

Report 13.158
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Committee Environmental Wellbeing Committee
Author Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager, Catchment Management

General Manager's report to the Environmental Wellbeing Committee on 21 May 2013

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee of Greater Wellington Regional Council's activities relating to the Committee's areas of responsibility.

2. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

3. Public Participation

John Harding gave a presentation on managing the effects of sea level rise at the Waimeha Stream Inlet, including concerns about maintenance of the rubble groyne, protecting the Kapiti Coast District Council Pumping Station, the accuracy of the proposed hazard line and the potential effects of the coastal hazard line on property values.

Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) is working with Kapiti Coast District Council (KCDC) regarding management of the Waimeha Stream mouth and its interaction with coastal management. In relation to maintenance of the rubble groyne at the mouth of the Waimeha Stream, we have written to KCDC and advised them that we intend to continue current river and stream mouth management regimes on the Kapiti Coast into the foreseeable future. The protection of the pumping station specifically is something KCDC would have to consider when the need arises. The accuracy of the coastal hazard line is also a matter for KCDC, but GWRC will continue to work with them and provide any information we have that may be of assistance in determining the nature of the hazard. No further action is required by GWRC.

4. Catchment Management

4.1 Flood Protection

4.1.1 Investigations, Strategy and Planning

Waiwhetu Stream

An interim summary report is being prepared which collates all of the economic, environmental, and social and cultural value information with the results of the extensive community consultation that led to development of the current floodplain management plan option combinations. This report will be presented, with the four options combinations, at the next meeting of the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee (HVFMS).

Further work on options development for the four remaining option combinations is being carried out. This included a workshop with the Friends of Waiwhetu Stream on 2 May to fine-tune the option that they have proposed.

Pinehaven Stream

Community consultation is underway, with a particular emphasis on one-on-one consultation with affected landowners. The first round of consultation commenced at the beginning of December 2012.

Sinclair Knight Merz is developing a draft FMP based on the preferred option combination, and this will be presented to the HVFMS when complete.

Waikanae River

Discussions are ongoing with Kapiti Coast District Council and Te Ati Awa Whakarongotai to seek their feedback on the Waikanae River Environmental Strategy, so that we can finalise our review of this document.

Staff have been in discussions with the Mackays to Peka Peka expressway Alliance about protocols for review of their designs, and the use of our hydraulic model in the design of bridges and culverts.

Otaki River

The hydraulic model for the Otaki River and floodplain has been completed. A peer review of the model and of the final report will be undertaken before the information is used.

Upper Wairarapa Valley FMP Development

The focus at this stage is on the community engagement, climatology and hydrology, survey and hydraulic modelling, and geomorphology components. Other elements, such as erosion and flood damages assessment, and cultural values assessment, will commence in coming months. The project is running approximately four weeks behind programme.

A proposed governance structure for the development of the FMP is being prepared.

Porirua Flood Hazard Maps

A communication strategy has been developed for the consultation and publication of the Flood Hazard Maps. The strategy was presented to this Committee in April. We are now working with Porirua City Council (PCC) and Wellington City Council (WCC) officers to brief their councillors and communities in a consistent manner, based on the lessons we have learned from the release of flood hazard information in Wainuiomata and Mangaroa.

Whakawhiriwhiri Stream

An external peer review of the hydraulic modelling and resource consent application, requested by Environmental Regulation staff, has been received. We are currently preparing a response to the points raised by the peer reviewer.

Flood Hazard Advisory Services

Staff have been involved in the McKays to Peka Peka (M2PP) and Peka Peka to Otaki (PP2O) Roads of National Significance projects on the Kapiti Coast. We have recently provided feedback on the M2PP Landscape Management Plan and the Stormwater Protocol for detailed design. The Notice of Requirement and resource consent applications with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for the PP2O project were lodged in March and we have provided feedback on key issues. Public notification is expected to be given in early May. During the submission period we will provide input to the GWRC submission on the notified design.

We have also assisted Upper Hutt City Council with technical background for their Hearing Report for their proposed District Plan Change 15, which includes flood hazards for the Mangaroa River and Hutt Rivers.

Floodplain Management Guidelines

Work on the FMP guidelines is complete. We are now in the process of publishing the guidelines.

4.1.2 Floodplain Management Plan Implementation

Boulcott/Hutt Project

The Boulcott/Hutt stopbank project is substantially complete. The contractor is currently progressing with the remaining landscaping works and the works at the Safeway entrance. Security fencing and improvements at the Safeway Storage entrance remain to be agreed with Safeway.

The Golf Club is also making good progress with the reinstatement works along the stopbank and the disturbed areas of the former Boulcott course.

Hutt River - City Centre Upgrade Project

Project scoping for the City Centre Upgrade Project is progressing. A number of meetings and workshops were held in April/May with key stakeholders to outline the project and to discuss key issues and possible involvement in project management. These stakeholders included:

- Hutt City Council officers (City Development, roading, parking and planning)
- Utility operators (power and gas)
- Service providers (stormwater and sewer)
- New Zealand Transport Agency
- Hutt River Trail (Council officers and Rotary).

A presentation was made to the City Development Committee of Hutt City Council on 1 May 2013, and a separate meeting was held with Port Nicholson Block Trust representatives on 7 May 2013.

Project scoping is programmed for completion by June 2013.

Lower Waitohu Stream

Land entry negotiations with the landowners along the lower Waitohu Stream from Convent Road Bridge are progressing. Staff are currently negotiating a land entry agreement with the agents for owners of 74 Convent Road. The purpose of this agreement is to gain an easement to build the proposed five year stopbank. A draft resource consent application is being prepared for the 2013/14 works programme.

Otaki River

A draft report on river bed management options to maintain a stable channel alignment for the Otaki River from the Mouth to the Gorge has been completed. An option will be recommended through the Otaki River operations consent. The selected option will form the basis for the maintenance and improvement works in the river corridor, and the approval to implement it will be gained through the Otaki River operations consent.

Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme (LWVDS) Work Programme

The main components of this year's work programme are largely complete.

The absence of significant flood damage during the year will enable progress to be made on extending the stopbank at the Tauanui River delta this year. This stopbank, when completed, will provide a gravel trap for the Tauanui River and will reduce the volume of gravel discharging into the Ruamahanga River diversion channel.

4.1.3 Operations and Delivery

Wairarapa River Schemes

With the drought conditions causing very low river levels, nearly all the in-channel operational work was suspended for close to three months to lessen the stress on the river environment.

Staff have been preparing reports and information for the annual river scheme meetings and visits that will take place from 6 to 17 May.

Recreation Activities

The hot dry weather continued throughout March and for much of April. Flood Protection staff combined with the Parks Department to arrange the “Trail to Trig” walk, and the following week over 1,000 cyclists participated in the Bike the Trail. The Hutt Valley Harriers fun run also took place during the month and attracted over 400 participants.

Gravel Extraction

Details of gravel extraction volumes are provided in the following table:

River	Extraction Volumes (m ³)	
	YTD 12/13	FY 11/12
Hutt Mouth	25,480	29,057
Hutt	52,547	49,873
Otaki	47,070	50,265
Wairarapa	96,991	209,359
Totals	222,088	338,554

Gravel extraction continues in the Hutt River at Belmont and in the Otaki River below the Gas Crossing. If the current trend continues, gravel extraction from Wairarapa Rivers will be the lowest volume in ten years.

River Management Resource Consent Project

The resource consent application for Hutt River operations and maintenance activities was lodged on the 5 April. The current focus is on completing and lodging the Waikanae River application by 22 May 2013. The Otaki and Wainuiomata River applications will follow later in 2013.

Work on the Code of Practice and on environmental monitoring is continuing and is scheduled to be completed in 2013, prior to the granting of any consent applications.

The short term Waingawa River resource consent was granted on 18 April without the need for a formal hearing.

5. Wairarapa Moana

5.1 Works in Progress

- The Wairio/Te Ara o Parera walkway resource consent has been granted and a contract let for the construction of the boardwalk. The work to date has come in under budget so a request has gone to the Walkways Commission to spend the savings on developing the pathway to the boardwalk. This has been received positively by the Commission.
- The Wairarapa Moana website has been created and staff are now working to populate the site.

- The Wairarapa Moana book has been forwarded to all primary and secondary schools within the Wairarapa. It has been well received with a number of schools, especially in the South Wairarapa, requesting assistance from our community educators to work the history of Wairarapa Moana into their school curriculum.

Relationships

- Onoke/Okorewa Lagoon (Lake Ferry) - restoration activities are being coordinated including site preparation for planting, bird monitoring programme and baseline plant survey. A 5 year draft restoration plan has been submitted for input by the Project Team and the South Wairarapa Biodiversity Group.
- Staff have attended community group meetings (Featherston Walkways, Wairarapa Ornithological Society, etc) to help extend the network of volunteers for these community days.

Monitoring and Investigations

- The wetland bird monitoring field survey completed in spring and summer has provided a great deal of useful information about wetland birds in the edge wetlands. It has also been decided to survey during winter to gain as much knowledge as possible about the values of the different wetlands at different times of the year.
- A baseline fish survey has been completed in four of the five lake edge wetlands (Wairio was not included), plus Hayward's Lagoon. Goldfish, perch and rudd were found at most sites, with trout and longfin eel being recorded at Hayward's Lagoon and JK Donald.
- Water quality monitoring data in Barton's and Matthew's Lagoons is continuing to be collected each quarter. This data is currently being analysed and staff are investigating the interactions between ground and surface water on the eastern side of the lake, as a number of questions have been raised about the influence of ground water in the lake edge wetlands. This information is also important for the wider water balance/nutrient input study being completed by GWRC's Environmental Science department for Lake Wairarapa.
- A hui is to be held by Ra Smith with local Iwi to develop relevant cultural health monitoring indicators for Wairarapa Moana.

5.2 Fresh Start for Freshwater Cleanup Fund

Background

This project commenced in March 2012. The project is focussing on working with landowners to improve water quality, particularly in the edge wetlands surrounding Wairarapa Moana. There will need to be a carry over in funds from the Ministry due to lower than budgeted spending on farm works, technical transfer and restoration works.

(a) On farm works

Despite the lack of spending on farm works, some 92 projects have been identified from the 20 willing landowners. A grants rate policy and approval process has been developed for consideration by the management team. A total of 20 farm assessments have now been undertaken. There was a positive response from farmers to the assessment process.

(b) Tech Transfer

Two field days are proposed for the June-July period. The first is proposed for 6 June and will include visits to two properties - Alex Webster's and the Landcorp Wingpoint farm. The topics to be covered include options for effluent management and biodiversity.

(c) Monitoring

Water quality monitoring at the edge wetlands is continuing. Consideration of how to monitor where the inputs are to the likes of the Otakura and Whakawhiriwhiri streams is ongoing. Data from the water quality and quantity surveying of Wairarapa Moana is expected in June.

6. Biodiversity

6.1 General

The Porirua Harbour and Catchments Strategy and Action Plan have won the 2013 NZ Planning Institute's Best Practice award category for consultation and participation. The strategy is a collaboration between Ngati Toa Rangatira, PCC, WCC and GWRC. The Awards panel noted in their citation:

"...the development of the Strategy demonstrates how a best practice consultative approach transcends the limitations that a non-statutory document often has".

- Marc Slade, Project Coordinator of Nature Central, is now working out of the Biodiversity office.
- The Biodiversity Operational Plan 2013-16 is currently being developed to direct the work programmes planned for the next three financial years.
- The Biodiversity Management Area programme has been subject to an audit and information about the programme and its progress has been made available to Audit New Zealand.

6.2 Biodiversity advice

- Department staff provided an initial 'key issues' report on the Peka Peka to Otaki expressway proposal to the Environmental Regulation department.

- Staff are continuing to provide input into the development of the Environmental Management Plan for the Mackays to Peka Peka expressway.
- Technical biodiversity advice was provided to eight external and seven internal stakeholders regarding wetland, coastal, dune, forest and riparian ecosystems.
- Advice was provided on the submission on the draft Urban Growth Strategy of the Hutt City Council.

6.3 High value biodiversity areas

- Active management was undertaken in 102 Biodiversity Management Areas (BMA). Activities undertaken included biodiversity planning for 35 BMA, pest animal control (58 BMA), pest plant control (35 BMA), and preparation for planting at some sites.
- The department is working with the Flood Protection department to explore opportunities for collaborative management of the Otaki River and coast.
- The department is working with WCC to support the management of biodiversity values through the HALO project. This project aims to extend the available habitat of threatened bird species dispersing from Zealandia in Karori.
- A Biodiversity Area Management Plan (BAP) for Parangarahu Lakes has been drafted to provide guidance on how to implement the biodiversity management outlined in Te Roopu Tiaki's management plan for the area.
- Draft BAPs have been finished for six Regional Parks. These are now going through a consultation phase with Parks department, management partners and stakeholders.
- Several landowners in the Wairarapa have declined to participate in the Key Native Ecosystem (KNE) programme. These sites will remain BMAs, but active management will not proceed at this stage.
- The department is organising the protection and enhancement of habitat for rare coastal plant species at Mataikona, with funding provided by Masterton District Council.
- Public and landowner consultation has been completed for the planned 1080 drop in Akatarawa forest.
- The Mainland Island Restoration Operation group is planning a pateke (brown teal) translocation to East Harbour Northern Forest.

6.4 Priority areas for community engagement

- Staff are working with Enviroschools, Aratoi and Ngati Kahungunu to co-ordinate South Wairarapa Schools' Matariki planting at Lake Domain on 2 July.
- Staff are coordinating planting activities for Lake Wairarapa Domain Reserve, including for the Catchment Management Group field day, a Community planting day and for St Matthew's Collegiate. This includes the use of the Honda Tree fund and other corporate involvement.
- Information for planting events in South Wairarapa led by GWRC has been coordinated, collated and submitted for the publication of a publicity poster and general promotion. Staff have attended community group meetings (including the Featherston Walkways Trust and the Wairarapa Ornithological Society) to help extend the network of volunteers for these community planting events.
- Meetings with the Porirua Harbour Catchment Education group (Community and schools workstreams) were attended to collaborate with external groups about current works in the catchment.
- A meeting with staff from WCC, PCC and GWRC was held to discuss the organisation's active involvement in aspects of revegetation/restoration work in the Porirua Harbour catchment as part of the implementation of the Porirua Harbour and Catchment Strategy. The Porirua Harbour Whole-of-Catchment Revegetation Plan development has been contracted to Groundtruth (formerly Peter Handford Associates) to develop.
- The Porirua Harbour Estuary Restoration Plan draft has been sent to stakeholders for comment and feedback.
- Staff are coordinating planting activities at Pauatahanui Wildlife Reserve which include a school planting event, community event and a corporate event.

6.5 Region-wide ecological restoration support

- "Nature Space" Restoration Day was held on Saturday 27 April. The department helped organise the event and provided presentations. The event was well attended and positive feedback was received from community groups and volunteers who attended.
- The Communications and Biodiversity Departments are working together to deliver a fortnightly newspaper column printed in the *Kapi-Mana News*, *Wellingtonian* and one of the Wairarapa papers, as part of the Joint Communications Plan between GWRC, WCC and PCC.

7. Land Management

7.1 Akura Conservation Centre

A start has been made on the re-development plan for the retail area at Akura. A small block of poplars has been removed adjacent to the administration buildings and a new perimeter fence constructed around an enlarged compound area. New access has been established and a start has been made on the lay-by. It is envisaged that this work will be completed in time for the Centre opening on Tuesday 4 June.

The Agreement over 13.4 hectares of lease land has been signed and a further 5 hectares will be planted in the spring. This will bring the area of new plantings to 11 hectares. The final 2.4 hectares is to be planted in the spring of 2014. Infilling of gaps in the new plantings will be carried out during the winter to bring the first 6 hectares up to 100% stocking.

Nursery managers from six regional councils and three private growers attended the annual workshop in Masterton. The workshop was based at Akura and focussed on the extension to Akura, disease management, future plans for expansion and new trial varieties. This proved to be a watershed moment as all councils indicated their desire to increase annual plantings and provide ongoing support to the work of the Poplar and Willow Research Trust. The Trust is looking at a pole levy to increase funding for the national breeding and research programmes.



7.2 Forestry update

Reserve Forests

Harvest at Tauanui has been completed except for three small areas totalling six hectares. These stands are somewhat inaccessible and will be removed from the pending forestry rights sale. The land will be left to revert to native forest. Roadlining and a small amount of road construction are due to start at Hiwinui. This work will provide access to the first of the 1980's planting at Hiwinui which is planned to extend over the next eight years. It is anticipated that the first stand, planted in 1984, will take twelve months to harvest and yield 29,000 tonnes, a possible net stumpage return of \$1M. The tonnage is up from the 15,000 tonnes budgeted over each of the last three years.

Metro Forests

Harvesting continues in two blocks at Valley View and one in Puketiro. Harvest planning and budget preparation for 2013/14 has been completed and volumes are expected to reach 80,000 tonnes. This has been a consistent target for the last four years. Log prices continue to show small rises for both export and domestic logs. Projections for the current year show that 86% of logs from the Metro forests are exported; the remainder enters the domestic market in the Wairarapa.

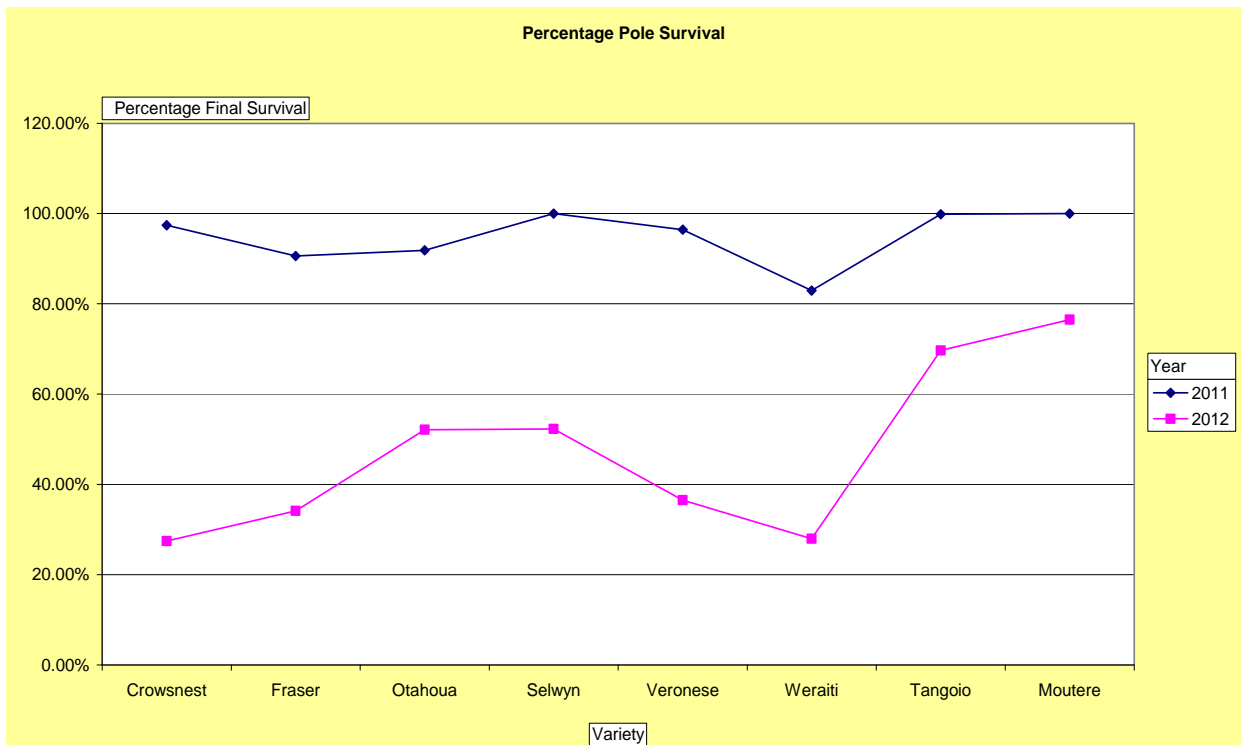
Cutting Rights Sale

The cutting rights sale process is fast approaching the marketing phase. Over the next week we expect to confirm the successful marketing agent and complete the Information Memorandum that will inform potential buyers about the forests. The marketing process will last twelve weeks and a short list of potential buyers will be compiled. It is intended to hold a Council workshop in September to provide an update on this project.

7.3 Poplar and Willow Pole Audit

The poplar and willow pole audit has been completed across a sample of 18 properties. These properties are selected to represent a variety of geographical locations, soil types, and contract planters. The results clearly show the effects of the post Christmas drought. Last year's audit, when summer rains were excellent, resulted in an average survival of 96%. This year the average across 15% of the total poles planted was 50%.

Across eight different poplar and willow varieties the survival rate ranged between 27% and 77%. Last year the range was between 86% and 100%.



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Despite these disappointing results for 2012, the demand for poles for this year is very high. It has become evident over the last five years that a poor result does not necessarily translate into lower demand. Landowners clearly understand the nature of the business and as long as pole quality and planting standards remain high they seem to accept that droughts will markedly affect the establishment rates. This means that they see value in committing to annual programmes and accept the bad with the good.

8. Biosecurity

Pest Animals:

8.1 Akatarawa Forest aerial 1080 possum control 2013

Preparation for this operation has been completed. The Medical Officer of Health approval has been issued and the necessary notifications are complete. The GWRC resource consent was issued on 10 May. The bait has been purchased. The pre-feed will not be flown before 20 May due to helicopter availability. Warning signs has been erected at all main entrances to warn dog walkers and other forest users.

8.2 KNE Operations

In the Keith George KNE a range of birdlife was noted during the last bait fill, including numerous sightings of white-heads and tomtits and a falcon was heard calling. The bait consumption in this reserve has risen noticeably, following the logging of an adjacent pine block (and what is presumed to be a subsequent migration of possums). A number of new bait-stations were added to this reserve during the last fill to tighten the network.

8.3 Traps busy catching ferrets and cats

Trapping at KNE sites in the Wairarapa has been very successful with the number of catches for both ferrets and cats being the highest for some time. It is thought that the dry season, with high rodent numbers, may have increased the predator presence in this part of the region.

8.4 Wallaby Stakeholders Meeting

Biosecurity staff attended a meeting at the Ministry for Primary Industries on the current status and future management of wallabies in New Zealand. Two discreet populations of wallaby are found on mainland New Zealand, with Bennett's wallaby in South Canterbury and the smaller dama wallaby in the central Bay of Plenty. There are no known populations of wallaby in the Wellington region, although parts of the region have suitable habitat for their establishment. Wallaby are a popular game species and less so as an illegal pet. This provides a potential source of introduction to the Wellington region.

Wallabies have historically been managed by the Department of Conservation under the Wild Animal Control Act. Recent changes to the Biosecurity Act have allowed wallaby to become an unwanted organism and to be included and managed under Regional Pest Management Plans (RPMP). The tools for monitoring and management of new wallaby incursions are very limited, and experiences in other regions have shown the difficulty of monitoring and controlling wallaby incursions. Biosecurity will consider including wallabies in the Wellington RPMP during the next review.

Pest Plants:

8.5 Weedbusters "Plant Me Instead" project

Weedbusters is a weed awareness and education programme that aims to protect New Zealand's environment from the ever increasing threats posed by pest plants. People play a significant role in spreading environmental weeds, often without knowing it, and Weedbusters aims to educate people and raise awareness to turn this problem around.

GWRC is working with Weedbusters to promote weed awareness across the region. In October 2012 the Biosecurity pest plants team agreed to liaise with the Department of Conservation and WCC to produce a regional "Plant me instead" booklet aimed at raising awareness about the weeds of greatest concern in the Wellington region.

Twenty-three community groups, organisations and individuals from across the region were asked to vote for their worst weeds in December 2012. A total of 38 pest plant species received two or more votes and have subsequently been selected to feature in the booklet. The booklet will also include a category called “Weeds to watch out for” which includes three invasive wetland plant species that have either never been recorded or currently have a limited distribution within our region.

Each page in the booklet is featuring one of the top voted weed species for the region, a brief description of the plant, how it spreads and why it is a problem. The lower part of the page features different suggestions of non weedy plants, both native and exotic ones to plant instead.

GARDEN ESCAPEE

✗ **Yellow & kahili ginger (*Hedychium* species)**



Yellow ginger (*H. flavescens*)



Kahili ginger (*H. gardnerianum*)

Herbaceous perennials with large, branching, tuberous roots that form mats up to 1 metre thick. *H. gardnerianum* spreads by seeds and root fragments, while *H. flavescens* spreads only by root fragments. Forms dense colonies in natural areas, smothering native plants and preventing native seedlings establishing.


PLANT ME INSTEAD...

✓ **Parataniwha (*Elatostema rugosum*)**



Also consider:
Coastal flax (*Phormium cookianum*)
Kakaha (*Astelia fragrans*)

✓ **Winter rose (*Helleborus orientalis*)**



Also consider:
Dutch irises
Siberian bugloss (*Brunnera macrophylla*)

Groundcovers and fillers 2

Figure 1. A page from the final draft of Wellington regions “Plant me instead” booklet featuring one weed to get rid of and non weedy alternatives to plant instead.

All local territorial authorities in the Wellington Region contributed funding towards the production of the booklet. The project is now in its final stage and a final draft version of the booklet has been produced. Over 24,000 copies will be printed by mid June 2013, ready to be distributed among the contributing partners. They will then distribute the booklets among gardeners, landowners and restoration groups throughout the region.

8.6 Biological Control

8.6.1 Buddleia leaf weevil- *Cleopus japonicus*

Good establishment of buddleia leaf weevil is now being noted on the great majority of release sites throughout the region. Severe damage is apparent at the Orongorongo weir site a year after release. Similar results are noted in the Hutt and Wairarapa river valleys. Harvesting of the weevils and releasing to new sites has progressed well during the dry hot summer and autumn.

Some releases have not been successful. The visual look of the buddleia plants appeared different. Samples that have been sent to the Landcare Research confirmed that plants have likely originated from garden cultivars.



Figure 2. *Typical buddleia leaf weevil damage in early stage of establishment*

BioWorks:

8.7 Animal Health Board (AHB) Pukeatua Aerial Project

1080 baits were declared non toxic on the 11 February. Monitored possum carcasses have now decomposed. It is considered that no further threats remain from baits or carcasses in this operation. Poison warning signs will be removed by the end of May.

8.8 2012/13 AHB Programme - Ground projects

Staff have completed approximately 38,000 ha of the 56,500 ha AHB programme for 2012/13 year and achieved some remarkable results. We expect to deliver the programme by the end of June.

8.9 Regional Possum Predator Control Programme (RPPCP)

Control has commenced in the RPPCP within the Kapiti District covering 12,300 hectares. To date, staff have erected over 270 bait stations which have been filled with brodifacoum. A further 7,700 hectares are proposed to be treated within Porirua City and consultation with landowners has commenced. The programme is not targeting urban areas of the Kapiti District or Porirua City.

We have also commenced consultation with landowners from the Wairarapa RPPCP area, which covers some 15,000ha. Control in this area will be implemented over late May and June.

8.10 2013/14 AHB Programme – Ground Control

The AHB released tender documents for approximately 140,000 hectares of possum control and survey work by ground control methods in the Wellington Region for the 2013/14 year. These tenders are now closed and BioWorks submitted tenders for four parcels covering 38,600 hectares.

Most of these areas have been treated by BioWorks in the past.

8.11 Western Tararua Aerial Control

Currently BioWorks is preparing work plans to treat the Western Tararua aerial control project. This area was contracted to BioWorks in 2011 and has experienced several delays. In conjunction with this project, AHB has also requested that BioWorks treat the adjoining Otaki possum control strata as well. This project is split between the Horizons and Wellington regions and covers approximately 6,100 hectares to be treated in August 2013.

9. Recommendations

That the Committee:

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

Report prepared by:



Wayne O'Donnell
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Catchment Management