



Report 08.567
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Committee Council
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Report on the Catchment Management Committee Meeting held on 24 July 2008

1. Purpose

To inform the Council about the meeting of the Catchment Management Committee that took place on 24 July 2008.

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. Report

The main agenda for the meeting was the report from Wayne O'Donnell which was aimed at further developing the "Maintain the Gains" possum control proposal. Maintain the Gains is aimed at areas no longer receiving control under the Bovine Tb vector control programme and some areas in the western zone of the region which have never had a possum control programme.

The results of the landowner survey on future possum control options were presented. Despite a disappointingly low level of responses received (14% of landowners sent the survey responded) the survey seem to indicate a high level of support for a GW organised and led control programme to be initiated.

Wayne O'Donnell gave a presentation on the size and estimated costs of the programme for the first 6 years and then explained the work he had completed to date on the benefits of the programme and possible funding options. Officers were asked to continue the development of the proposal, including firming up a recommendation on funding options and report back to the Committee at its next meeting in September.

The Committee received reports on recent meetings of the Waiwhetu Stream Advisory Subcommittee and the Wairarapa Hill Country Advisory Committee.

Graeme Campbell handed copies of the work programme leading up to the start of the Waiwhetu clean up physical works currently proposed to commence in March 2009.

Several items were raised during presentation of the Divisional Manager's report including:

- Strong support for a climate change presentation focussed on our Region to be organised for Council.
- What Council could do to stop the illegal release of wild pigs around the region? There had been a recent increase in this activity in the Upper Hutt area which raised concerns over the spread of Tb and environmental damage. Officers were asked to look at ways of engaging with the pig hunting community about the illegality of pig releases.

4. Unconfirmed Minutes

The unconfirmed minutes of the Committee meeting are attached as Attachment 1.

5. Recommendations

That the Council:

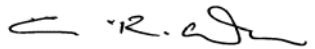
1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***

Report prepared by:



Cr Ian Buchanan
Chair

Report approved by:



Geoff Dick
Divisional Manager, Catchment Management

Attachment 1: The unconfirmed minutes of the Catchment Committee meeting held on 24 July 2008.