



Report 10.459  
Date 16 August 2010  
File N/03/13/25

Committee Hutt River Advisory Subcommittee  
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## Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan

### Project Manager's Report

#### 1. Purpose

To update the Advisory Subcommittee on progress made with implementing the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan (HRFMP).

#### 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. Ava to Ewen project

The maintenance period for the Ava to Ewen project was completed by the end of June 2010. The Flood Protection Department Operations Team is now responsible for the maintenance of the upgraded flood defences.

#### 4. Whirinaki Crescent stopbank

The Whirinaki Crescent stopbank construction is now complete. A community planting day was held on 19 June 2010. Most of the stopbank is on Upper Hutt City Council (UHCC) land and UHCC has agreed to maintain the grass cover as they have done prior to improvements. An approximately 50 metre long section of the stopbank is on the Wellington Golf Club land and the golf club will maintain the grass cover on this section. GW is responsible for all structural maintenance works of the stopbank.

#### 5. Boulcott Farm stopbank (Boulcott/Hutt stopbank)

The hearing on the NOR/Consent applications was concluded on 13 August 2010. A decision is expected in the first week of September 2010. Report 10.461 provides an update on the project.

## **6. City Centre Reach**

A Multi Criteria Analysis workshop to determine a preferred option for the proposed Melling Interchange was held on 4 May 2010. GW staff advised the workshop that the existing Melling Bridge does not meet the HRFMP recommended design standard and that should be considered in the evaluation of options. An option which will have SH2 at grade with a new skewed Melling Bridge and a raised rotary intersection similar to Dowse (Option 5A) was the preferred option from the workshop. Hutt City Council is currently investigating a new bridge at Margaret Street. GW staff prefer an option which replaces the existing Melling Bridge.

## **7. Waimarie Croquet Club**

In late June 2010, GW and HCC officers met with the Waimarie Croquet Club (WMC) to confirm the positions of the two councils with regards to funding for the relocation of the WMC to Walter Nash Park. A letter detailing the council positions was sent to the club prior to the meeting. The WMC premises are located on leased Council land and GW has to resume occupation of the land by about 2014 for stopbank construction. HCC has offered a site for the club to relocate. The councils can provide only limited assistance for relocation. The WMC expects receiving significant financial assistance from HCC and/or GW for the relocation. The WMC is currently preparing a response to Councils' letter.

## **8. River Works Agreement**

The existing River Works Agreement (RWA) between GW and NZTA signed in 1986 will expire in 2011. Flood Protection staff met with NZTA on 8 July 2010 to discuss a renewal. Report 10.460 provides the background to the RWA and progress made following the July meeting with the NZTA.

## **9. Hutt River Gravel**

Gravel extraction from the river has slowed markedly. In the 2009/10 financial year, 7,981m<sup>3</sup> was extracted compared to 41,479m<sup>3</sup> in 2008/09. This is primarily due to the reduced demand for sand and aggregate from the concrete industry, which is not expected to improve over the coming 12 months. The closure of the Horokiwi intersection has also increased overall processing costs and has impacted on the contractor's ability to extract the required 80,000m<sup>3</sup> per annum. Due to both of these factors our contractor has requested that we wave the extraction management fee for the 2010/11 financial year. We have agreed to this with a view to review this in June 2011.

In addition to this, our contractor has also signalled that 30,000m<sup>3</sup> per annum is a sustainable annual extraction rate from their point of view as opposed to our target of 80,000m<sup>3</sup>. While the ongoing annual extraction rate of 30,000m<sup>3</sup>, combined with the gravel material requirements for the Boulcott and City Centre stopbanks will go some way to meeting our target of 80,000m<sup>3</sup> in the medium term, there is a shortfall in the long term. Staff are investigating alternatives.

## 10. Hutt River Mouth extraction

The Catchment Management Committee endorsed Report 10.278, at its 10 June 2010 meeting. The report approved officers to enter into commercial negotiations, and renew the licence, held with Winstone Aggregates that allows the extraction of sand and gravel from the river mouth.

Following this, a productive meeting was held with Winstone Aggregates staff on 24 June 2010, with a further meeting scheduled for early September. We are aiming to progress the commercial negotiations to a point that, once resource consent is granted, the relevant resource consent conditions can be simply incorporated into the licence.

Consultants have been appointed to provide the required technical information for the resource consent application. Opus International Consultants Ltd are assessing the coastal impacts, and Dr Bob Wear of Victoria University is looking at the ecology. The principle deliverable is a technical report to provide Flood Protection with an understanding of the processes, and an assessment of the effects of both the proposed extraction and the shore disposal operations. Further support may be required through the consultation phase, and possibly post notification, if the resource consent is contested and a hearing required. Staff expect to have a draft application complete by mid September so that consultation can start with the community.

## 11. Communication

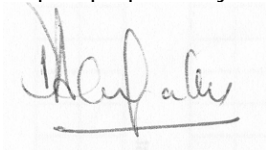
Communication initiatives including newsletters and meeting with residents and other stakeholders are in place for all the HRFMP projects. The local residents participated in a planting day held on 19 June 2010 following the completion of the Whirinaki Crescent stopbank.

## 12. Recommendations

*That the Subcommittee:*

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

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