

# **Regional Policy Statement Implementation Report**

## **Geoff Skene, Manager**

**February 2001**

### **1. Plant Guide (John Holmes)**

In December and January 910 copies of the Guide were sold, the majority around Christmas time. Sales are rapidly approaching 10,000 copies, with one retailer alone nearing 1,000 copies sold. The distribution network also continues to grow with the addition of the Moore's Valley nursery in Wainuiomata.

### **2. Waiwhetu Stream (Tim Porteous)**

A total of 12 submissions have been received on the draft Action Plan. The submissions have been analysed and distributed to the members of the stream's Working Group for their consideration.. The group holds its first meeting for 2001 in mid-February.

It is well known that one of the stream's major problems is the contamination of the sediments at its mouth. In order to determine the size of this problem, the Council, along with Hutt City Council, supported Mr Doug Sheppard (a consultant and member of the working group) in a bid to the Ministry for the Environment's Sustainable Management Fund.

Unfortunately, the application was not successful in the December funding round. This seriously undermines our approach to cleaning up the contaminated sediments, and will require a rethink as to how to proceed.

On a more positive note, the Council assisted the tangata whenua to clear a section of the stream of Cape Pond Weed in early December. The cost of this was met from the funds set aside for the Waiwhetu Stream through the Long Term Financial Strategy and by the Flood Protection Department.

### **3. Wellington Region Ecological Restoration Network**

Staff from the Division are assisting the Department of Conservation to set up a network for community groups, local authorities, and others engaged in restoration projects to share their skills and experiences. Three meetings are being held in February to gauge the level of interest in the idea, which is primarily a DOC initiative.

It has always been our intention to attempt to form a network for the Council's own care groups, for much the same purposes as this initiative. It may be that this will suffice, but we will assess this over the next few months. There is still scope for us to provide training for those Council groups that want it and there is merit in other

gatherings of our groups for events, information sharing and, of course, celebrations of community achievements.

#### **4. Learnwell Environmental Trail (Jo Campbell, Richard Morgan, Jo Fagan, Olwen Narbey, Karen Brewster)**

The Learnwell programme has taken a major step forward over the last two months with the completion of some of the resource materials (including introductory book, teacher resource book, posters, and artwork) for the four week teaching unit we are offering to schools.

These will now be “piloted” by six schools from around the Region between February and mid April. In other words, the actual style and content of the resources will be tested in a classroom situation, and on the trail day itself. Whilst the material produced so far seems fun, colourful, and lively to us, if the children don’t like it, we will soon find out. All aspects of the programme will be tested in this way, including the “adopt-a-stream” component, for which resources have also been developed.

There remains still quite a lot of writing, designing, and artwork to do for this programme, but very good progress is being made and we are confident of being able to produce and print the materials this financial year as planned.

#### **5. Living in a More Environmentally Friendly Way (Paula Reeves)**

We have given our support to a project initiated by the Marlborough District Council to develop a simple way for homeowners to think about and reduce the environmental effects of ordinary domestic activities. Along with a number of other Councils, we took part in the bid to the Sustainable Management Fund for funding for this. The application was successful (in that it received approval to advance to the next stage of the SMF process), so we are hopeful of soon being able to participate in the pilot for the programme.

The Regional Policy Statement contains a number of methods which urge individuals to adopt more sustainable ways of living. Encouraging people to change their environmental behaviour is an important part of the work of the Department and the Division. This idea represents an excellent way by which the Council can give effect to the aims and aspirations of Local Agenda 21.

#### **6. Progress with Business Bridges (Romae Duns)**

Romae has completed a draft of the kit for businesses to use to clean up their sites and reduce the risk of a pollution incident. It is planned to pilot this with a group of Rongotai businesses and industries in March and April. The kit and its associated cleaner production and waste minimisation components will also be discussed with and assessed by an industry reference group comprised of relevant national and regional industry associations.

# **Resource Policy Department Report Wayne Hastie Manager**

**February 2001**

## **1. Regional Plans**

Now that the Council has all of its regional plans operative, we are hoping to repeal the Transitional Regional Plan. Preliminary discussions have commenced, and we hope to make real progress over the next few months.

When the Resource Management Act 1991 commenced, the Council was deemed to have two transitional regional plans. Both plans were comprised of a variety of instruments such as bylaws, general authorisations and water classifications that had been in place at the time the Act commenced. The Transitional Regional Coastal Plan automatically ceased to have effect when the Regional Coastal Plan became operative. However, the Transitional Regional Plan remains in effect, although some parts were removed by the Council in 1999. The Council must go through a formal statutory process to remove the remainder of the Plan.

## **2. Regional Plan Implementation**

### **Silt Guidelines (Paul Denton)**

The consultants engaged to report on erosion and sediment control practices in the Porirua area have completed their report. Staff are currently analysing the findings.

As reported to the last meeting, the project is joint venture with Porirua City Council. It has both a management and a practical focus and will help us to answer the following questions:

- Are the regional and district rules controlling erosion and silt run-off adequate?
- Do the regional silt control guidelines reflect national best practice?
- Are the rules and guidelines being appropriately implemented through resource consents?
- Are the consent conditions achievable in practice?
- Are consent conditions being complied with?

Completion of the project enables us to review our current practices and identify where improvements can be made.

### **On Site Sewage Brochures (Kirsten Forsyth)**

Two further brochures in this series have been prepared and are currently awaiting final design and printing.

### **Transfer of Power for On-Site Sewage Disposal (Kirsten Forsyth)**

The Regional Plan for Discharges to Land contains a method stating that the Regional Council will transfer powers to territorial authorities for the control of on-site sewage treatment and disposal (within specified limits). The transfers will complement territorial authority responsibilities under other legislation, and thereby provide enhanced customer service.

A technical guideline on on-site sewage disposal has been completed to ensure that rules will be implemented in a consistent and competent manner. Copies of the guideline have been sent to territorial authorities, prompting a renewed interest in the idea of a transfer of power from Upper Hutt City Council and Kapiti Coast District Council.

In order to implement a transfer of power each council will have to go through the formal procedures set out in section 33 of the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Local Government Act 1974.

### **Responsible Use of Agrichemicals (Nicki Kinghorn)**

The two A4 flyers that were prepared in-house explaining the requirements of Rules 1 and 2 of the Regional Air Quality Management Plan (i.e. rules for the application of agrichemicals) have been printed and distributed (100 to Wrightsons' Porirua Head Office and 450 to the Wairarapa Division).

### **Spray Painting Pamphlet (Nicki Kinghorn)**

As part of the settlement of the Moir Street Residents' appeal on the Regional Air Quality Management Plan, the Council agreed to prepare and distribute pamphlets to spray painters explaining the requirements of the Plan and how they can ensure compliance. A draft was prepared and circulated to Council staff, Public Health and Occupational Safety and Health for comment. The draft was also sent to the Moir Street Residents for comment but we received no response, and decided to proceed with printing. A mailing list of about one hundred spray painters in the Region has been compiled.

## **3. Iwi matters (Keriana Wilcox)**

There is little to report since the last meeting. The first Ara Tahī meeting for the year is scheduled for 7 February.

Staff continue to work with Iwi discussing Iwi projects. The Taranaki Whānui was unsuccessful in their bid for Sustainable Management Funding to assist them to prepare an iwi environmental management plan. They are currently revising their proposal to reflect the reduced funding available for the project.

Talks are progressing with the Wellington Tenth's Trust about their proposal to prepare an inventory of sites of significance. This project is likely to commence within the next month.

#### 4. **Staff**

Keriana Wilcox has taken up the position as Maori Policy Advisor. Keriana completed a Bachelor of Resource Studies at Lincoln University and has most recently been working as a Career Consultant/Kaitohutohu.

Paula Reeves has resigned to take up a position as a wetland scientist with NIWA.

# Resource Investigations Department Report John Sherriff, Manager

## February 2001

### 1. Resource Information

#### 1.1 Flood Warning

Since the last meeting the following severe weather bulletins were received:

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 27-29 December 2000 | Heavy rain warnings |
| 16 January 2001     | Strong wind warning |
| 25 January 2001     | Strong wind warning |

The following rainfall and river level alarms were also received and responded to:

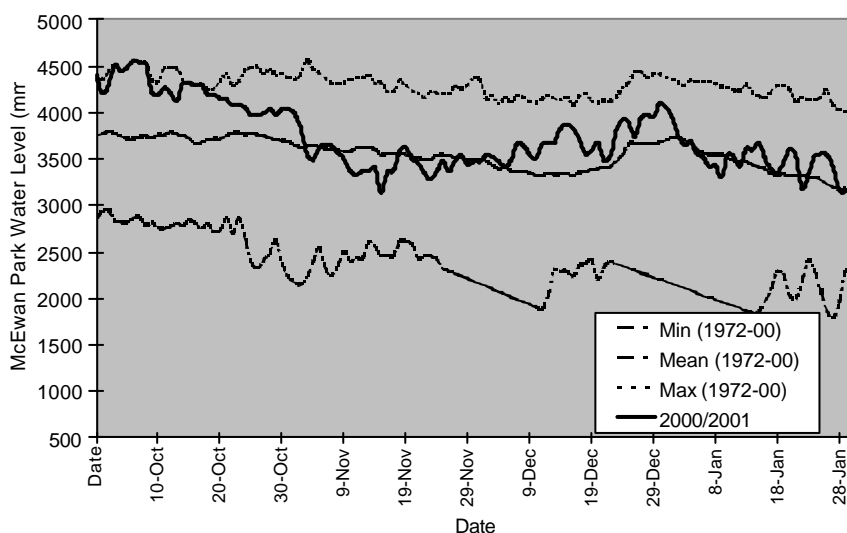
|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 29 November 2000 | Rainfall alarm at Skull Gully   |
| 3 December 2000  | Rainfall alarm at Kapakapanui, Warwicks and Taungata  |
| 11 December 2000 | Rainfall alarms at Skull Gully and Taungata   |
| 29 December 2000 | Rainfall alarms at Warwicks, Phillips, Taungata and McIntosh<br>Water level alarms at Kaitoke and Otaki |

### 2. Resource Analysis

#### 2.1 Groundwater Levels

##### *Waiwhetu Artesian Aquifer*

Artesian pressure measured at the McEwan Park monitoring bore has been at or about mean levels since late December. The pressure appears to be holding well despite relatively low flows in the Hutt River.



## ***Kapiti Coast***

Groundwater levels on the Kapiti Coast have generally been below average since October in response to relatively low rainfall and associated low river flows since that time. Deep groundwater under the Hautere Plain, shallow groundwater adjacent to the Waikanae River and Otaki River has been particularly affected with record low values being recorded for November and December 2000.

### **2.2 Rainfall and River Flows**

Rainfall across the Region has been below average for the whole summer. In December total rainfall ranged between 70 and 90 percent of average in most places, but was less than 20% of normal in Wellington City. In January total rainfall was even lower ranging from 15 to 60 percent across the Region, with the exception of the Tararua ranges where there was average rainfall.

For the seventh month in succession Wellington City experienced very low rainfall, between 11 and 21 millimetres for January (approximately 10 to 20 percent of average). This is the lowest rainfall in January since 1983. Otaki received only 13 millimetres of rain during January, less than 20 percent of average and the lowest January rainfall since 1978.

Heavy rainfall on the 24-26 January dumped around 250 millimetres in the Tararua Ranges but had little effect elsewhere.

All monitored rivers in the Region have had below average flows in December and January. The Hutt, Wainuiomata and Waikanae Rivers have been running at half their normal flows for the first two months of summer. The Mangaroa River has been very low at less than 30 percent of its average. The following Figure summarises the river flows as compared to average conditions for December and January.

### **2.3 Air Quality Monitoring**

A Gent sampler has been installed to monitor the air emissions from the Mount Victoria tunnel. This project is a continuation of work being done with the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences aimed at identifying the “fingerprint” of air pollutants. Perry Davy, our Air Quality Scientist, will be presenting a report on the initial phases of this work at the meeting.

## **3 Resource Quality**

### **3.1 Pollution and Non-compliance Complaints**

A summary of pollution complaints, our performance in responding to them and enforcement action taken is reported separately.

### 3.2 **Enforcement**

#### *New Zealand Galvanising Ltd.*

We are seeking to prosecute New Zealand Galvanising Ltd for an unauthorised discharge of chromium and zinc into the stormwater and subsequently into Waiwhetu Stream which occurred on 15 August 2000. The matter is still being dealt with by the Environment Court.

#### *New Zealand Oil Services Ltd.*

In October 1999 NZ Oil Services Ltd had a diesel spill which entered Wellington Harbour near Seaview. They pleaded guilty to the charge and we have been waiting for some time for a sentencing hearing to be arranged. It is possible that this matter will finally be heard in March this year.

#### *Anglian Water International*

We have started proceedings seeking a prosecution against Anglian Water International for the unauthorised discharge of sewage into Owhiro Stream and Owhiro Bay on 27 November last year.

### 3.3 ***Mangapouri Stream Investigation Follow-Up***

Last year investigations undertaken by the Regional Council identified very high levels of faecal coliform contamination in Mangapouri Stream in the vicinity of Otaki Racecourse. The source of this contamination has been difficult to identify. Staff recently met with Kapiti Coast District Council staff to formulate a plan for undertaking further investigations to try and trace the source. Several likely sources of contamination have been identified, these include the KCDC sewage system, septic tanks, a piggery effluent discharge and runoff from the race course. KCDC are about to investigate their sewage system for leaks. Staff from both Councils will shortly be undertaking further field investigations which we hope will allow us to identify the source and take appropriate remedial action.



# **Consents Management Department Report**

## **Rob Forlong, Manager**

**February 2001**

### **1. Consent Statistics**

The median time for processing non notified consents is nine working days. We have processed one hundred and seventy two consents so far this financial year. So far the year has been very busy with the number of applications up 30% on last year.

### **2. Appeals**

The hearings for the Promall appeals has finally been concluded. The hearing was adjourned over the Christmas break and resumed in January.

We continue to keep a watching brief on the appeals against the consents issued for the redevelopment of the Taranaki St Wharf and Frank Kitts park lagoon area. While none of our consents have been appealed we have been named as a respondent.

The Eastern Bays Little Blue Penguin Trust consents were appealed by local residents. The hearing was in December and the Court reserved its decision.

The Telstra Saturn consents relating to the undersea cable north of Wellington have been appealed. We have filed our replies and await either mediation or a Court date.

We are awaiting a Court date on the boatshed appeals.

### **3. Compliance**

#### **3.1 Mooring Owners**

We have had a reasonable response to our drive to get mooring owners to inspect their moorings. At the time of writing over half the mooring owners had complied (compared with around 10% last year). We have given them a deadline of 16 February 2001 to supply us with the inspection reports. If they fail to do so then we are likely to issue infringement notices.

#### **3.2 Abatement Notices**

Since the last Committee meeting we have issued an abatement notice to Chemwaste requiring them to make some modifications to their plant to stop objectionable discharges of sawdust and wood shavings on to nearby properties. Chemwaste have complied with the Abatement Notice.

In December 2000 we issued a further Abatement Notice to MKL Asphalt. It required the Company to close over the Christmas break while they installed pollution control equipment. MKL complied with the Abatement Notice but the equipment appears not to have worked.

### 3.3 **Infringement Notices**

No infringement notices were issued since the last Committee meeting.

### 3.4 **Prosecution and Interim Enforcement Orders**

Declarations associated with the Burrell Demolition prosecutions were heard on 8 December 2000. The Court refused to make any declarations as a result of the hearing. In an effort to get some clarity on the matter we have appealed to the High Court.

## 4. **Other**

### 4.1 **Proposed Charging Policy**

We have completed a staff review of the 1997 Resource Management Charging Policy. It is presented to you as a separate report.

### 4.2 **Maori Hearings Commissioners**

The application by the Wellington City Council for a culvert extension at Houghton Bay is the first that includes a Maori Hearings Commissioner. Mr Turoa Royal is sitting as part of the Hearings Committee.

| <b>Applicant</b>                              | <b>Proposal</b>   | <b>Date Consent Lodged</b> | <b>Date Submissions Closed</b> | <b>Number of Submissions Received</b> | <b>Pre-hearing Held</b>   | <b>Hearing Held</b>                              | <b>Hearing Committee Members</b>              | <b>Date Decision Released</b> | <b>Granted or Declined</b>                   |
|---|---|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Peter Hunt <sup>2</sup>                       | Consents associated with the development and operation of a cleanfill   | 13/02/98                   | 15/09/98                       | 3                                     | Application has been stopped because applicant is yet to pay a Notified application fee |  |   |                               |  |
| ProMall <sup>3</sup>                          | Consents associated with the development of a new shopping mall. Regional Council consents consist of several bridges, realignment of part of a stream and construction of artificial lakes | 05/02/99                   | 25/06/99                       | 250+                                  |   | 13/12/99-17/12/99                                | Upper Hutt City Councillors                   | 24/12/99                      | Granted with conditions<br>Now under appeal  |
| Lambton Harbour Management <sup>1</sup>       | Consents associated with the development of the Taranaki Street Wharf and Lagoon area   | 09/04/99                   | 21/05/99                       | 77                                    |   | 04/08/99<br>05/08/99<br>06/08/99                 | Councillor Buchanan, Tony Town (Commissioner) | 06/09/99                      | Granted with conditions<br>now under appeal  |
| GNB Technologies                              | Discharge to air of contaminants arising from a battery recycling facility  | 01/03/00                   | 19/04/00                       | 20                                    | 10/05/00  | Application placed on hold at applicants request |   |                               |  |
| Wellington City Council                       | Review of consent conditions on Southern Landfill to deal with the odour problems occurring   | 06/03/00                   | 16/05/00                       | 11                                    | 21/06/00  | Report to Environment Committee.                 |   | 08/11/00                      | Granted                                      |
| Eastern Bays Little Blue Penguin <sup>4</sup> | Consents associated with the development of a bird rehabilitation facility  | 12/04/00                   | 30/05/00                       | 727                                   | Applicant chose not to have pre hearing   | 12/07/00<br>13/07/00<br>and 14/07/00             | Commissioners Sue Driver and Ian Stewart      | 17/08/00                      | Granted with conditions<br>now under appeal. |

| <b>Applicant</b>           | <b>Proposal</b>  | <b>Date Consent Lodged</b> | <b>Date Submissions Closed</b> | <b>Number of Submissions Received</b> | <b>Pre-hearing Held</b> | <b>Hearing Held</b>                              | <b>Hearing Committee Members</b>          | <b>Date Decision Released</b> | <b>Granted or Declined</b> |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Mana Volunteer Coast Guard | Consents associated with the construction of a new Coast guard and training facility | 01/05/00                   | 07/06/00                       | 12                                    | 01/11/00                | Application placed on hold at applicants request |   |                               |                            |
| M Goddard                  |  | 11/05/00                   | 19/07/00                       | 133                                   | N/A                     | 21/08/00 – 23/08/00                              | Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt | 20/09/00                      | Declined now under appeal. |
| J Goodwin                  | Overnight stays in boatshed  | 11/05/00                   | 19/07/00                       | 133                                   | N/A                     | 21/08/00 – 23/08/00                              | Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt | 20/09/00                      | Declined                   |
| S and M Julian             | Overnight stays in boatshed  | 29/05/00                   | 19/07/00                       | 139                                   | N/A                     | 21/08/00 – 23/08/00                              | Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt | 20/09/00                      | Declined                   |
| B and S Pidford            | Overnight stays in boatshed  | 31/05/00                   | 19/07/00                       | 133                                   | N/A                     | 21/08/00 – 23/08/00                              | Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt | 20/09/00                      | Declined now under appeal. |
| D Scott                    | Overnight stays in boatshed  | 01/06/00                   | 19/07/00                       | 139                                   | N/A                     | 21/08/00 – 23/08/00                              | Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt | 20/09/00                      | Declined                   |
| M Ambrose                  | Overnight stays in boatshed  | 02/06/00                   | 19/07/00                       | 134                                   | N/A                     | 21/08/00 – 23/08/00                              | Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt | 20/09/00                      | Declined now under appeal. |
| M Ambrose                  | Consents associated with the construction of a new boatshed                          | 02/06/00                   | 19/07/00                       | 139                                   | N/A                     | 21/08/00 – 23/08/00                              | Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt | 20/09/00                      | Declined now under appeal. |

| <b>Applicant</b>  | <b>Proposal</b>   | <b>Date Consent Lodged</b> | <b>Date Submissions Closed</b> | <b>Number of Submissions Received</b> | <b>Pre-hearing Held</b>   | <b>Hearing Held</b> | <b>Hearing Committee Members</b>          | <b>Date Decision Released</b> | <b>Granted or Declined</b> |
|-------------------|---|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| L Ramsey          | Overnight stays in boatshed   | 02/06/00                   | 19/07/00                       | 133                                   | N/A   | 21/08/00 – 23/08/00 | Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt | 20/09/00                      | Declined now under appeal. |
| A and N Johns     | Overnight stays in boatshed   | 06/06/00                   | 19/07/00                       | 134                                   | N/A   | 21/08/00 – 23/08/00 | Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt | 20/09/00                      | Declined now under appeal. |
| O and K Martin    | Residential use of boatshed   | 06/06/00                   | 19/07/00                       | 162                                   | N/A   | 21/08/00 – 23/08/00 | Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt | 20/09/00                      | Declined now under appeal. |
| R and P Lewis     | Residential use of boatshed   | 06/06/00                   | 19/07/00                       | 139                                   | N/A   | 21/08/00 – 23/08/00 | Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt | 20/09/00                      | Declined now under appeal. |
| C Feast           | Overnight stays in boatshed   | 06/06/00                   | 19/07/00                       | 134                                   | N/A   | 21/08/00 – 23/08/00 | Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt | 20/09/00                      | Declined now under appeal. |
| WRC – Water Group | Consents associated with the taking of water from the Orongorongo River for public supply | 06/06/00                   | 21/07/00                       | 4                                     | Application placed on hold at applicants request to negotiate with submitters |                     |   |                               |                            |
| WRC – Water Group | Consents associated with the taking of water from the Waiuimata River for public supply   | 06/06/00                   | 21/07/00                       | 7                                     | Application placed on hold at applicants request to negotiate with submitters |                     |   |                               |                            |

| Applicant                                  | Proposal   | Date Consent Lodged | Date Submissions Closed | Number of Submissions Received | Pre-hearing Held  | Hearing Held                                     | Hearing Committee Members              | Date Decision Released | Granted or Declined                        |
|--|--|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|--|------------------------|--|
| WRC – Water Group                          | Consents associated with the taking of water from the Hutt River for public supply   | 06/06/00            | 21/07/00                | 5                              | Application placed on hold at applicants request to negotiate with submitters |  |  |                        |  |
| Telstra Saturn                             | Consents associated with the installation and maintenance of a submarine fibre optic telecommunications cable, Titahi Bay. | 05/07/00            | 16/08/00                | 215                            | No  | 16, 17, 18, 14, 15 October                       | Councillor Ian Buchanan, Commissioners | 15/11/00               | Granted with conditions. Now under appeal. |
| New Zealand Galvanising                    | Discharge to air for contaminants from a hot dip galvanising process and associated activities.                            | 24/07/00            | 29/08/00                | 4                              | 08/09/00  | Application placed on hold at applicants request |  |                        |  |
| Transit                                    | Consents associated with the construction of rock protection sea walls along SH58  | 04/08/00            | 20/09/00                | 9                              | 07/11/00  | Application placed on hold at applicants request |  |                        |  |
| Transit <sup>5</sup>                       | Consents associated with the construction of an interchange at the intersection of State Highway 2 and 58.                 | 07/11/00            | 19/01/01                | 99                             |   |  |  |                        |  |
| Tranist <sup>5</sup>                       | Consents associated with the realignment of State Highway 58   | 07/11/00            | 19/01/01                | 99                             |   |  |  |                        |  |
| Kapiti Coast District Council <sup>6</sup> | Consents associated with taking water from the Otaki River for supplementary public water supply.                          | 04/12/00            | 12/03/01                |                                |   |  |  |                        |  |

| Applicant               | Proposal  | Date Consent Lodged | Date Submissions Closed | Number of Submissions Received | Pre-hearing Held | Hearing Held | Hearing Committee Members | Date Decision Released | Granted or Declined |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Wellington City Council | Change of consent monitoring conditions for Moa Point Wastewater Treatment Plant  | 02/11/00            | 08/12/00                | 2                              |                  |              |                           |                        |                     |
| Wellington City Council | Change of consent monitoring conditions for Western Wastewater Treatment Plant  | 02/11/00            | 08/12/00                | 5                              | 16/01/01         |              |                           |                        |                     |
| Wellington City Council | Change of consent monitoring conditions for the Moa Point Pump Station  | 02/11/00            | 08/12/00                | 2                              |                  |              |                           |                        |                     |
| Wellington City Council | Change of condition monitoring conditions for the Moa Point long outfall  | 02/11/00            | 08/12/00                | 2                              | 07/02/01         |              |                           |                        |                     |
| Wellington City Council | Consents associated with the extension of a stormwater culvert and the discharge to Houghton Bay                          | 24/10/00            | 08/12/00                | 16                             |                  |              |                           |                        |                     |
| Wellington City Council | Renewal of discharge of milliscreened effluent to the coast during wet weather events, Western Wastewater Treatment Plant | 20/12/00            | 05/03/01                |                                |                  |              |                           |                        |                     |
| Hutt City Council       | Consents associated with the discharge of wastewater during major wet weather events                                      | 16/11/00            | 09/03/01                |                                |                  |              |                           |                        |                     |

- 1 These applications were heard jointly with Wellington City Council
- 2 These applications will be heard jointly with Porirua City Council
- 3 These application were heard jointly with Upper Hutt City Council
- 4 These application will be heard jointly with Hutt City Council
- 5 These applications will be heard jointly with Hutt City Council, Porirua City Council and Upper Hutt City Council
- 6 These applications will be jointly heard with Kapiti Coast District Council

# Harbours Department Report

## Mike Pryce, Manager

February 2001

### 1. Harbour Navigation Aids

On 21 December 2000 the light on Barrett Reef Buoy was reported malfunctioning. It was not until 4 January 2001 that weather conditions permitted the buoy to be boarded and the light repaired.

On 8 December 2000 a wave rider wave-height measuring buoy was deployed by NIWA to the south of Wellington Harbour entrance. It provides important wave height information for operation of fast ferries from Wellington out into Cook Strait. Tranz Rail pay for most of the cost of this. Previously, use agreements were being jointly-negotiated with both Tranz Rail and Fast Cat Ferries Ltd, but with the demise of the latter, only the present Lynx fast ferry needs the information.

On 10 January 2001 the Northern Channel marker light at Porirua was repaired.

All other navigation aids are operating satisfactorily.

### 2. Oil Pollution Response

Seven oil pollution reports were received and investigated, only one at Seaview Marina required some minor clean-up action.

On 11 January 2001 the quarterly Marine Oil Spill Response Equipment Check was carried out.

### 3. Departmental Activities

On 22 November 2000, the Deputy Harbourmaster attended the Communications Department workshop at the Upper Depot on how to better portray the WRC.

On 28 November 2000 the Manager chaired a national "Bar Harbours" meeting which was also attended by the Maritime Safety Authority. Harbours with shallow and exposed bars at the entrance present particular hazards to vessels entering them. Each harbour is unique, but approaches to safety issues were discussed and shared.

On 5 December 2000 the Deputy Harbourmaster attended an Emergency Services Co-ordination Committee meeting held at the newly established WRC Civil Defence Centre on the 8th floor of the Regional Council Centre.

On 7 December 2000 the Harbours Department held an Oil Pollution Regional Support Group Meeting at the WRC Civil Defence Centre on the 8th floor.



The new Regional Navigation & Safety Bylaws were approved by Council on 7 December 2000. Copies of the new bylaws were printed and they were “launched” at a function at the Museum of Wellington, City and Sea, on 19 December 2000.

The Department obtained a three-seater Personal Water Craft (jetski) on 9 December 2000. This was painted in distinctive Council logos and is being used for high profile “patrol” purposes.

On 14 December 2000 the Deputy Harbourmaster attended a First Impact meeting held by Wellington International Airport Limited.

Two temporary Harbour Rangers, Amy Jones and Peter Perraeux, started with us on 20 December 2000. They have done sterling work over the summer months by widely distributing copies of the bylaws made up with other material into “boatie safety packs”. They have also taken part in a public education programme and compiled questionnaire and survey sheets for future analysis.

On 21 December 2000 a meeting was held with the contractor who was to carry out the seabed drilling work adjacent to the Paremata road bridge to discuss navigational issues during the operation. Work commenced on 17 January 2001.

From mid- January 2001 the movement of much heavy mooring, navigational and oil pollution equipment from an old shed into our new store took place.

On 3, 4 and 6 February 2001, the “Porirua Watersports Festival” was held in various parts of Porirua Harbour. Harbour rangers were involved in preplanning meetings and in monitoring and control activities on the days.

#### **4. General Events/Information**

##### **Ferries**

The new vessel *The Lynx* arrived in Wellington on 27 November 2000 and commenced commercial service on 10 December 2000.

Tranz Rail ferry services were disrupted by well-publicised engine problems to *Aratere*, resulting in her being out of service from 17 to 23 December 2000. She was running on two out of four engines until 25 December 2000, then on three out of four engines until major repairs can be carried out in drydock in mid-March 2001. The 29-year-old *Arahanga* ran on one out of two engines on 15 to 17 December 2000, was withdrawn from service on 24 December 2000, laid up, advertised for sale.

As a consequence of the above, coupled with very high passenger demand, ferries frequently ran very late, and terminals suffered from passenger and car congestion because of arrivals of a conventional and fast ferry within minutes of each other, causing yet further congestion and delay.

##### **Ferry wash issues**

On 21 December 2000 and on 6 and 7 January 2001, *The Lynx* created some well-publicised wash problems on the shoreline at Point Halswell, Kau Bay and at Scorching Bay. After discussions with Tranz Rail, the passing distance of *The Lynx* off Point Halswell and Kau Bay was increased to reduce the wash effect. Over the next week, a series of differing speeds were trialled and the effects monitored. Some suitable warning signage was also put into place.

The problems appeared to have been caused by a combination of circumstances. These were exceptionally high tides, hot & calm weather bringing many more people onto the beach, the vessel being closer to shore than usual, heavy-loading of holiday traffic, and the vessel not having worked-up to full speed and being in its maximum wash-producing speed range.

### **BT Global Challenge**

Twelve identical yachts sailing around the world “the wrong way” (against the prevailing winds) arrived at Wellington from Buenos Aires between 16 and 19 January 2001. After repairs and lay-over, they are scheduled to sail on 18 February 2001.

# Emergency Management Department Report

## Rian van Schalkwyk, Manager

February, 2001

### 1. Civil Defence Emergency Management Bill

The Civil Defence Emergency Management Bill will repeal the 1983 Civil Defence Act under which Territorial Authorities and Regional Councils have carried out emergency preparedness, response and recovery activities for their communities. The Bill had its first reading on 12 December 2000 and was referred to the Government Administration Select committee. The Committee's report is due back in Parliament by 12 June 2001. It has called for submissions and these are required by 28 February.

For the convenience of the Committee, we again include the main differences between the proposed Bill and the current Civil Defence Act

| <b>Civil Defence Emergency Management Bill</b>          | <b>Civil Defence Act 1983</b>  |
|---|--|
| 4Rs concept - reduction, readiness, response & recovery | Inadequate attention to risk reduction and some aspects of readiness |
| Local authorities co-operating in regional groups       | Each local authority is independent                                  |
| A National Strategy                                     | No opportunity for the Crown to set a strategic direction            |
| National capability builds from regional groups         | National capability stands alone                                     |
| Requirements for publicly consulted plans               | No requirements for consultation                                     |
| Duties and powers that meet Bill of Rights standards    | Little accountability for powers                                     |
| An 'all-hazards' and risk management approach           | Some hazards (e.g. technological failure) not envisaged in 1983      |

## 2. **Projects**

### 2.1 **Logistics Plan.**

Since 1998, the Wellington and Auckland Regional Councils have been developing an ongoing series of exercises under the “Phoenix” title, testing the logistical planning and operational response capability of the two regions in the event of a major earthquake hitting Wellington. In developing our Logistics Plan, we are mainly focussing on three areas, namely search and rescue, treatment and movement of the injured and the provision of water. These will cover Phase One of the Plan. Phase Two will cover areas such as welfare, sanitation, restoration of lifelines and economic/financial issues.

- ***Search and Rescue***

Following the Ministry for Civil Defence and Emergency Management’s workshop on Search and Rescue (29 January 2001), we will have meetings/workshops with the Contractors Federation, service providers, and organisations that own heat seeking devices, listening/audio equipment, video probing, etc.

The main emphasis is to promote the “self help” idea for individuals and organisations. There is a need to identify high-risk areas and plan to manage search and rescue in them. It is of the utmost importance to identify capable local and national resources and appropriate local/national site managers to manage the process in the event of a major disaster.

- ***Treatment and Movement of the Injured***

We are in the process of organising a workshop with the health services to discuss treatment and the movement of the injured. The Ministry of Health, Capital Coast Health, Hutt Valley Health, Ambulance Services, Doctors, medical suppliers, etc. will all be involved. During this phase of the Plan we will be looking at injury types, levels of treatment, and the likely numbers of serious injuries. We will need to determine priority guidelines for treatment, determine the role of local medical centres, first aid resources, movement of the injured (nationally and internationally), assessment of major treatment centres and support for special care people.

- ***Provision of Safe Water***

A small working group has been formed to look at the emergency provision of water. The perpetual myth in society is that Civil Defence will provide the water in an emergency, and that is not so. We need a contingent capability and a residual safety net. We are working closely with all the water providers in determining the gaps and methods to overcome them.

### 2.2 **Marketing**

Report 01.35 covers the initiatives regarding marketing.

### 3. **Communications**

Weekly tests of the communications network are still being carried out. No problems have been experienced and the system seems to be functionally well.

### 4. **Activities**

Since the previous report of the Emergency Management Department to the Environment Committee on 30 November 2000, staff have been involved in various activities relating to public information and general emergency management planning. Staff attended the following:

- **4 December 2000:** normal monthly meetings of the Porirua Emergency Services Co-ordinating Committee at the Porirua Police station; and on **5 December 2000:** Wellington Emergency Services Co-ordinating Committee at the Wellington Regional Council offices.  
The main topics that were discussed included the new CDEMG-model, logistics planning, search and rescue and post-disaster building procedures.
- **4 December 2000 and 9 January 2001:** meetings regarding the provision of water and issues relating to urban search and rescue.
- **7 December 2000:** Emergency Management Officers' meeting in Lower Hutt. Discussions revolved around hazard analysis, logistics, the CDEMG and future planning. We also made the new poster available to all the representatives. The poster will be put up at all public gathering places (doctors' waiting rooms, supermarkets, service stations, train stations, ferry waiting rooms, airport, etc.
- **16 - 20 January 2001:** Upper Hutt Fires (see separate report).
- **25 January 2001:** Regional Rural Fire Committee meeting in Lower Hutt. The recent fires were discussed and it was decided to have formal debriefing meetings on 7 and 21 February 2001.
- **24 and 26 January 2001:** several meetings to discuss the new CDEM Bill. At these meetings the Bill was discussed in depth and submissions were prepared that could be included in the Council's submission due on 28 February 2001.
- **29 January 2001:** Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) workshop. The main discussions revolved around the future direction of USAR in New Zealand, resources and management structures, legal requirements, risk context, and the international context.
- **30 January 2001:** a workshop on the National Civil Defence Plan. The Ministry for Emergency Management is reviewing the Plan and invited the Regional Council (EM Department) and the Wellington City Council (WEMO) to participate in the process. The main idea is to make the Plan compatible with the new legislation.

- **31 January 2001:** a debrief held at Wellington International Airport regarding the helicopter crash on Mt. Victoria in January.

## 5. General

- Since the last report, 59 earthquakes bigger than 3.0 on the Richter Scale occurred in the Country. The following Earthquake Reports for the Wellington Region (and reports of earthquakes felt in Wellington) were received from IGNS.

[2001 January 14](#) - 10 km east of Wellington (3.4)

[2000 December 19](#) - 40 km south of Wellington (3.7)

- Since the November report, the Department has received eight Special Weather Bulletins (SWBs), namely, three for strong wind (all in January 2001) and five for heavy rain (all in December 2000). We notified all involved and no problems were experienced.

### Summary of Weather Warnings received during the Year 2000

| Month                  | Heavy Rain | Strong wind |
|------------------------|------------|-------------|
| January 2000           | 5          | 5           |
| March 2000             | 4          |             |
| April 2000             | 9          | 9           |
| June 2000              | 3          | 6           |
| July 2000              | 4          | 4           |
| August 2000 (Alert)    | 1          | 1           |
| September 2000 (Alert) | 1          |             |
| September 2000         | 9          | 3           |
| October 2000           | 9          | 8           |
| December 2000          | 5          |             |
| January 2001           |            | 3           |

# Richard Waddy, Divisional Accountant

## Financial Position: December 2000

### 1. Operating Results

We are pleased to report the operating results for the six month period ended 31 December 2000.

| <u>Environment Division</u><br><u>Summary Income Statement</u><br><u>For the Period Ended 31 December 2000</u> |                                |                                |                                  |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | <u>Actual</u><br><u>\$000s</u> | <u>Budget</u><br><u>\$000s</u> | <u>Variance</u><br><u>\$000s</u> |
| Rates  | 3,426                          | 3,426                          | -                                |
| Other Revenue  | 879                            | 968                            | 89 U                             |
| Total Revenue  | 4,305                          | 4,394                          | <b>89 U</b>                      |
| <b>Less:</b>   |                                |                                |                                  |
| Direct Expenditure   | 3,400                          | 3,875                          | 475 F                            |
| Indirect Expenditure   | 430                            | 421                            | 9 U                              |
| <b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>   | <b>3,830</b>                   | <b>4,296</b>                   | <b>466 F</b>                     |
| <b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>   | <b>475</b>                     | <b>98</b>                      | <b>377 F</b>                     |

### 2. Operating Surplus

The Division's financial fortunes continue to improve. For the period an operating surplus of \$475,000 was posted. This is significantly higher than our budgeted position which provides for a smaller surplus of \$98,000.

The result translates to a net favourable variance \$377,000 and comprises a revenue shortfall of \$89,000, offset by reduced expenditure \$466,000.

### 3. Revenue

Total Revenue at \$4,305,000 was some \$89,000 short of our budget target of \$4,394,000. The Maritime Safety Authority Revenue reimbursement for oil spill training and readiness expenditure was slightly lower by \$3,000, whilst the internal revenue line is lagging behind by \$86,000.

The internal revenue shortfall is largely because of the accounting treatment of annual resource management charges. The Water Group requested that these be processed in monthly instalments instead of a single charge as previously. We have accommodated their request.

Whilst not a big earner, it is pleasing to report that demand and resultant revenue for the native plant guide has remained steady. This is an achievement as the booklet was first published almost 18 months ago.

#### 4. **Expenditure**

Total Expenditure was \$3,830,000, that is some \$466,000 (11.0%) below our budgets.

The main reasons for this variance are:

- Personnel costs are under budget by \$62,000. This is largely due to staff movements in the period. It is expected that a small portion of this under-spend will be a permanent saving. However, we will incur additional staff costs with an unbudgeted part-time position in Environment Co-ordination and a part-time secretarial position in Consents Management.
- Material Costs are some \$84,000 behind budget. The spend on environment education project works is less than our budgets anticipated. However, it is expected that budgets will be fully utilised by the year-end.
- External Contractors and Consultants are \$317,000 under budget. The level of expenditure on iwi projects continues to lag behind our budget. This situation with iwi projects seems to be inevitable despite concerted efforts on our part to secure contracts. In addition, the storm water research project and transportation of non-petroleum hazardous substance projects are slightly behind time wise.

#### 5. **Capital**

Currently our capital expenditure is \$145,000 (including proceeds from disposals) under budget. Most of the shortfall is with the purchase of the new air monitoring station (\$145,000). Components have been imported in from the USA and presently the machine is being commissioned.