



Report 10.527
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Committee Council
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Report of the Catchment Management Committee meeting held on 7 September 2010

1. Purpose

To inform the Council about the meeting of the Catchment Management Committee that took place on 7 September 2010.

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

3.1 Funding cut for NIWA's Freshwater Biosecurity research programmes

Committee members were informed of the recent announcement by the Foundation for Science Research & Technology that funding allocation is no longer available for research on Freshwater Biosecurity.

The Committee noted that the decision not to fund strategic and applied research in Freshwater Biosecurity will have a significant impact on GW's future ability to source the science needed to manage aquatic weed problems in the region, e.g. hornwort control in Lake Wairarapa.

The Committee's concerns on the funding cut back are to be conveyed to Government through the National Regional Affairs Committee.

3.2 Regional Pest Management Strategy

The Committee approved the Annual Operational Plan for 2010/11. The Plan focuses on Total Control (eradication) and Surveillance species, and continues the excellent advancements in biodiversity achieved through the Key Native Ecosystem and other site-led programmes.

3.3 Akura Nursery – Proposed Expansion

The Committee noted that discussions have been held with the Papawai Kaikokirikiri Trust who own land adjacent to the Akura Nursery on the Masterton side. They have approached GW to gauge any interest in leasing the land for the purpose of expanding the nursery to meet the future willow and poplar pole supply needs. A letter has been forwarded to the PK Trust.

3.4 Boulcott/Hutt stopbank

Committee members were advised that the Hearing Commissioners have sought an extension of two days for the Boulcott/Hutt stopbank decision. Once the decision is released Committee members will be advised of the outcome.

3.5 Mt Bruce / Pukaha aerial operation

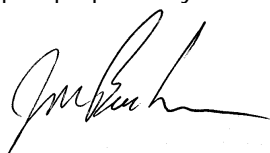
The Committee was updated on the recent publicity surrounding the kiwi deaths at the Mt Bruce / Pukaha Reserve following the criticism of the predator control programme. A meeting had been held on 6 September with Horizons Regional Council, GW and DoC as to how improvements can be made to the current predator control programme. There has been no criticism targeted at GW.

4. Recommendations

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Notes** the content of the report.
3. **Confirms** the minutes of the meeting of the Catchment Management Committee held on 7 September 2010

Report prepared by:



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