



Report **04.110**
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Committee **Rural Services and Wairarapa**
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Hydrological Flood Report - 15-16 February 2004

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee of the hydrology of the recent major flood.

2. Background

After major floods, an internal report is produced that sets out the characteristics of the event (rainfall and flows) as a matter of technical record.

This report is attached for members information.

3. Discussion

This flood produced the largest known flows at Waihenga (Martinborough Bridge and Jenkins Dip) of some 2000 cumecs.

As each flood is added to the records, the flood flows predicted for various return periods changes.

There is also a need to verify the conditions at these key sites during the flood. This is where gaugings are vital. They accurately record both flow velocity and bed depth across the riverbed during the flood.

It was most fortunate in this recent event that staff were able to achieve gaugings at both Wardells and Waihenga - the two key monitoring sites in the Ruamahanga catchment.

Once the calibration of the monitoring equipment has been confirmed, actual peak flows at these sites will be verified.

4. Communication

No additional communication is proposed.

5. Recommendation

That the Committee receive the report.

Report prepared by:

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