

Report 03.108
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Committee Landcare
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Divisional Manager's Report

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee about the activities and progress of the Landcare Division since the Committee's last meeting.

2. Managers' reports

The Departmental Managers' Reports are attached. They are somewhat larger than normal as it has been some time since the last meeting.

3. Innovation

One of the things that you will note from the Departmental Managers' reports is the significant number of innovative approaches to problems. These innovations are the result of staff and the community thinking laterally when confronted with issues.

Some examples include:

- Flood Protection staff, after close discussions with the community, have designed a stopbank to protect a number of residences in Belmont. The original proposal was for the houses to be raised but the local community wanted a different approach as the house raising option causes considerable disruption. The new stopbank design requires the residents to complete the stopbank with sandbags in the event of a major flood. What pleases me about the stopbank option is that we have assisted the local community to develop their own unique local solution which involves them taking part of the responsibility for protecting themselves from the consequences of flooding.
- A similar unique flood protection solution has been developed in Otaihangā where the previous (and contentious) "road raising" option has been replaced with a flood wall in the domain.

- Parks and Forests are also “working smart” and taking advantage of opportunities that have arisen. The extension of the Pakuratahi carpark represents an excellent way that excess fill from the Kaitoke road project can be reused to the benefit of users of the Rimutaka incline rail trail.
- Another example of innovation within Parks and Forests relates to the Kaitoke Toilets and Rangers Office. Our budget only provided money for the toilets. However, by using the skills available in the construction team, it has been able to be stretched to include a ranger’s office. One of the big problems we have with resident rangers is enabling them to separate their work and private time. Separating their work space goes some way to achieving that.

4. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. *receive the report.*
2. *note the contents of the report.*

Report prepared by:

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Attachment 1: Flood Protection Manager’s Report

Attachment 2: Parks and Forests Manager’s Report

Attachment 3: Divisional Accountant’s Report