



Report 09.118
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Committee Regulatory
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Management

Divisional Manager's report

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee about activities that promote the sustainable management of the region's natural and physical resources by overseeing the Council's regulatory responsibilities in relation to resource management and harbour navigation and safety.

2. Managers' reports

Managers' reports from Environmental Policy, Environmental Monitoring and Investigations, Environmental Regulation and Harbours Departments follow as **Attachment 1**.

3. Resource Management (Simplifying and Streamlining) Amendment Bill

You will be aware that the above Bill was introduced into Parliament in February, delivering on the Government's promise to introduce legislation to the House to amend the Resource Management Act within 100 days of the formation of the new Government. These changes form the Government's "Phase One" reforms to the RMA. "Phase Two" reforms are expected later this year.

The development of the legislation was assisted by a Technical Advisory Group which consisted of environmental and planning specialists, lawyers, businessmen and a local government representative.

We are currently preparing a GW submission to the Select Committee, with submissions closing on 3 April. Our submission is being developed collaboratively with Local Government New Zealand, and other Regional Councils throughout the country. I will highlight our initial thinking around the key aspects of the Bill at the meeting.

I have attached the overview of the “Phase One” Reforms for your information as **Attachment 2**.

4. 2009 forward work programme

I have highlighted key papers that I expect to be coming to meetings throughout 2009. This is not an exhaustive list, and I will continue to update it during the year.

May

- Air quality management options for Masterton
- Instream flow analysis – overview of work in small streams including the Otakura Stream and Papawai Stream
- Plan review update.

June

- Annual recreation water quality report
- Blue-green algae presentation of GW supported thesis work
- Review of the Greater Wellington air quality monitoring programme
- Plan review update and process paper.

August

- Instream flow work – lower Ruamahanga and Waiohine rivers
- Porirua harbour – update on our work and involvement.

September

- Wairarapa groundwater model - update and presentation of model.

October

- Air quality – Wainuiomata source apportionment work.

December

- Annual SOE report cards
- Project Mangatarere – interim report and update.

5. Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1. Receives the report; and*
- 2. Notes the contents.*

Report prepared by:

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Attachment 1: Departmental Managers' reports

Attachment 2: Overview of Phase One