West Coast Catchments Committee Agenda

Date: Tuesday, 19 March, 2019
Time: 10:00 am
Location: Council Chamber
Waikato Regional Council
401 Grey Street
Hamilton East
Members:
W Maag (Chair)
T Brough (Deputy Chair)
Cr F Lichtwark (Waikato Regional Council)
L Thomson (Waikato District Council)
D Pilkington (Otorohanga District Council)
Cr A Williams (Otorohanga District Council)
Cr S Smith (Waitomo District Council)
N Hayward (Department of Conservation)
C Holland (Local Community Representative)
T Mandeno (Local Community Representative)
M Moss (Local Community Representative)
J Reeves (Local Community Representative)
S Reid (Local Community Representative)
K Van Houte (Local Community Representative)
K Taylor (Maniapoto Maori Trust Board)
W Jensen (Maniapoto Maori Trust Board)
M Moana-Tuwhangai (Waikato-Tainui)
Cr S Kneebone (Joint-Chair Integrated Catchment Management Committee South)
A Livingston (ex officio)
T Mahuta (ex officio)

Notice of Meeting:
I hereby give notice that an ordinary Meeting of the West Coast Catchments Committee will be held as detailed above.

VRJ Payne
Chief Executive Officer
1. Terms of Reference

2. Apologies

3. Confirmation of Agenda

4. Disclosures of Interest

5. Confirmation of Minutes

   5.1 West Coast Catchments Committee Minutes

       The minutes of the meeting of the West Coast Catchments Committee dated 7
       November 2018 to be received and taken as a true and accurate record.

6. Issues and Actions from the Previous Meeting

    Report to update the Committee on any issues and actions from the previous meeting.

7. Chairperson's Report

    Verbal report from the Chair of the Committee regarding matters related to the Committee
    and its Terms of Reference.

8. West Coast Zone Status Report

    Report to provide the Committee with an update on the status of the West Coast Zone
    activities and work programme, covering the period from 1 November 2018 to 31 January
    2019.

9. Update on Hill Country Erosion Fund and One Billion Tree Funding

    Report to provide the Committee with an overview on recent discussions, decisions and
    announcements concerning the 'Hill Country Erosion Fund' and 'One Billion Tree' funding
    opportunities.

10. Flood Campaign Update

    Report to provide the Committee with an update on the proposed communications
    campaign in relation to Council's flood protection and land drainage schemes.

11. Resolutions to Exclude the Public

12. Public Excluded Section
Catchment Committees

REPORTING TO: Integrated Catchment Management Committee.

CONSTITUTION: Constituent Councillors appointed by Council,
One of the two Joint-Chairs, Integrated Catchment Management Committee being either the Joint-Chair from the north or the Joint-Chair from the south depending on the geographic location of the respective catchment,

For each of the relevant catchment committee, the relevant Chair or Deputy Chair of Franklin Waikato Drainage Advisory Subcommittee, Thames Valley Drainage Advisory Subcommittee, Waikato Central Drainage Advisory Subcommittee and Aka Aka Otauha Drainage Advisory Subcommittee (ex-officio with full voting rights).

The Council Chair or Deputy Chair (ex-officio with full voting rights).

Appointments made by Council from nominations from territorial and iwi authorities and relevant sector groups/the public within the scheme/management area – such as key agencies, landowners, community groups as identified by Council

The Chair and Deputy Chair from the membership of each Catchment Committee to be appointed by the Integrated Catchment Management Committee.

Refer to membership schedule for each Catchment Committee.

MEETING FREQUENCY: Three to four meetings per annum (including field inspections).

OBJECTIVE: To provide advice to the Integrated Catchment Committee and support catchment management activities.

QUORUM: Chair or Deputy Chair of the Committee, one Waikato Regional Council appointed Councillor and two members of the committee.

SCOPE OF ACTIVITY:

1. The Catchment Committees each have an assigned geographical area of interest, representing catchment interests in one of Coromandel, Waihou-Piako, Taupō, Upper Waikato, Central, Waipa, West Coast and Lower Waikato catchments.

2. Each Committee has the opportunity to provide advice to the Integrated Catchment Committee and support Council’s catchment management activities related to:
   (a) Asset management
   (b) Flood control programmes
   (c) Biodiversity and natural heritage operations
   (d) Biosecurity operations
   (e) Harbour and catchment management
   (f) Hazard management and community safety activities
(g) River systems management
(h) Soil conservation and land management programmes

3. As provided for in Council’s Standing Orders, the Chair may consider requests for deputations in relation to specific agenda items and at the discretion of the Chair, a public forum may be included in committee meeting agendas.

POWER TO ACT:

1. To consider and approve annual work programmes for catchment management activities within the relevant catchment area, consistent with Council policy, zone plan priorities and approved annual budgets.

2. To monitor progress of catchment management activities, zone plans including asset management plans against current year budgets.

POWER TO RECOMMEND:

1. To develop zone plans, including asset management plans.

2. Input to locally relevant Council plans to advance the catchment zone plan priorities.

3. Assessment of feasibility and development of (flood protection) capital works proposals in response to community need.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE – POWER TO ACT

1. Refer to Section 2.3.3 of the Procedural Delegations Manual

CATCHMENT COMMITTEES:

North
Waihou Piako Catchment Committee
Coromandel Catchment Committee
Lower Waikato Catchment Committee

South
Central Waikato Catchment Committee
Lake Taupō Catchment Committee
Upper Waikato Catchment Committee
Waipa Catchment Committee
West Coast Catchments Committee
West Coast Catchments Committee
OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the West Coast Catchments Committee held in the Council Chamber, Waikato Regional Council, 401 Grey Street, Hamilton East on Wednesday, 7 November 2018 at 10.00am.

The meeting was opened with a karakia by Ray Wi

**Present:**

- **Waikato Regional Council**
  - Cr Fred Lichtwark

- **Waikato District Council**
  - Cr Lisa Thomson

- **Otorohanga District Council**
  - Cr Deborah Pilkington

- **Waitomo District Council**
  - Cr Sue Smith

- **Department of Conservation**

- **Local Community Representatives**
  - Mark Brough (Deputy Chair)
  - Tom Mandeno
  - Mike Moss
  - Catherine Holland
  - John Reeves
  - Kristel van Houte

- **Te Tokanganui-a-noho**
  - Weo Maag (Chair)

- **Maniapoto Maori Trust Board**
  - Ray Wi

- **Waikato-Tainui**
  - Cr Stu Kneebone

- **Co-Chairman Integrated Catchment Management Committee**
- **Chairman of Council, or Deputy Chairman of Council**

**In Attendance**

- Jolene Francis (Zone Manager, West Coast and Central Waikato)
- B Toohey (Manager, Lower Waikato/Waipa/West Coast Catchments)
- D Embling (Team Leader Biosecurity (Pest Plants))
- B Bailey (Team Leader, Animal Pests)

M Poole - Meeting Secretary
Apologies

M Moss moved/Cr S Kneebone seconded

WCC18/28

THAT the apologies from Cr Alan Livingston (on Council business), Stephen Reid (community representative) and Natasha Hayward (Department of Conservation) be accepted.

The motion was put and carried (WCC18/28)

Confirmation of Agenda

(Agenda Item 2)

Cr L Thomson moved/T Mandeno seconded.

WCC18/29

RESOLVED

THAT the agenda of the meeting of the West Coast Catchments Committee of 7 November 2018, as circulated, be confirmed as the business for the meeting with a change to the order of items to take No. 6 - Issues and Action Report and No. 7 - Chair’s Report immediately following No. 4 - Confirmation of Minutes.

The motion was put and carried (WCC18/29)

Disclosures of Interest

(Agenda Item 3)

There were no disclosures of interest. Noted that conflicts of interest are not limited to financial interests and could also arise as a result of “other hats” that members wear.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

File: * (Agenda Item 4) Doc #12994356

With respect to Item 8 - West Coast Zone Status Report (page 8/9) M Brough had requested a map showing what areas have been planted to date and what areas are planned to be planted. To be included in the Issues and Actions Schedule.

With respect to Item 8 - West Coast Zone Status Report (page 9) D Pilkington had asked several questions about the Hauturu-Honikiwi Possum Control Scheme. Proposed to cover those matters as part of Item 5 - Waikato Regional Pest Management Plan Annual Report & Operational Plan later in the meeting

Cr F Litchwark moved/T Mandeno seconded.

WCC18/30

RESOLVED

THAT the Minutes of the West Coast Catchments Committee meeting of 5 September 2018 be received and approved as a true and correct record, noting the Item 8 - West Coast Zone Status Report matters outlined above.

The motion was put and carried (WCC18/30)


**Minutes of West Coast Catchments Committee Meeting 7 November 2018**

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**Issues and Actions Report**  
(Agenda Item 6) Doc #13224123

Presented by Zone Manager, West Coast and Central Waikato Catchments (J Francis). The report was taken as read, noting the queries raised in Item 4 - Confirmation of Previous Minutes.

Arising out of questions, responses and discussion the following points were noted:
- requested that the Zone Status reporting include ‘scorecard’ information on catchment work programmes/activities to show timelines and progress towards completing the priority work plans/achieving the goals set.
- Google/satellite/aerial mapping can assist by providing an overview of the landscape including streams, vegetation cover, fencing, etc right down to an individual property scale. This would provide a visual overview of both Council catchment works and property owner initiated works.
- having knowledge of the different land uses by area/percentage in any given location will assist all concerned with future catchment management planning/prioritising. The current issues around forestry versus pastoral farming and the pending water quality rules and expectations via Healthy Rivers can be factored in.

W Maag moved/Cr S Smith seconded.

**RESOLVED**

THAT the “Issues and Actions Report” (Doc #13224123 dated 24 October 2018) be received for information.

The motion was put and carried (WCC18/31)

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**Chair’s Report**  
(Agenda Item 7) Doc #13223323

The Chair (W Maag) gave a verbal update, focussing on the initiatives and changes coming from Wellington/the Government, particularly around freshwater quality and forestry; and the opportunities and implications within the West Coast Catchments. To date there has been a catchment management focus, with the Council and landowners working together to identify priority projects, develop work programmes/farm plans and associated funding. There are also individual landowners and community groups involved in a range of environmental initiatives and projects; forestry blocks and Maori land blocks.

The Committee and community need to be kept informed of the impacts of legislative and policy, plan and rule changes around freshwater. What will the implications for farming activities be and what funding will be available for individuals and community groups to respond to/comply with the changes?

What opportunities does the One Billion Trees Programme provide for landowners in the West Coast Catchments? This initiative may provide economic and environmental benefits for Maori land blocks that are currently under-developed. Important for parties to work collaboratively together to get the greatest gains and most value from what is on offer.
Cr S Smith moved/M Brough seconded.

**WCC18/32**

**RESOLVED**

THAT the “Chairperson’s Report” (Doc #13223323 dated 1 November 2018) and verbal updates be received for information.

The motion was put and carried (WCC18/32)

**West Coast Zone Status Report**

(Agenda Item 9) Doc #13224715

Presented by Zone Manager, West Coast and Central Waikato Catchments (J Francis). The report covers the period 1 July to 30 September 2018 including the Financial Summary (by activity), key project updates and the non-financial (Long-Term Plan and Zone based) measures status. The Zone Manager highlighted the key activities, levels of service, performance measures and provide a progress to date commentary to expand on the information contained in the Status report.

J Reeve gave a verbal presentation on the King Country River Care Group. The aims include promoting sustainable farming practices and ensuring that the farming community has a voice in the development of policy. They are currently holding a series of community meetings around the ‘coverage’ area to get farmers ‘on-board’ and build membership. The Group will be working with farmers, the Regional Council and potential funder organisations. The response to date (two of five meetings held) has been positive. The Group seeks to work with/across all landowners, including for undeveloped Maori blocks.

Committee members expressed support for the initiative and asked questions and offered feedback, ideas and options for the Group to consider (e.g. setting up a nursery and involving local schools in water quality testing). Requested that Committee members be emailed the dates/locations of the community meetings coming up, so that they could attend and offer support.

Cr S Smith moved/M Moss seconded.

**WCC18/33**

**RESOLVED**

THAT the “West Coast Zone Status Report to 30 September 2018” (Doc #13224715 dated 26 October 2018 be received for information.

The motion was put and carried (WCC18/33)

**Waikato Regional Pest Management Annual Report 2017/18 and Operational Plan 2018/19**

(Agenda Item 5) Doc #13223139

Team Leader Biosecurity (Pest Plants) (D Embling) and Team Leader Animal Pests (B Bailey) presented an overview of the WRC Regional Pest Management Plan Annual Report for 2017/18 and the Operational Plan for 2018/19, noting that the documents respectively provide:

- a comprehensive report on the progress made by WRC in 2017/18 in implementing the 2014/2024 Waikato Regional Pest Management Plan (as a reporting requirement of the Biosecurity Act 1993); and
- an outline of the nature and scope of activities WRC intends to undertake in implementing the Regional Pest Management Plan in the 2018/19 year.
Pest management involves managing threats to the economy, biodiversity and the environment and human health; and the impacts of climate change.

Cr F Litchwark depart from meeting 11.15am

The Biosecurity Act 1993 requires that Regional Councils have a Regional Pest Management Plan to manage pests in the region. An early review of the Waikato RPMP has been triggered because the Plan must not be inconsistent with the National Policy Direction. The review is currently at the information gathering stage.

How does WRC ‘manage’ pests? By direct control and monitoring, inspections and surveys. The team go where the pests and issues are to support community-based initiatives; provide advice by phone, on the web and face to face; via bio-control releases and through RPMP rules.

The presentation provided information on a range of existing and emerging plant and animal pests found in the region including:
- Velvetleaf which is spread through crops, in particular maize. Anyone buying-in maize or maize silage should do ‘due diligence’/ask questions.
- Alligator weed which impacts agriculture and waterways. It is a significant plant pest in the Waikato region and there are a limited number of tools that can be used in waterways. The impacts on west coast harbours would be significant and it is difficult to control its spread due to third party actions (people, equipment, stock movements).
- Kauri dieback. There is no cure for this disease and to date it has not been found on the West Coast.

Arising out of questions, responses and discussion the following points were noted:
- Pampas has been a total control plant pest, but it is widespread within the region and in surrounding regions. The forestry industry has not been able to manage it and the status will be considered in the review process. What about pampas control in quarries and on private land - will control rules still apply?
- Riparian fencing and planting form a key part of the catchment management programme to protect waterways from sediment and improve water quality. However, these areas provide an ideal growing environment for plant pests.
- There was a status change for Canada Geese in 2011. Nationally they are quite widespread, and numbers are increasing.
- The West Coast Catchments Priority Possum Control areas (PPCAs) achieve good success. They cover some 470,000 hectares and involve over 5,600 landowners. The focus has moved from Tb to high biodiversity values.
- The anti-1080 tactics have changed, with misinformation and targeting/threatening individuals. Can Regional Councils and other partners/agencies do more to support DoC? Need to get the ‘good news’/success stories out. Risk loss of a valuable tool for possum control. Can the Predator Free 2050 initiative provide any new ideas and/or options?
- The Hauturu-Honikiwi PPCA is in the 2018/19 Operational Plan and work is scheduled to be carried out shortly. Concern that if DoC does not fund/carry out work on conservation land in that area, there will be a significant ‘gap’/risk.
- Goat control is a regionally focused programme for high value biodiversity gains. Council is collaborating with DoC. Achieve real gains if target both possums and goats.
- The K5 virus was released in autumn 2018. However, another strain RHDV2 has been found in the rabbit population. This strain is aggressive and has the potential to result in complete immunity to all strains over time.
- An emerging pest is the red-eared Slider Turtle due to the impacts of climate change. There are now confirmed cases of the turtles successfully breeding in the Waikato region.
(on the Coromandel Peninsula) and as temperatures rise, eggs will eventually result in both male and female offspring being produced.

- work has resumed on identifying options and viable solutions for Koi carp control. This is a joint effort between Council and DoC. Potentially promising research is being done in Australia on a virus, however even if successful it will be several years before it could be imported/used here.

- given the significance of the biosecurity and biodiversity issues in the region, it was queried whether there was sufficient expertise and knowledge available at the governance level, in particular at the Catchment Committees and ICM Committee.

- advocacy and lobbying are tools available across all the issues that Catchment (Zone) Committees have in their Terms of Reference. It is important to identify and build relationships and partnerships with other groups and organisations, and to collaborate to achieve greater gains/make the funding available go further.

M Moss moved/Cr L Thomson seconded.

WCC18/34

RESOLVED
THAT:
2. The Waikato Regional Pest Management Annual Report 2017/18 (Doc #12653506) be received.
3. The Waikato Regional Pest Management Plan 2018/19 Operational Plan (Doc #12654183) be received.

The motion was put and carried (WCC18/34)

West Coast Catchments – Hill Country Erosion Fund (HCEF) Application
(Agenda Item 8) Doc #13282903

The Zone Manager, West Coast and Central Waikato Catchments (J Francis) gave a presentation on the MPI HCEF funding covering a summary of the 2015-19 application and the outcomes to date; and the application lodged for the 2019-23 funding round.

The purpose/focus of the MPI Erosion programme funding is soil conservation and erosion risk/control issues in hill country catchments. Photos of the Awakino and Mokau Rivers entering the Tasman Sea following severe weather events clearly showed the resulting sediment plume and impact on the marine environment.

Only Councils are eligible to make applications to the HCEF, and using the West Coast Zone as a ‘pilot’, Waikato RC was granted $630,000 spread over the four-year period 2015-2019 in a shared/co-funding arrangement with WRC 35%/MPI 35% and the landowner contribution at 30%.

The programme targeted the most erodible land and Council staff worked with landowners to develop full farm plans. The issues to be addressed through the programme included the impacts of hill country erosion, the loss of soils, productivity and economic capacity, water quality impacts, habitats and river biodiversity, protection of infrastructure and more.
The MPI funding enabled Council to focus the catchment new works budget for the West Coast Zone on implementing harbour projects. In the three years of the HCEF programme completed to date: 21 farm plans have been prepared, 264ha of land and 48 kilometres of stream banks fenced, 271ha of land planted and field days held. The HCEF funding for 2018/19 is already fully allocated with 26 projects planned. A community engagement day was held in Awakino in August, and a recent (late October) field day had 160 attendees. Demand has now outstripped the availability of funding. The positive results of the works undertake to date can be seen on the ground, there has been good community engagement/involvement and a positive relationship with and support from the Councils/Council staff.

MPI made some changes for the 2019-23 funding round to include coastal, alpine and riparian areas and has increased the national funding from $14M to $34M. WRC has lodged one application covering five Zones (West Coast, Central Waikato, Lower Waikato and Coromandel) for a total of $5.2M. MPI has advised that the fund is $20M oversubscribed.

The proposed West Coast HCEF programme for 2019-23 is:
- to continue work in hill country catchments in the southern part of the Zone;
- to expand the southern catchments to include all of the Mokau and Marokopa catchments for hill country works;
- to include the coastal harbour catchments of Aotea, Kawhia and Whaingaroa to provide additional funding for implementation of HCMPs over the next four years;
- that no additional co-funding is required from WRC for the coastal catchments; leveraging LTP increase in funding; and two funding options for the southern hill country.

Southern Catchments: Option One – status quo being:
- four years $225,000 (from WRC) per year, no increases;
- the same co-funding agreement as the current 2018/19 financial year being $225,000 MPI and $225,000 WRC;
- no rate increase required; and
- no MPI funding increase over the current programme.

Southern Catchments: Option Two - increase in funding being:
- 2019/20, no increase (same as 2018/19 budget
- 2020/21, increase of $40,000 (Annual Plan process)
- 2021/22, increase of $40,000 (LTP process)
- 2022/23, increase of $40,000
with an associated small rating increase.

A third option would be to do something other than any funding application approval, however this option would not attract matching funding from MPI.

Arising out of questions, responses and discussion the following points were noted:
- concern raised by one member that the Committee had not received information, nor had any opportunity to discuss options prior to the HCEF application being lodged.
- subject to the amount of funding granted, there may be a need for resource allocation decisions to be made on the priorities/’on the ground’ works within and between the northern and southern parts of the Zone. More advice about the proposed programmes is needed so that information decisions about the priorities, and any ‘trade-offs’ can be made.
- acknowledged that the 2015-19 HCEF grant has given the works programme a significant boost and the zone/community has been able to deliver, which is a positive for the Government/Council/this initiative.
- Option 2 will give another funding boost to the programme, subject to MPIs decisions and the rates increase is still two years away. There will need to be good communication with landowners about the funding grant outcomes and associated rates increases.
- the King Country River Care Group can also assist in the communication and engagement processes with landowners about the benefits of getting on-board with the programme, particularly with the level of subsidised funding currently available.
- support that an application has been lodged. Once the funding decision is known, the Committee needs to have a Workshop/planning session to review Zone plan priorities and ensure they are still relevant and take account of other environmental factors like biodiversity and biosecurity. Proposed that this be arranged for early 2019.
- the application has been lodged on the basis of the Option 2 proposal, being an increase in funding, with an associated targeted rate increase.

T Mandeno moved/J Reeve seconded.

WCC18/35

RESOLVED THAT
1. the “Hill Country Erosion Fund 19-23 Application” report (Doc #13282903 dated 28 October 2018) and presentation be received.
2. the Committee endorse, in principle, the application lodged with MPI/the HCEF for the West Coast Zone for Option 2 - being an increase in funding with an associated targeted rate increase.
3. the Committee have a Workshop/planning session in early 2019, once the MPI funding decision is known, to review and agree work priorities as outlined in the zone plan.

The motion was put and carried (WCC18/35)

K van Houte recorded her vote against the motion

Closing karakia - Ray Wi
Meeting closed at 1.10pm

Doc #9808795
Report to West Coast Catchments Committee

Date: 1 March 2019

Author: Jolene Francis, Zone Manager – West Coast & Central Waikato Catchments

Authoriser: Clare Crickett, Director – Integrated Catchment Management

Subject: Issues and Actions Report

Section: A (Committee has delegated authority to make decision)

Purpose
1. The purpose is to report back on actions and issues discussed at previous West Coast Catchments Committee meetings.

Staff Recommendation:
That the report Issues and Actions Report (West Coast Catchment Committee 19 March 2019) be received.

Report Back
2. Table 1 lists both resolutions and matters arising and issues raised from previous meetings that are tracked over time.

Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complete</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On plan / work in progress</td>
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<tr>
<td>Issues being addressed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not completed / on hold / at risk</td>
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11
Matters Arising
3. Table 1 below is a summary of the key matters which were raised at the last catchments committee meeting and the actions that followed.

Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Matters Arising</th>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Status update</th>
<th>Responsible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/11/2018</td>
<td><strong>West Coast Zone Status Report</strong>&lt;br&gt;The committee requested that information on catchment work programmes/activities to show timelines and progress towards completing the priority work plans/achieving the goals set</td>
<td>Update to be given at meeting</td>
<td>In Progress</td>
<td>Zone Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/11/2018</td>
<td><strong>West Coast Zone Status Report</strong>&lt;br&gt;A committee member requested a map showing areas planted to date and what areas are planned to be planted</td>
<td>Update to be given at meeting</td>
<td>In Progress</td>
<td>Zone Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30/8/2016</td>
<td>A joint study was underway with Waikato Tainui and NIWA on whitebait. Once results were available these would be made available to the Committee, but no substantial findings were available yet. The Committee requested a presentation on whitebait management from the Department of Conservation (DOC) at their next meeting.</td>
<td>No results are available yet from the Waikato Tainui/NIWA whitebait study. Information will be made available to the committee once results are available.&lt;br&gt;Natasha Hayward gave a presentation at the March 2018 meeting.&lt;br&gt;Mark Brough gave an update on this at the November 2018 meeting</td>
<td>In progress</td>
<td>Zone Manager</td>
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</table>
Report to West Coast Catchments Committee

Date: 1 March 2019
Author: Jolene Francis, Zone Manager – West Coast and Central Waikato Catchments
Authoriser: Clare Crickett, Director – Integrated Catchment Management
Subject: Chairperson’s Report
Section: A (Committee has delegated authority to make decision)

Purpose

1. A verbal update for the information of the committee will be provided by the West Coast Catchments Committee Chairperson. The update will include any matters of particular relevance to the zone.

2. Members are asked to pre-read the minutes from the previous Integrated Catchment Management Committee meetings, and raise questions as required during the Chairperson’s Report.

3. Minutes and Agendas can be found on Waikato Regional Council’s website at Agendas and minutes.

Staff Recommendation:
That the verbal Chairperson’s Report (West Coast Catchments Committee 19 March 2019) be received.
Report to West Coast Catchment Committee

Date: 1 March 2019

Author: Jolene Francis, Zone Manager – West Coast and Central Waikato Catchments

Authoriser: Clare Crickett, Director – Integrated Catchment Management

Subject: West Coast Zone Status Report to 31 January 2019

Section: A (Committee has delegated authority to make decision)

Purpose

1. This report outlines the status for West Coast Zone activities and work programmes, covering the period 1 November 2018 to 31 January 2019, including:
   - Financial performance (River, Catchment and Zone Management) to 31 January 2019.
   - Key project updates.
   - Non-financial status to 31 January 2019:
     - Long Term Plan (LTP) measures and
     - Zone based measures (Catchment Management).

Executive Summary

2. This report outlines the status for West Coast Zone activities, work programmes and financials covering the period to 31 January 2019.

Staff Recommendation:

That the report West Coast Zone Status Report to 31 January 2019 (West Coast Catchment Committee 19 March 2019) be received.

Zone Overview

3. This report outlines the status for West Coast Zone activities, and work programmes covering the period up until 31 January 2019.

4. The focus for the West Coast Zone in the 2018/19 year continues in the following areas:

   • Increased work within the northern part of the zone in the priority harbour catchments of Aotea, Kawhia and Whaingaroa, targeting particular properties with significant values to maximise external funding opportunities.

   • The potential continuation of the Hill Country Erosion Fund Programme in the southern part of the zone, focusing on raising awareness with landowners and implementation of soil conservation, water quality and biodiversity projects within the Awakino, Lower Mokau and Mangaotaki priority catchments.

   • Continuation of ‘business as usual’ work within the wider West Coast catchments.

   • Continued collaboration with key stakeholders including Department of Conservation, Ministry for Primary Industries, Iwi, Nga Whenua Rahui, QEII Trust, Local Territorial Authorities, and Beef+Lamb New Zealand.
5. Strategic initiatives to increase the uptake of work within the West Coast catchments have included:

- Raising the Waikato Regional Council contribution threshold from $10K to $35K before an encumbrance binding future landowners to the current landowner agreements is required.
- Completion of the West Coast Zone Plan in 2016 to guide internal work programmes and external collaboration.
- Establishing a record of success for the Hill Country Erosion Fund to facilitate future funding and raising community awareness through advertising, newsletter, drop-in days, presentations and field days, as well as the one-on-one farm visits.

6. The general work areas and priorities for 2018/19 were a continuation of existing priority catchment work in the harbour and hill country catchments (funding dependant). Catchment planning for the West Coast Harbours commenced.

7. 2018/19 is the final year of the Hill Country Erosion programme. A regional application for the next HCEF funding round was made and council was successful in obtaining $3.7M in funding across 5 zones.

8. We have completed recruitment for the Harbour catchment management advisor position and Tracie Dean-Speirs started in this role on 25th February 2019. We are currently working to get Tracie across the harbour catchment planning work carried out to date, and determine the process going forward for development of the HCMPs.

Expenditure to 31 January 2019

9. Summarised budget information is presented in Figure 1 and Table 1. Budget expenditure is tracking above forecast. This is due to landowner projects being completed ahead of expectations.
Table 1: West Coast Zone Financial Summary through to 31 January 2019 - by activity

**West Coast Catchment**

**Jan-19 NZD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>YTD Actual</th>
<th>YTD Budget (Revised)</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>FY Budget (Revised)</th>
<th>FY Budget Ann Plan</th>
<th>% Spent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MAINTENANCE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catchment Oversight</td>
<td>102,120</td>
<td>126,316</td>
<td>24,196</td>
<td>226,778</td>
<td>226,688</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information and Advice</td>
<td>47,575</td>
<td>43,871</td>
<td>(3,704)</td>
<td>75,587</td>
<td>75,587</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catchment Maintenance</td>
<td>5,365</td>
<td>8,178</td>
<td>2,813</td>
<td>35,700</td>
<td>35,700</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catchment New Works</td>
<td>184,953</td>
<td>152,200</td>
<td>(32,753)</td>
<td>454,586</td>
<td>454,586</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Management</td>
<td>64,303</td>
<td>50,408</td>
<td>(13,895)</td>
<td>258,431</td>
<td>258,431</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hill Country Erosion</td>
<td>299,854</td>
<td>102,536</td>
<td>(197,318)</td>
<td>617,926</td>
<td>617,926</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>711,213</td>
<td>568,153</td>
<td>(143,060)</td>
<td>1,049,440</td>
<td>1,049,350</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest on reserve expense</td>
<td>(2,757)</td>
<td>(1,099)</td>
<td>1,658</td>
<td>(1,887)</td>
<td>(1,887)</td>
<td>147%</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL OPERATING EXP (OPEX)</strong></td>
<td>708,446</td>
<td>567,054</td>
<td>(141,392)</td>
<td>1,846,535</td>
<td>1,846,463</td>
<td>38%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CAPITAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FUNDING BY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Rate</td>
<td>510,945</td>
<td>510,945</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>875,948</td>
<td>875,948</td>
<td>(58)%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Targeted Rates</td>
<td>401,822</td>
<td>406,280</td>
<td>(4,458)</td>
<td>696,515</td>
<td>696,515</td>
<td>(58)%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Grant</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>51,254</td>
<td>(51,254)</td>
<td>274,000</td>
<td>274,000</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Charges</td>
<td>8,710</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8,710</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>n/m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalties</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>n/m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>921,477</td>
<td>968,479</td>
<td>(47,002)</td>
<td>1,846,463</td>
<td>1,846,463</td>
<td>(50)%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes to Table: MPI Hill Country Erosion Fund (HCEF) and Department of Conservation (DOC) partnership funding are displayed in the ‘government grant” line.
Key Projects

10. A summary of the key projects for the West Coast Zone is provided below.

11. In the northern half of the zone, a range of catchment new works have been agreed to under Environmental Programme Agreements. These new works are spread across the three priority harbour catchments: Kawhia, Aotea, and Whaingaroa, with the majority of new works occurring in the Waitetuna sub-catchment of the Whaingaroa (Raglan). Works include riparian retirement and planting, stream bank erosion control, bush retirement, harbour edge retirement and wetland protection.

12. Other catchment work (outside of priority catchments) is being undertaken on numerous properties throughout the wider West Coast catchments, involving channel spraying, riparian retirement and planting, and also land retirement. Routine maintenance activities include blockage/tree removal and weed spraying, while erosion control using tree laying was also undertaken.

13. The hill country erosion fund (HCEF) programme is fully subscribed in this last year of funding. Works include bush retirement, pole planting soil conservation, riparian retirement and planting and wetland protection works.
**Performance Measures**

14. Progress toward the performance measures against the 2018-2028 Long Term Plan and the West Coast Zone Plan Measures are presented in Tables 2 and 3.

**Key**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complete</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On plan / work in progress</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issues being addressed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not completed / on hold / at risk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**15. Table 2. 2018 – 2028 Long Term Plan measures and performance through 31 January 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group of Activity</th>
<th>Sub activity</th>
<th>Level of service</th>
<th>Performance measure</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Commentary</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flood Protection</td>
<td>River management</td>
<td>To achieve a balance between maintaining channel capacity, channel stability, and environmental values in the management of priority rivers and streams in each management zone.</td>
<td>Proactive monitoring (inspections, surveys and scheme reviews) of priority rivers and streams on a cyclical basis as per the agreed work programme.</td>
<td>Achieved</td>
<td>Desk-top/field inspections and forward planning for Waitetuna and Marokopa completed. An aerial drone survey was completed for Waikawau in September 2018 which will be used to inform future management approaches.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Catchment Management</td>
<td>Biosecurity</td>
<td>To control plant and animal pests within the Waikato region to maintain and enhance biodiversity and protect agricultural productivity and community health.</td>
<td>Average number of possums caught for every 100 traps set for possum operations - aerial control.</td>
<td>Less than 5% residual trap catch (RTC) for ground control Less than 3% RTC aerial control.</td>
<td>Mahoenui PPCA control operation was completed with a result of 0.0% RTC. NW Waikato West PPCA started in last week of February. This area is programmed to take 12 months to complete. Currently tendering for Karioi North PPCA and Mokauiti 1&amp;2 farmland.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group of Activity</td>
<td>Sub activity</td>
<td>Level of service</td>
<td>Performance measure</td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Commentary</td>
<td>Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feral goats</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Council has continued to work collaboratively with DOC undertaking feral goat control at high value sites across the region. DOC focuses control on public conservation land and Council on private land.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• West Coast/Whareorino: – 593 goats controlled so far from 755hrs SH3 goat control around Mangaotaki Reserve complete 315 goats controlled.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Mt Pirongia: – Work begins March 2019</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Control ongoing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feral goats</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Reducing trend in the number of known sites for each species of <strong>eradication</strong> pest plant pests with limited distribution or density.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Eradication</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Integrated Catchment Services Pest Plant Officers undertake passive and active surveillance to find and destroy Regional Pest Management Plan eradication species. Any eradication pest plant species found is surveyed and destroyed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biodiversity</td>
<td>Work with partners, stakeholders and community to maintain and enhance indigenous biodiversity.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Improving trend in the habitat condition score of sites under active management.</td>
<td>Achieved</td>
<td>In the absence of national agreement about appropriate Tier 2 monitoring methods, a regional impact monitoring plan is being prepared. This plan will outline methods to be trialled for measuring the changes in habitat condition resulting from active management. Specific site management undertaken includes:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Activity</td>
<td>Sub activity</td>
<td>Level of service</td>
<td>Performance measure</td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Commentary</td>
<td>Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toreparu Wetland</td>
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<td>Financial support for fencing, provision of technical advice, liaison with community, and repeat vegetation monitoring. More fencing is planned for the next two years, and a willow control management plan has been endorsed by the community and formed the basis of a Ministry for the Environment Freshwater Improvement Fund application that unfortunately was unsuccessful. Ongoing discussions will determine alternative funding options going forward.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coastcare projects</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ongoing planting and pest plant control planned for all Coastcare sites. Plants for the 2019 season have been ordered.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kawhia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>A community and stakeholder group has been established to address management of a section of Kawhia coastline from the township to the northern boundary of Tainui Kawhia Incorporated Forestry. This group is investigating ways to protect the cultural and biodiversity values of this beach while still allowing recreational use. Key targets at present are investigating ways to alleviate vehicle impacts on sensitive areas and conduct a trial of native vegetation as a coastal buffer for commercial forestry. We are supporting this group by working with them on developing a restoration plan and provision of plants and expertise for the coastal buffer trial.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Te Maika</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Te Maika trust have a strong interest in protecting and restoring Te Maika to a predator-free, near pristine state while still allowing people to visit and stay on the peninsula. Long term goals included making the habitat suitable for the reintroduction of</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Activity</td>
<td>Sub activity</td>
<td>Level of service</td>
<td>Performance measure</td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Commentary</td>
<td>Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>kiwi and tuatara. We are supporting them with development of a restoration plan that will aid them in developing their ideas further and seeking partnerships with other organisations.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lake Harihari</td>
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<tr>
<td>Following the placement of a fish-friendly culvert and planting of 7500 natives, further agreement in place with landowner to fence off flax wetland and outlet stream. A further 1800 plants have been planted around the culvert outlet. A maintenance programme is currently being implemented for all plantings.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Taharoa lakes</td>
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<tr>
<td>– A Management plan (which primarily involves weed control, planting and fencing) ratified with Taharoa Trust and attracted DOC funding of $70k. Works have started and two lakes are currently being fenced with the margins planted late autumn/early winter.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Te Kopua marae</td>
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<tr>
<td>– A draft site Restoration Plan has been developed with project partners; Tainui hapu, Whaingaroa ki te Whenua, WDC and Waikato Regional Council. The intention is to develop an environmentally friendly and sustainable option to alleviate and/or adapt to coastal erosion. This may be used as a case study for similar incidents of coastal erosion.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>To collaborate with other agencies and the people of the Waikato to fund projects that deliver economic, environmental and social outcomes for the region.</td>
<td>Projects funded through the Environmental Initiatives Fund achieve milestones as per the funding agreement.</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>Natural Heritage Fund (NHF)</td>
<td>There were no grants made in this Zone during this period.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Initiative Fund (EIF)</td>
<td>There were no grants made in this Zone during this period.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Small Scale Community Initiative Fund (SSCIF)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group of Activity</td>
<td>Sub activity</td>
<td>Level of service</td>
<td>Performance measure</td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Commentary</td>
<td>Status</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Catchment planning and management | Work with partners, stakeholders and community to improve soil conservation and water quality. | Identify priority sub-catchments and sites for soil conservation and remediation | | No SSCIF grants were awarded over the last financial year to groups in the West Coast Zone. | A workshop will be carried out with the committee in 2019 to review the West Coast Zone Plan including associated priorities for the Zone. |}

**Zone Plan Goals and Focus Areas**

1. The goals for the West Coast Zone are:

   **Goal 1:** Protect and enhance the productive soil capacity, fresh and marine water quality and biodiversity.
   
   **Goal 2:** Direct resources to activities and areas of greatest environmental benefit.
   
   **Goal 3:** Support mana whenua and strengthen community partnerships.
   
   **Goal 4:** Enhance outcomes for the West Coast through strengthened leadership and visibility.

2. These Goals are to be achieved through actions within 16 Focus Areas (refer to Section 7 of the West Coast Zone Plan). The relationship of the Focus Areas and Goals is presented in Attachment 1. Zone base measures and performance through to 31 January 2019 is as follows (Table 3):
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Zone Objectives/Outcomes</th>
<th>Measure/Targets</th>
<th>Commentary</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial management</td>
<td>Manage operational and capital activities within budget. Demonstrated by monthly financial reports and end of year full result.</td>
<td>Target equal or less than 102% variance from budget.</td>
<td>Zone expenditure for this financial year is tracking above forecast due to phasing issues.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catchment oversight</td>
<td>To provide a high standard of support and servicing to the catchments committee.</td>
<td>4 effective Catchments Committee meetings per year.</td>
<td>Meetings have been held in August, September and November for the 2018/19 financial year.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information and advice</td>
<td>Respond effectively to zone enquiries and information requests. Report on the outcomes of the annual zone environmental monitoring programme.</td>
<td>Enquiries received are recorded in asset management system and are responded to appropriately.</td>
<td>Enquiries are predominantly related to the management of streams/rivers and request for assistance in dealing with erosion or the protection/enhancement of areas with high biodiversity values. The latest edition of the West Coast Newsletter was released in September 2018.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catchment maintenance</td>
<td>Continue maintenance and catchment new works programmes with a focus in high priority areas.</td>
<td>Maintenance plans in place for prioritised sites/work. Maintenance works programs undertaken on all properties with identified non-compliance (to legal agreements).</td>
<td>A zone-wide maintenance programme has been initiated, with the first stages of the discovery, and inspection programmes underway. A maintenance works programme has been undertaken at Lake Harihari, and a maintenance plan developed for Waitetuna catchment works, with some works undertaken in the last financial year.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Catchment new and river management works | To complete new riparian, coastal and land protection measures across management zones according to established priorities in zone management plans and within budget estimates. | Complete agreed works in partnership with landowners, constructed to a high standard within budget estimates. | Catchment new works and river management has been actively promoted through newsletters, presentations and field days, and agreed works have been completed in partnership with landowners in the following areas:  
  - Awakino, Lower Mokau, Mangaotaki (Hill Country Erosion Fund programme). |        |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Zone Objectives/Outcomes</th>
<th>Strategic Measure/Targets</th>
<th>Commentary</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| d. Waitetuna, Marokopa, Waikawau | | | • Kawhia and Whaingaroa harbour catchment water quality, biodiversity and soil conservation projects undertaken.  
• Waitetuna and Marokopa works completed as planned. | Green |
## FOCUS AREAS AND GOALS

Relationship between each focus area and the zone goals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Focus area</th>
<th>Goal 1: Water Quality, Biodiversity, Soil Capacity</th>
<th>Goal 2: Resources directed to areas of greatest environmental benefit</th>
<th>Goal 3: Relationships /collaboration</th>
<th>Goal 4: Leadership and visibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. New Catchment Management works to enhance soil conservation, water quality and biodiversity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. River Management Works</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Maintenance of existing catchment and river management works</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Priority biodiversity funding and natural heritage partnership programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Sustainable land management</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Coastal</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Pest Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Community resilience to hazards</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Prioritisation of catchments for soil conservation, water quality and biodiversity values</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Development of catchment and harbour and management plans</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Criteria confirmation</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Support of mana whenua initiatives</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Increased effectiveness through partnerships</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14. Leadership</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>15. Build awareness of West Coast features and zone plan objectives within the council and influence council programmes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>16. Communication and partnership</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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25
Report to West Coast Catchment Committee

Date: 21 January 2019

Author: Grant Blackie, Zone Manager – Waipa
Jolene Francis, Zone Manager – West Coast and Central Waikato

Authoriser: Clare Crickett, Director Integrated Catchment Management

Subject: Update on Hill Country Erosion Fund and One Billion Tree Funding

Section: A (Committee has delegated authority to make decision)

Purpose
1. The purpose of this report is to provide the West Coast Catchment Committee with an overview on recent discussions, decisions and announcements concerning the ‘Hill Country Erosion Fund’ (HCEF) and ‘One Billion Tree’ (1BT) funding opportunities.

Executive Summary
2. Following the success of the pilot hill country programme for the West Coast in the last funding round, Council applied to the HCEF for $5.2M ($34M available) to contribute to the landowner’s share of almost $30M of hill country catchment and river management work across the region over the 2019-23 period. On 19 December 2018 MPI advised Council were successful in obtaining $3.7M of funding.

3. The West Coast Zone applied for $1.94M from MPI to contribute to the landowner share of a proposed $5.5M hill country and coastal erosion programme.

4. An overview is also provided on the 1BT Fund and the intention to seek region wide funding as part of a multi-Council application.

Staff Recommendation:
That the report Update on Hill Country Erosion Fund and One Billion Tree Funding (West Coast Catchment Committee 19 March 2019) be received.

HCEF Funding
5. In 2015 HCEF funding of $630,000 was granted to the Council to reduce the landowner’s share of $2M of work for hill country and river management work within the West Coast Zone over the 2015-19 period. This was the first instance Council had acquired HCEF funding with the intent that, if successful, other zones within the region could also apply for and incorporate this funding into their work programmes (where relevant).

6. In October 2018, Council applied to the HCEF for $5.2M to contribute to the landowner’s share of almost $30M of work across the region over the 2019-23 period. The specific work proposed included treating erosion prone land/rivers using riparian fencing and planting, willow and poplar pole planting, retirement and plantation forestry/Manuka planting in the Lower Waikato, Central, West Coast, Waipa and Coromandel Zones. This fund is only available to Regional Councils, and the full funding amount available nationally in this four year funding round was $34M. Applications exceeding $54M were lodged with MPI.

7. As part of the regional application to MPI, the West Coast Zone applied for $1.94M to contribute to the landowner share of a proposed $5.5M hill country and coastal erosion programme.
8. On 19 December 2018 MPI advised that the Council were successful in obtaining $3.7M of funding. The reduced amount was due to the over subscription, and the decision not to fund, going forward, riparian and reversion work.

9. Discussions have been entered into with MPI to determine how the reduced level of funding can be accommodated to progress the project.

10. A summary of the various Regional Council applications and funding granted is shown as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Application $M</th>
<th>Granted $M</th>
<th>Granted (% of appln)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waikato</td>
<td>5.30</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasman</td>
<td>0.74</td>
<td>0.74</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marlborough</td>
<td>1.90</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taranaki</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>3.99</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellington</td>
<td>8.80</td>
<td>7.60</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizons</td>
<td>8.35</td>
<td>6.49</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nelson</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northland</td>
<td>5.40</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecan</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auckland</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gisborne</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southland</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Coast</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>$39.5M</strong></td>
<td><strong>$29.6M</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*NA=data not made available

One Billion Trees Programme (‘Right Tree Right Place’)

11. During 2018 the Government established the ‘One Billion Trees Programme’ with a goal to plant one billion trees by 2028 to deliver improved social, environmental, and economic outcomes for New Zealand.

12. Led by the recently established Te Uru Rākau (Forestry New Zealand) – an entity within MPI - and funded by the Provincial Growth Fund, the Programme is intended to:

- create employment and workforce development
- optimise land use
- mitigate climate change
- support Māori values and aspirations
- protect the environment
- support New Zealand’s transition to a low emissions economy.

13. Approximately 500M trees are expected to be delivered through existing planting programmes, and Te Uru Rākau will support increased planting of a further 500M of native trees, exotics and plantation forests.

14. The programme will include landowner grants and partnership grants. Landowner grants will provide simple and accessible direct grants to landowners, and will contribute to the cost of planting and establishing trees and fostering indigenous regeneration. Partnership grants will create a closer working relationship with partners from regional councils, sector organisations, non-government organisations (NGOs), researchers, training organisations, Māori landowners, and community groups. These grants
focus on partnerships between organisations and groups to enable an increase in tree planting – whether through research, innovation, or sector development.

15. Funding has only been confirmed until 2020 thus far and it is understood that approximately 50% co-funding of projects (including in-kind) is expected.

16. The collective of Regional Councils were asked by MPI to provide a proposal outlining a potential funding arrangement. MPI have been very supportive of a joint proposal from the Regional Councils that outlines the area (ha) of planting that could be achieved with funding from the 1BT programme. At the strategic level, MPI’s focus is on trees, but they are very aware of the potential for 1BT to address a suite of Government and Regional Council outcomes, such as water quality, biodiversity, climate change and regional economic resilience.

MPI see the advantages of directly funding the regional sector as:
- using regional council expertise in catchment management to get the right trees in each region in the right place,
- efficient process from a government/council perspective, and
- making it easier for landowners.

17. The regional sector is currently preparing the proposal for MPI. To date each regional council has been asked to provide an indication of the area of trees they expect to be planted with current funding (including the recently announced HCEF) over years 1-3 and 4-10 of their LTPs. We have also been asked to provide an estimate of the additional area that could be planted over these periods with funding through the 1BT programme.

18. The table below summarises the total areas provided for the draft proposal by Waikato Regional Council. We also provided a list of assumptions that were made in determining the area of additional plantings that could be achieved with the funding incentives indicated by MPI:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total ha of planting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Years 1-3 of LTP</td>
<td>547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated to be planted with current funding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional planting if MPI funding available</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 4-10 of LTP</td>
<td>1,116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated to be planted with current funding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional planting if MPI funding available</td>
<td>1,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,743</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assumptions:
- Trees would be funded even if planting’s may be required through farm plans in future
- Experienced staff/contractors are available to be engaged
- Council would not be required to put legal agreements on property titles
- Good quality plants are readily available
- All costs for new staff members required to deliver the programme are covered including overheads, vehicles, travel etc.
- Plant maintenance costs are included in the funding.

19. We anticipate a further update will be provided to this Committee when the regional sector proposal is finalised.
Conclusion

20. Council was successful in obtaining $3.7M of funding for hill country and river management across the entire Waikato Region, and is currently working through how the reduced funding is to be allocated to each zone.
Report to West Coast Catchment Committee

Date: 25 February 2019

Author: Julie Beaufill - Senior Advisor, Special Projects

Authoriser: Clare Crickett – Director, Integrated Catchment Management

Subject: Flood Campaign Update

Section: A (Committee has delegated authority to make decision)

Purpose
1. To provide the West Coast Catchment Committee with an update on the proposed communications campaign in relation to Council’s flood protection and land drainage schemes.

Executive Summary
2. There is a need to raise community awareness and understanding of our flood protection and land drainage schemes. A communications campaign is being launched in April 2019 which will culminate at the National Agricultural Fieldays in June. A presentation on the campaign content will be provided at the Committee meeting.

Staff Recommendation:
That the report Flood Campaign Update (West Coast Catchment Committee 19 March 2019) be received.

Background
3. In response to recent flood events and instances where flood protection assets have been misused, and levels of service tested, Waikato Regional Council is preparing a flood protection campaign. The campaign will be launched in April 2019 and run through to the National Agricultural Fieldays in mid-June.

4. The campaign is being driven by the Council Audit and Risk Sub-Committee’s concern that community awareness needs to be raised due to issues such as homes being built against stopbanks, cropping on stopbanks, and some misunderstandings around levels of service provided. This is supported by similar feedback from the Integrated Catchment Management Committee and Zone Catchment Committees.

5. The campaign will focus on the zones that contain flood protection and land drainage schemes, being Waikou-Piako, Lower Waikato, Coromandel and Taupo, but will also have a region-wide reach.

6. The campaign is being funded in part by council’s Communications programme and the remainder from the Integrated Catchment Management Directorate (ICM). In terms of the ICM share, this will be funded from the Asset Management programme and from zones existing budgets. Zones will contribute based on the value of the assets in their zone.

7. In January 2019 a memo was circulated to Catchment Committees seeking feedback on the campaign proposal and any gaps that might be picked up in its development or in a follow up campaign. A report was also submitted to the Integrated Catchment Management Committee February meeting. Feedback from both processes has been incorporated into the finalised campaign.
Campaign Objectives
8. The campaign focus is on the value communities get from these schemes, how the rates they pay contribute to them and what Council’s role in a flood event is. The campaign objectives are to:
   a. Define what flood protection and land drainage is in people’s minds.
   b. Increase awareness around what Waikato Regional Council does in this space.
   c. Help people realise flood protection is our collective responsibility.

Update
9. Content for communications has been gathered drawing on existing technical information and interviews with key people and stakeholders (e.g. ICMC North and South Chairs, Catchment Committee Chairs where there are schemes, landowners and staff who have experienced flood events, Iwi, community groups etc).
   There are a range of tools being utilised for the campaign and these are listed below:
   - WRC website, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.
   - Print ads in local newspapers in target areas and farming magazines.
   - Area-targeted digital ad placements.
   - Direct mail to landowners and community groups.
   - Billboards at key sites.
   - Open days (one in Waihou-Piako and one in Lower Waikato).

10. An overview/summary of content will be presented at the Catchment Committee meeting. Noting that due to the launch timeframe and the opportunity presented in the run to Fieldays, the campaign will have been finalised by the time the Committee meets. Any feedback will be welcome, however, as it is intended to leverage off this campaign in follow up communication activities and future campaigns.

Conclusion
11. A communications campaign is being launched in April this year for the purpose of raising awareness about the value communities get from flood protection and land drainage schemes, how the rates they pay contribute to them and what Council’s role in a flood event is. The campaign will address the issues that flood protection and land drainage assets are at times being misused, and levels of service misunderstood.