoua River that runs through central Masterton - in the Wairarapa Times-Age and Wairarapa News.

6. **Recommendations**

That the Committee:

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

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Attachment 1: Department Manager's reports
Attachment 2: Financial report