



Report 09.48
Date 3 February 2009
File WS/08/16/01

Committee Catchment Management Committee
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Report on the Catchment Management Committee held on 3 February 2009

1. Purpose

To inform the Council about the meeting of the Catchment Management Committee meeting that took place on 3 February 2009 in the Masterton office.

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. Reports

3.1 Regional Pest management Strategy Review

The Hearings Committee reported back on the two days of hearings that took place in July 2008 and the amendments made to the proposed Strategy following a review of all submissions. The majority of amendments are minor and seek to accommodate some of the concerns raised by submitters, where practicable. The final Proposed Strategy will be present to the March Council meeting for approval.

3.2 Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme

Staff have completed a review of the Scheme 10 year Works Programme. The current Programme was prepared and agreed in 2003. Significant floods in 2004 and 2006 have necessitated a review. The Committee supported the reduction or deletion of four main work areas as these activities have already been largely completed under emergency or maintenance programmes. Two new activities are proposed involving the diversion of the Turanganui and Tauanui River deltas to prevent gravel being deposited in the Ruamahanga River channel. The Scheme Committee discussed and endorsed the proposed change at their December 2008 meeting.

3.3 Revocation of a Soil Conservation and River Control Reserve

The Committee received a report from Council's Property Consultant, Peter O'Brien, on two small reserve areas near Holdsworth Avenue, Upper Hutt. The two areas have never been used for flood protection purposes. Upper Hutt City Council have supported the proposal to have the land parcels reclassified to recreational reserve and come under their management. The Committee supported the recommendation.

3.4 Waikanae Floodplain Management Plan Review

This report provided an update on the 10 year review process. The Committee noted that the review was behind schedule due to resourcing issues. However, work completed to date has not raised any concerns about the current Plan.

3.5 Wairarapa Flood Damage

This report provided an overview of damage in the Upper Ruamahanga, Waipoua, Waingawa and Waiohine Rivers following a flood in October 2008. Damage costs are estimated at around \$370,000. The Divisional Manager authorised expenditure of \$150,000 from the Flood Contingency Fund. The Committee supported the request for a further \$150,000 to be appropriated from the various scheme reserves.

3.6 Streams Alive Review

Streams Alive is a riparian incentive programme for private landowners in twelve priority catchments in the region. The review indicated that less than half of the catchments are actively participating. However, there is a high level of landowner engagement with GW where work is proceeding. There are also opportunities to encourage and support greater landowner participation in the physical works. Opportunities to expand the programme are currently constrained by resource limitations. This will be reviewed when preparing future annual plans.

3.7 Wairarapa Hill Country Advisory Committee (WHCAC)

This report presented the minutes of the WHCAC meeting held on 15 December 2008.

WHCAC has decided to make submissions to the Council's proposed LTCCP concerning bringing forward Stage 2 of the Akura Conservation Centre nursery development programme, and supporting Council funding of the proposed National Tb Strategy and the regional possum/predator control programme.

3.8 Divisional Manager's Report


No significant issues arose from the report.

4. Recommendations

That the Council:

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

Report prepared by:



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Chair
Catchment Management Committee

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Attachment 1: Unconfirmed minutes of the Catchment Management Committee held on 3 February 2009