

Report 07.595
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Committee Landcare
Author Daya Atapattu, Team Leader, Western FMPs

Western Rivers Floodplain Management Plans Implementation: Annual progress report to June 2007

1. Purpose

To advise the Committee on progress made implementing the Hutt, Otaki and Waikanae Floodplain Management Plans to June 2007, and to outline the 2007/08 works programme.

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

The Hutt, Otaki and Waikanae Floodplain Management Plans (FMPs) completed in 2001, 1998 and 1997 respectively, recommend structural and non-structural measures to reduce the flood risk to the respective floodplains. Greater Wellington has adopted a 40-year time frame to fully implement the three FMPs. Implementation of the FMPs commenced in 2000 and a total of \$19.8 million has been spent up to the end of June 2007. The Flood Protection, 2007-2016 Operating Plan provides a further \$36 million for implementing the three FMPs.

This is the fifth annual implementation progress report presented to Landcare. The last progress report 06.494 was presented to the Committee in September 2006.

4. Summary progress against the 40 year implementation programme

The western rivers FMP implementation is progressing well with the target of completing the implementation by 2040.

Attachments 1 to 3 provide a summary by project of the progress in implementing all three FMPs. The tables below show the summary of financial progress to date and the expected achievements by 2016. The progress, shown as 'percent complete' to June 2007 and the forecast to 2016 was computed by discounting current dollars to dollars at the time of completion of the respective FMP.

River	Total 40 year budget (\$M) ¹	Expenditure in 2006/07 (\$M) ²	Expenditure to June 2007 (\$M) ²	Total expenditure forecast to 2016 (\$M) ²
Hutt	78.00	2.15	11.95	42.7
Otaki	12.07	0.26	3.8	8.2
Waikanae	8.69	0.22	4.1	5.3
Total	98.76	2.63	19.85	56.2

Notes:

1. Hutt, Otaki and Waikanae budgets are based on 1999, 1998 and 1997 dollar (FMP dollars) values respectively.
2. Expenditure figures have not been converted to FMP dollars.

River	FMP dollars		% Complete		% complete in benefit terms to June 2007 (Flood damages saved)
	Total 40 Year budget (\$M)	Expenditure to June 2007 (\$M)	Actual to June 2007	Forecast to June 2016	
Hutt	78	9.1	11.7%	37%	See note below
Otaki	12.07	3.50	29%	56%	54%
Waikanae	8.69	3.51	40%	54%	68%

Notes

The completion of all stopbanks on the true left bank of the Hutt River from the Ava Rail Bridge to Kennedy Good Bridge will realise 40% of the flood damages saved benefits.

4.1 Non-structural measures

Hutt and Kapiti Rivers flood hazard information has been included in Hutt City and Kapiti district plans. The proposed plan change process to include the Hutt flood hazard into the Upper Hutt City district plan is scheduled to commence in September 2007. The district plans set standards for development in the floodplains of the major rivers.

We also continue to provide free advice on flood hazards to the public on an ongoing basis. We work with insurance companies to make sure industries in the protected areas understand the residual flood risk and develop emergency plans.

4.2 Structural measures

4.2.1 Hutt River

By the end of June 2007, \$12 million had been spent in implementing the HRFMP costing \$78 million in 1999 dollars. The project is now about 12% complete and progressing well.

The Belmont project is complete and the Ava to Ewen project is about 50% complete and is on track for completion by 2010. The Boulcott/Hutt project was brought forward by one and half years and the feasibility study to determine a preferred alignment was completed. Raising of the Whirinaki Crescent stopbank commenced. An investigation study to develop a management strategy to cope with the bed degradation at Maoribank also commenced.

4.2.2 Kapiti Rivers

By the end of June 2007, \$8 million had been spent in implementing the Kapiti FMPs. Implementation of the Otaki and Waikanae FMPs is now 29% and 40% complete respectively. In Otaki, the design for the Chrystalls stopbank extension was completed and statutory approvals obtained. Good progress has also been made in resolving land issues associated with the South waitohu stopbank. In the Waikanae, the Jim Cooke Park river realignment was completed.

4.2.3 Environmental enhancement works

Significant environmental enhancement works have been completed with all the above capital projects. These works generally include planting native trees, improving existing walkways and providing new walkways.

5. 2006/07 – Targets and Achievements

Significant progress was made on all FMP projects during 2006/07. A total of \$2.63 million was spent implementing the projects. The highlights for 2006/07 were;

- Completion of the Opahu Stream pump station
- Commencement of the Ava Rail stopbank contract
- Completion of the Boulcott/Hutt feasibility study
- Completion of the land acquisition for the Whirinaki Crescent Stopbank and commencement of construction (Stage 1)
- Obtaining statutory approvals and calling tenders for the Chrystalls extended stopbank
- Obtaining Otaki and Porirua Trust Board approval to proceed with planning for the South Waitohu stopbank on their land.

In the Hutt, construction of the Opahu Stream pump station, the first part of Stage 3 of the Ava to Ewen project, was completed. A \$3 million contract was let for the second part of Stage 3, the Ava Rail stopbank contract. This contract is now about 50% complete and on track for completion by February 2008.

The Boulcott/Hutt feasibility study was completed and Round 3 consultation with the two golf clubs and neighbouring residents commenced. A decision on the preferred was made at the Advisory Committee meeting on 6 September 2007.

In the Whirinaki Stopbank project, land acquisition took more time than expected and the project is now being implemented in 2 stages. Stage 1 of the stopbank upgrade was completed in May 2007 and tenders called for the stage 2 works.

The statutory approvals for the Chrystalls extended stopbank were granted. This process took more time than expected. The detailed design was completed and tenders called with the aim of appointing a contractor by September 2007.

Good progress was made on the South Waitohu stopbank project by obtaining Porirua Trust Board approval to commence planning for the stopbank on their land. Hydraulic modelling, consent applications and detailed design has commenced.

6. 2007/08 works programme

We aim to complete 4 construction projects during 2007/08. The total FMP budget for 2007/08 is \$6.2 million.

The key Hutt projects for 2007/08 include;

- Progressing the UHCC district plan change
- Completing the Ava Rail stopbank construction project
- Completing the Whirinaki Crescent stopbank project
- Progressing the land negotiations, detailed design and resource consents for the Boulcott/Hutt stopbank
- Developing a management strategy to arrest the Maoribank riverbed degradation

The key Otaki projects for 2007/08 include;

- Completing the Chrystalls extended stopbank construction
- Completing the South Waitohu stopbank construction
- Working with the Otaki Friends on the associated environmental projects

The key Waikanae projects for 2007/08 include;

- Completing purchase of a further piece of river corridor land
- Working with the Waikanae Friends on environmental projects
- Raising one house at Otaihanga

7. 2007-16 FMP works programme

Attachment 4 from the Flood Protection Operating Plan shows the 2007-2016 works programme for implementing the FMPs. The 10 year reviews of all 3 floodplain management plans are also scheduled for completion by 2016.

7.1 Hutt

By 2016, we aim to complete all stopbanks on the left bank from Kennedy Good Bridge to Ava Rail Bridge. This will provide the HRFMP recommended 440 year standard of protection to the Hutt CBD. During this period we expect to complete 4 smaller projects in Upper Hutt, and also complete the UHCC district plan change to include the Hutt River flood hazard.

7.2 Waikanae

Now that Otaihanga house raising has been confirmed as the preferred option, we expect to complete the works by 2012. Further environmental enhancement works on the Waikanae River continue. The Jim Cooke Park stopbank will also be upgraded to provide the 100 year return period standard.

7.3 Otaki

We are now on track to materially complete both the Chrystalls extended and South Waitohu stopbank projects by June 2008. The work programme provides for further river realignment works to be completed from the mouth to the Otaki River gorge.

8. Communication

Communication initiatives are in place for all FMP projects. This report was written primarily for internal purposes. However, a copy of this report will be sent to HCC, UHCC and KCDC for their information.

9. Recommendations


That the Committee:

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

Report prepared by:

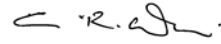
Daya Atapattu
Team Leader,
Western FMPs

Report approved by:



Graeme Campbell
Manager,
Flood Protection

Report approved by:



Geoff Dick
Divisional Manager,
Catchment Management

Attachment 1: Hutt FMP summary progress table

Attachment 2: Otaki FMP summary progress table

Attachment 3: Waikanae FMP summary progress table

Attachment 4: Capital expenditure programme 2007-2016