



Report 10.469
Date 19 August 2010
File N/06/19/01

Committee Catchment Management Committee
Author Graeme Campbell, Manager, Flood Protection

Response to Public Submission by Fred McDonald - Catchment Management Committee Meeting 3 August 2010

1. Purpose

To provide the Committee with the draft response to the matters raised in the public submission by Fred MacDonald at the 3 August 2010 Catchment Management Committee meeting.

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. Background

Fred MacDonald made a submission to the last Catchment Committee meeting seeking a response to a number of issues he raised about the management of the Otaki River mouth and Estuary area. A written copy of the submission was sent to the Committee Chairman and is included as **Attachment 1** of this report.

4. Comment

A draft letter of response has been prepared to the submission and is included as **Attachment 2** to this report. The letter covers off the main points raised by Mr Macdonald in order of the 7 points raised in his written submission. In preparing the response staff sought advice from the Environmental Regulation Group regarding issues about the health of the Estuary and about the use of tanalised poles.

Mr MacDonald also raised in his oral presentation, concerns that staff had not consulted adequately with the community about a proposed viewing platform and particularly that local fishermen had not been spoken to. The project is being promoted by the Friends of the Otaki River whom have the active

involvement and support of the Otaki Recreational Fishing Club. So while all fishermen may not have been consulted staff are confident that a fair representation of them have been involved in the project. The Otaki Community Board are also represented on the Friends of the Otaki River and have received no negative feedback from them about the project.

To summarise, while Mr MacDonald raises a number of questions about the management of the Otaki River at the mouth, staff are confident that the most appropriate practices are being followed and that they are in accordance with the outcomes of the Otaki Floodplain Management Plan.

5. Communication

It is proposed that the draft letter included as Attachment 2 to this report be approved, subject to any Committee amendments, and sent out to Mr MacDonald. No other communication is considered necessary.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Approves the sending of the proposed draft letter of response to Mr MacDonald subject to minor editorial changes as considered necessary by the Chairman of the Catchment Management Committee.*

Report prepared by:



Graeme Campbell
Manager, Flood Protection

Report approved by:

Wayne O'Donnell
General Manager, Catchment Management

Attachment 1: Email from Fred MacDonald dated 3 August 2010

Attachment 2: Letter to Fred McDonald dated 19 August 2010 N/60/19/01