



Report **06.364**
Date 3 August 2006
File E/06/16/03

Committee **Landcare**
Author **Geoff Dick, Divisional Manager, Catchment Management**

Divisional Manager's Report - Catchment Management

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee about the Western Flood Protection activities, and progress of matters, since the last 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. Managers report

The western Flood Protection Manager's report is attached.

4. Comment

The Flood Protection team had a very good year and largely achieved all the Department's objectives. In some areas, most notably the Boulcott/Hutt stopbank project and the lower Waiwhetu structural investigations are ahead of schedule following decisions to speed up these projects. A good deal of hard work has gone into achieving these targets, and the staff are to be congratulated on their efforts.

I am in the process of making the appointments to the new 3rd tier Manager positions in the Catchment Division following the restructuring. Dave Cameron has been appointed as the Manager, Land Management, applications have closed for the position of Manager, Support Services and the new (region wide) Manager, Flood Protection position has been advertised.

The integration of the eastern and western flood protection teams is underway and a new concept structure has been prepared. The aim of this work is to have the combined Flood Protection team largely formed so that the new Manager can hit the ground running. In the interim Sharyn Westlake (west) and Ian Gunn (east) continue with their acting Manager responsibilities.

2006/07 also promises to be very busy and the July flood event that hit the lower Wairarapa valley and Wainuiomata has just added to the work ahead.

Key issues which I am putting time into at present include:

- The decision on the Chrystalls Extended stopbank alignment. The costs and timeframes for the recommended landward alignment are outside the originally indicated numbers but I am confident that this is the correct long term solution.
- The Waiwhetu investigation continues to make good progress but the issues are very complex and the initial costs estimates are huge. The workshop booked for 15 August will be very useful to get our heads around the way forward.
- The Boulcott/Hutt stopbank feasibility study. Good progress is being made but again the issues are complex and initial cost estimates are greater than anticipated. It is proposed to report on the evaluation of the alignment options to a special meeting of the Hutt River Advisory Committee in late September 2006.

I attended the meeting at John Topliff's regarding the ongoing enhancement of the southbank of the Waikanae River. John and his fellow workers are very passionate about what they are trying to achieve, and both GW and KCDC will have to continue to work hard to keep up.

5. Communication

No communication is required.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

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

Report prepared by:

Geoff Dick
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Attachment 1: Flood Protection Manager's report for the period ending 28 July 2006