

# **1. Environment Management Group**

## **1.1 Executive summary**

### **1.1.1 Group overview**

With the Plan Review work moving into the development of issues and objectives, and planning well underway for the next round of public engagement, this has been a busy quarter where the development of policy options to inform the Plan has taken a real step forward. The use of advisory groups of Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Management Committee to develop issues and objectives has been very successful.

Our work in the regulation area remains steady, with a high number of large notified consents being worked on (such as Transmission Gully, Castle Hill Wind Farm, Exide), as well as some high profile enforcement work being underway.

The Environmental Monitoring and Investigations department's work for the quarter has been focussed on ongoing analysis and reporting to inform the regional plan review – particularly around water allocation and river water quality and ecology. The other key area of work which is dominating this team is the development of the eight technical reports summarising trends in the regions air, land and fresh and coastal water resources.

### **1.1.2 Key results for the year**

#### **Environmental Policy**

Good progress on resolving Regional Policy Statement appeals with further appeals being resolved and consent orders signed.

Two meetings of Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Management Committee were held, and significantly excellent use of small 'advisory groups' has helped develop issues and objectives which will form the basis of both the development of policy options, but also the next round of community engagement in November.

The NZTA initiated Plan Change was heard over six days in July by the Board of Inquiry. A draft decision was released in September, which we commented on, and a final decision has subsequently been issued approving the plan change.

The Kate Sheppard Exchange resource consent, on which we submitted, resulted in a fair degree of attention being placed on both the submission, and effects of the development. Officers presented evidence during the hearing, and the application was eventually declined. This decision has subsequently been appealed. Greater Wellington has registered as a s274 party to the appeal.

A submission was prepared on *Measuring Up: Environmental Reporting* which was released by MfE. The document presented a number of options for environmental reporting standards across the country.

## **Environmental Regulation**

There has been significant spike in the number of non notified consents being received in the last quarter – largely due to water permit replacements and dairy shed permit applications. There has also been a lot of significant pre application work for large projects, such as Transmission Gully, that is very time consuming.

Work is being done in reviewing a number of the compliance tools – such as documentation and reporting sheets – which is part of the ongoing improvement process we have for our compliance activities and practices in general. Coupled with this is the development of our overall compliance strategies for key areas of our work, such as dairy shed inspections and earthworks.

We have rolled out, and promoted through our latest Muddy Waters forum, a new compliance points scoring system for earthworks sites. This approach is based on what happens in Waikato and Auckland, and is very much along the lines of what a number of large contracting firms have asked us to adopt as well for the Wellington region.

The MfE biennial RMA survey was released in late September. As per usual, Greater Wellington performed very well in the survey (99% of consents processed on time and 98% of consents requiring monitoring were monitored), and the sector as a whole had improved considerable from two years ago. Notably, across all local authorities 95% of all consents were processed within statutory timeframes, up from 68% in the 2007/08 period.

## **Environmental Monitoring and Investigations**

We are preparing to put information held on the Selected Land Use Register (SLUR) onto the GW web site for public access. This initiative is expected to considerably reduce the number of queries staff have to directly respond to about sites that have had, or do have an industry that has the potential to contaminate soil.

We have commenced a year long water quality programme in the Pahaoa River catchment. Samples will be collected at six sites at two monthly intervals.

Considerable effort has gone into working with the Porirua City Council on the Harbour and Catchment Strategy, including giving advice on possible designs for a receiving environment monitoring programme around stormwater and sewage.

### **1.1.3 Looking ahead**

Fallout of Rena grounding will need to be monitored and responded to where relevant.

Regional Policy Statement Environment Court mediation scheduled for 8-14 November.

Public engagement for the regional Plan will occur throughout November. Ongoing use of the advisory committees to begin to develop a water management framework – a critical step in the plan development proves.

Transmission Gully consent process via the Board of Inquiry to commence.

Various prosecutions to be resolved.

Sediment quality sampling in the Wellington harbour scheduled to take place late October-early November.

## **1.2 Group financial summary**

### **1.2.1 Departmental review – Environmental Policy Department**

#### **1.2.2 Departmental Summary Proposed Regional Policy Statement**

Environment Court mediation is scheduled to occur between 8 November 2011 and 14 November 2011 on the unresolved appeal points.

The appeals from Kiwi Property Holdings Limited and the Oil Companies are resolved and consent orders have been signed and sent to the Environment Court.

### **Regional Plan review**

#### **General**

Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Management Committee met on 19 July and 22 September. The meetings/workshops were held in the Council Chamber, Regional Council Centre, Wellington.

On 19 July, a workshop was held for the committee to consider and discuss the management of activities within the coastal marine area, including impacts on biodiversity and managing coastal hazards. The committee was also updated on stakeholder meetings held in July and the schedule of work for the Advisory groups that were established in May.

Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Management Committee met on 22 September and was presented with year end reports from managers from the Environmental Management Group. A workshop followed the meeting, where the first draft of the issues and objectives for the regional plan review were discussed and further developed. The issues and objectives will be going back to committee at a workshop on 18 October after further drafting before being taken to a round of community, stakeholder and iwi consultation through November and December.

#### **Wetland hydrology and delineation**

Wetland hydrology assessments have begun for 10 potentially vulnerable wetlands in the region. A draft report has been received for peer review, feedback is being collated and a meeting to discuss these is being arranged. The final report will be able to be completed after that meeting. The information will provide more accurate and up-to-date information

for the plan review. This project is now being managed by Environmental Monitoring and Investigations (EMI) department.

A 3-stage project to more accurately define the extent of wetlands already listed in operative regional and district plans is underway. The first stage comprises a desktop review of wetland boundaries (using the latest aerial photography) and a review of available information on the condition and significance of these wetlands. We are awaiting the final report following peer-review and a successful meeting to discuss the draft in early September. Delays in delivering the first stage of this project are holding up the delivery of the other two stages.

The remaining two stages are the field work components to confirm the boundaries, values, and significance of the Wairarapa Moana wetlands, and other wetlands in the region identified as requiring further investigation during stage one. Consultants carried out the Wairarapa Moana field work in June-July. The report was due in September, but is delayed by the late delivery of the desktop project (above). The contract covering the rest of the wetlands will be let after the results from the desktop project are received. The field work will take place April-May 2012, with the final report due in September 2012.

### **S-Map**

This project is lead by Environmental Monitoring and Investigations Department (EMI). Refer to the EMI report for an update on this project.

### **Mangatarere Catchment Pilot project**

This project is being lead by Environmental Monitoring and Investigations and Land Management with input from Environmental Policy, as well as other departments across the organisation. The Mangatarere pilot project brief has been finalised after consultation across departments within Greater Wellington. More information on this project can be found in the Environmental Monitoring and Investigations update.

### **Consultation and Engagement Plan**

The last event associated with the 2010 engagement process was a meeting with government departments held on 28 September involving Miranda Robinson and Terry Parminter. The meeting was hosted by the Ministry for the Environment and was also attended by MAF and the DIA. DoC was also invited but did not attend. At the meeting the results of the 2010 public engagement were presented and their relevance to central government agencies explained.

Public engagement for 2011 has three parts:

- Public workshops (6) between 1 and 21 November
- Web survey from 1 November
- Iwi hui from 1 November

The public workshops will function as “drop-in” centres. At these people can discuss the Council’s issues and objectives and follow-up topics they raised in the 2010 consultation.

The web survey will be an additional opportunity for members of the public to provide feed-back about the Council’s issues and objectives.

A Hui with tangata whenua will be held as required

Additional meetings with Territorial Authorities and Stakeholder groups will be held in the middle of 2012.

### Transmission Gully Project plan change request

A hearing on NZTA’s Regional Freshwater Plan change request for Transmission Gully was held over 6 days in July 2011 before the Board of Inquiry. Staff gave evidence at the hearings. The Board of Inquiry released a draft decision and report in September and invited comment from participating parties on minor and technical matters. Greater Wellington made comments on the draft decision and report to the Board.

### Regional Council input into Statutory Planning

#### **Notified resource consents**

##### *Wellington City Council*

- Resource consent to construct and occupy a Central Area building known as ‘Kate Sheppard Exchange’ at 2-18 Lambton Quay and 3-19, 19 and 19A Kate Sheppard Place, Wellington Central (including part of the Lambton Transport Interchange). The applicant being KS Exchange Ltd.

The decision to decline the resource consents by commissioners was made on 26 August 2011. The reason for the decline was based around the bulk and height of the proposed office building. The impacts on the bus interchange were discussed by commissioners and it was stated that the resulting loss of bus layover spaces is a matter that was beyond the ability of commissioners to resolve during decision making. Commissioners suggested that WCC, GW and NZBus consider matters associated with possible schedule changes and alternative bus layover opportunities.

An appeal was filed by the applicant KS Exchange JV Ltd. Greater Wellington has formally filed a section 274 notice with the Environment Court stating that Greater Wellington wishes to be party to the appeal.

- Resource consent to construct and operate a Countdown supermarket at 3 Main Road, Tawa

The land-use resource consent was granted by commissioners on 26 August 2011. Greater Wellington’s concerns about stormwater control and a potential loss of park and ride car parks at Boscobel Lane were sufficiently addressed.

- Resource consent for a rural residential subdivision in Bing Lucas Drive at Tawa

Greater Wellington submitted that the proposed had implications for the protection of indigenous biodiversity and one of Greater Wellington's KNE sites. The submission asked for consent conditions to meet our concerns. A hearing date has not yet been scheduled.

### **District Plan Changes**

#### *Upper Hutt City Council*

- Proposed Plan Change 29 – Southern Hills Overlay

Greater Wellington made a submission on proposed plan change 29 to Upper Hutt City Council's district plan. The plan change proposes changes to the activity status of buildings and structures on protected ridgelines in order to better protect them from inappropriate development. The new Southern Hills Overlay Area (Overlay Area) with associated rules, standards and assessment criteria will be included to better manage subdivision, use and development on land within the Overlay Area which was identified as having high ecological, landscape and/or visual amenity values.

Greater Wellington generally supported the intention of the proposed plan change but highlighted that the new Southern Hills Overlay Area did not identify outstanding natural features and landscapes as directed by policy 24 in the proposed Regional Policy Statement.

Greater Wellington also had concerns around some of the wording for rules and standards for earthworks and indigenous vegetation clearance and suggested some rewording.

Consultation on city or district plans, policy reviews, central government strategies and national policy statements

### **Central Government**

#### *Measuring Up: Environmental Reporting – A discussion document*

The discussion document was released in September 2011 and submissions are due 18 October 2011.

The discussion document is very high level and presents a number of options for environmental reporting structure through amendments to the Environment Act and the Resource Management Act. The preferred option would involve:

- Giving the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment an explicit role under the Environment Act by requiring them to produce five yearly state of the environment reports

- Expanding regulation-making powers under section 360 of the RMA to improve consistency of state of the environment monitoring statistics at a local level

Greater Wellington will be submitting on this document.

### **Upper Hutt City Council**

#### *Maymorn Structure Plan (final draft)*

Greater Wellington made a submission on this document generally in support but wished to highlight some concerns which were centred on public transport infrastructure, flood hazards, biodiversity restoration and implications for GW owned land.

Natural hazards

### **Research Projects**

#### *Regional storm tide modelling project*

This is a two and a half year study into the effects of storm surge, coastal inundation and sea level rise around the Wellington region coastline. The first stage to produce a digital terrain and bathymetry model of the region has been completed and work is now starting on modelling extreme water levels for Wellington City. An interim report has been released showing the heights and probability curves for a range of extreme water level events for the region.

#### *Sea level rise investigation*

Funding to assist the regional storm tide modelling project of \$30,000 from WCC and \$20,000 from KCDC has allowed a related project to go ahead looking at sea level rise in the region. Tide gauge records up to 2011 will be analysed to show the eustatic local sea level rise. This will be put into regional context with an analysis of interdecadal water level variations produced by climatic phenomena such as El Nino/La Nina and the Southern Oscillation. These medium term numbers will be supported by research into the longer term geologic sea level changes of the region that will take into account local tectonics to produce a relative sea level change curve for the region. The findings will be assessed within the IPCC forecasts to develop regional planning figures for sea level rise out to 2100.

### **Consents**

#### *Horikiwi Quarries application for Gravel Extraction*

The application by Horikiwi Quarries to continue extraction sand and gravel from Fitzroy Bay went to hearing in May and the commissioners' report was released in July. Environmental policy managed to secure major concessions from the original application to minimise the environmental impacts of this activity including a reduction in the extraction volumes, restriction to removal of sand only and limited areas of disturbance. It has been appealed but not on any points in relation to Greater Wellington's submission.

### *Hutt River Mouth Dredging*

The consent application to continue dredging the Hutt River Mouth is being assessed. In particular, the effects that dumping dredge spoil on the foreshore has on Petone Beach are being analysed. An assessment of the activity has been undertaken by environmental policy that has found that the effects are no more than minor, but that the activity requires careful monitoring to assess the potential impacts of dumping dredge spoil both in the Harbour and at the end of Petone Beach. Environment Policy senior policy advisor (hazards) is now in discussion with the applicants consultants to decide on the monitoring requirements that will best provide useable data by which to assess the ongoing effects of the operation on Petone Beach.

### Civil Defence and Emergency Management

#### *Wellington region tsunami evacuation plans*

The department continues to work with local civil defence groups on the regional tsunami evacuation plans. Most recently we have been working with Regional Civil Defence to develop standard tsunami advice procedures for the region.

### Presentations/Publications/Media

Environment Policy senior policy advisor (hazards) continues to be approached to speak to community and council groups on seismic and tsunami hazards following the Christchurch earthquakes and Japanese tsunami. Talks have been given to Rotary, Victoria University and Civil Defence groups. Talks have also been given on climate change, coastal hazards and sea level rise.

### Regional Policy Statement and regional plan implementation

#### **Stock access guideline**

This document was launched on 30 August on a hill country farm in the Wairarapa. The launch also looked broadly at land and water management issues in the Wairarapa and drew attention to our plan review process, linked to the Wairarapa Water Use Project and existing land management programmes.

An implementation team has been set up to work with industry organisations on disseminating the guidelines and getting them used.

#### **Historic heritage identification**

Archaeologist Andy Dodd completed a desktop scoping study for the Freshwater Plan review. The report describes the different types of archaeological sites, both Maori and European, and identifies over 150 sites wholly or partially located within the beds of freshwater bodies in the region. The report also includes a shortlist of 50 sites for further investigation.



Elsbeth Hocking, a graduate student in Victoria University's Museum and Heritage Studies programme, completed a 100 hour placement. She was tasked with writing an outline of heritage themes associated with the sites being identified for the regional plan review. She then wrote brief histories of eight of these themes. These histories will help to provide context for the historic heritage inventory.

### 1.2.3 Departmental financial reports

Last Year YTD Actual \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Budget \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Policy Income Statement 3 months ending 30 September 2011	Last Year FY Actual \$000	Full Year Forecast \$000	Full Year Budget \$000	Full Year Variance \$000
588	536	536	-	Rates & Levies	2,351	2,146	2,146	-
5	-	-	-	Government Grants & Subsidies	-	-	-	-
30	8	-	8	External Revenue	95	-	-	-
1	1	-	-	Investment Revenue	5	-	-	-
6	6	6	-	Internal Revenue	30	25	25	-
<b>630</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>2,481</b>	<b>2,171</b>	<b>2,171</b>	<b>-</b>
				less:				
324	308	308	-	Personnel Costs	1,267	1,246	1,233	(13)
38	12	12	-	Materials,Supplies & Services	107	46	46	-
7	8	2	(6)	Travel & Transport Costs	29	7	7	-
24	137	40	(97)	Contractor & Consultants	446	387	287	(100)
-	-	-	-	Grants and Subsidies Expenditure	-	-	-	-
46	44	50	6	Internal Charges	223	200	200	-
<b>439</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>(97)</b>	<b>Total Direct Expenditure</b>	<b>2,072</b>	<b>1,886</b>	<b>1,773</b>	<b>(113)</b>
-	-	-	-	Financial Costs	-	-	-	-
(13)	6	-	(6)	Bad Debts	(13)	-	-	-
90	100	100	-	Corporate & Department Overheads	359	399	399	-
1	1	1	-	Depreciation	3	6	6	-
-	-	-	-	Loss(Gain) on Sale of Assets / Investments	(5)	-	-	-
<b>517</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>(103)</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2,416</b>	<b>2,291</b>	<b>2,178</b>	<b>(113)</b>
<b>113</b>	<b>(65)</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>(94)</b>	<b>OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>(120)</b>	<b>(7)</b>	<b>(113)</b>
1	1	1	-	Add Back Depreciation	3	6	6	-
-	-	-	-	Other Non Cash	(5)	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Net Asset Acquisitions	(19)	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Net External Investment Movements	-	-	-	-
<b>114</b>	<b>(64)</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>(95)</b>	<b>NET FUNDING BEFORE DEBT AND RESERVE MOVEMENTS</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>(114)</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>(113)</b>
-	-	-	-	Debt Additions / (decrease)	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Debt Repaid	-	-	-	-
99	(1)	-	(1)	Net Reserves (Increase) / decrease	95	-	-	-
<b>213</b>	<b>(65)</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>(95)</b>	<b>NET FUNDING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>(114)</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>(113)</b>

Last Year YTD Actual \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Budget \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Policy Capital Expenditure Statement 3 months ending 30 September 2011	Last Year FY Actual \$000	Full Year Forecast \$000	Full Year Budget \$000	Full Year Variance \$000
-	-	-	-	Total Asset Acquisitions	24	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Capital Project Expenditure	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Asset Disposal Cash Proceeds	(5)	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	<b>Net Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
-	-	-	-	Investments Additions	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	<b>Net Capital and Investment Expenditure</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### 1.2.4 Departmental financial summary in words

- The Policy department has a net deficit of \$65k which is \$94k worse than budget mainly due to earlier spend on consultants for the Plan Review work
- Other costs are in line with budget
- The forecast has been updated to include an additional \$100k for consultants work for the Plan Review although it is likely that more funding may be required to enable the Plan to proceed in line with timetable

### 1.2.5 Departmental business plan performance indicators

Performance Indicator	Achieved
<b>Activity: Resource management planning</b>	
<b><i>The Regional Policy Statement will be approved by the Council and become operative</i></b>	<p>The Regional Policy Statement was approved by the Council in May 2010.</p> <p>Nine appeals were lodged against the proposed Regional Policy Statement, with more than 200 points of appeal to be resolved. Mediation meetings were held with all the main appealers starting in the last quarter of 2010 and continuing through the first half of 2011.</p> <p>Court-assisted mediation with the appealers and the s274 party to the appeals has been set down for early September 2011. It is expected that the majority of the appeals will be resolved by the end of June 2012.</p>

### 1.2.6 Departmental review – Environmental Regulation Department

#### 1.2.7 Departmental Summary General work load

**Resource consents:** Consent processing work is up significantly in the September quarter. Non-notified consent applications processed have increased from the June quarter – with the last of the replacement water (take) and discharge (dairyshed effluent) permit applications, and coastal permit boatshed replacement consents being processed as well.

The notified and limited notified consents processing and pre-application work have increased as well in the September quarter – with the lodgement of significant projects including – Transmission Gully Project and Castlehill Windfarm; and the ongoing processing of Exide Technologies air discharges, Duck Creek subdivision, Hutt River mouth dredging, Pauatahanui Forestry harvesting, Palliser Bay global coastal protection works, Bidwell’s water take and a suite of wastewater projects with Martinborough, Carterton and Wainuiomata main plant or overflows.

## Resource consents

### Consents summary

Item	Sept Quarter 2011	June Quarter 2011	Sept Quarter 2010
Consents received	137	223	155
Consents issued	173	143	166

Item	2011-12 year to date	2010-11 year to date	2010-11 year
Consents received	137	155	699
Consents issued	173	166	698

Item	Sept Quarter 2011	June Quarter 2011
Median processing time frame	17	16

Item	2011-12 year to date	2010-11 year to date	2010-11 year
Median processing time frame	17	14	16

### Notified and limited notified consents

Substantial work in assessments, and pre-hearings or hearings has been completed and/or decisions released on:

- NZTA – Transmission Gully Project:** Applications were notified in mid September with the submission period now extended to the end of October. We have completed a Completeness Check report and a Key Issues report for the Board of Inquiry (Board). Our Key Issues focussed on the need for NZTA to provide detail on their mitigation package which will manage the permanent effects of stream piping, reclamation, and diversion. In total, over 9km of reclamation is proposed, and we anticipate the mitigation package will contain substantial measures for ‘offsetting’ the effects on the watercourses in question. The Board has indicated that they will issue directions for Councils to work with the applicant to form draft consent conditions for the Board to consider, and we anticipate that the Board may also direct the Councils to provide an ‘officers report’. Meanwhile the Board of Inquiry of NZTA’s Regional Freshwater Plan change request has been decided (reported further in the Environmental Policy department report).

- **Genesis Energy – Castle Hill Wind Farm:** As previously reported, applications for the Castle Hill wind farm were lodged with the four participating Councils (GW, Horizons, Tararua and Masterton) in early August. The main issues being assessed from a GW perspective include in-stream and terrestrial ecology, sediment discharges and land stability issues. The applications were publicly notified at the end of August with a total of 101 submissions received (18 in support and 64 opposed excluding a further five late submissions). A provisional hearing date has been set for 28 November 2011. Media interest remains relatively light.
- **Exide Technologies Limited – continuing operations:** Publication notification occurred in August with 47 submissions received (44 in opposition). Before the close of submissions we requested further information from Exide which is expected at the end of October for peer review by our consultants. Our assessment is focussing on the emissions from the two stacks in relation to cumulative deposition of lead in the local environment. Media interest has been muted since notification and the close of submissions, with much of the coverage focussing on Exide's legal battle over battery exports. At this point, this is not affecting the consenting process.
- **Carterton District Council – Carterton Wastewater Treatment Plant replacement applications:** The applicant has just concluded discussions with submitters on possible consent conditions, with one submitter in opposition now wishing to be heard. A hearing may now be scheduled before the end of 2011.
- **Whitby Coastal Estates – Duck Creek subdivision, diversion and stream reclamation:** Applications jointly to Porirua City Council (PCC) and GW for subdivision of land in the lower reaches of Duck Creek, also involving the diversion and reclamation of 1.2 km of Duck Creek and bulk earthworks. The applicant has worked through the issues in discussions with submitters, who have now withdrawn their rights to be heard at a hearing. We are currently talking with the applicant about limitations in their proposed ecological mitigation package, meaning a hearing could now be avoided if the applicant satisfies our concerns.
- **HCC – Wainuiomata River wastewater overflows:** These are applications to renew the existing consent for the discharge of untreated sewage to the Wainuiomata River during high rainfall. This consent is currently exercised around four times per year. While HCC are planning a programme to address inflow and infiltration issues as part of this consent application, the overflow needs to remain. Three submissions were received – two in opposition and one neutral submission. The applicant is currently actively working through the concerns with each party.

- **SWDC – Martinborough Wastewater Treatment Plant:** An application by SWDC to vary an existing consent condition – setting out discharge water quality parameters. The proposal seeks to change certain parameters to reflect current effluent quality and also to reflect some improvements through the installation of a new UV plant (designed to improve the microbiological quality of the effluent discharge). The application was publicly notified in December 2010 and seven submissions were received (three opposed). Subsequent pre-hearing meetings have now confirmed an agreed set of consent conditions, thereby avoiding the need for a formal hearing.

**Major pre-application discussions continue for:**

- **HCC – waste water treatment plant pipeline maintenance:** HCC are currently preparing a resource consent application for temporary discharges of treated wastewater that will enter the coastal marine area (CMA) and the Waiwhetu Stream from maintenance and repair works to the aging treatment plants main outfall pipeline (MOP). The MOP runs from the plant at Seaview, and finally discharges to the sea in the vicinity of Pencarrow head. When the pipe requires repair work, the section of affected pipe must be ‘drained down’ via scour valves. During any maintenance to the MOP, all treated wastewater is discharged to the Waiwhetu Stream. The preparation of this application follows on from our dealings with a series of discharges caused by ongoing failures of the pipeline over the last five years. The application is expected to be lodged in late November 2011, and will be publically notified.
- **Meridian Energy Ltd – Mount Munro Wind Farm:** We are currently in discussions with Meridian Energy over a proposed wind farm to the south east of Eketahuna. The proposal is for 20 turbines, seven of which will be located within Greater Wellington and the remainder in Horizons. Horizons is acting as ‘lead authority’ due to the bulk of the works and the majority of the receiving environment being in their region. Draft reports for comment have now been received, with formal lodgement of the application (to the four participating Councils: GW, Horizons, Tararua and Masterton) anticipated towards the end of the year.
- **CDC Carterton Water Races:** We have met with CDC to discuss their current applications to continue taking water for the operation of the Taratahi and Carrington water races east and north of Carterton (operated for stock drinking purposes). The timeframe for notifying the application has been extended by mutual agreement to enable the applicant to further consider comments from GW staff and key stakeholders (likely now in mid November).

## Resource consent appeals and objections

Appeals work was fairly limited in the last quarter, with one new appeal and a decision on a long-standing existing appeal.

- **Horokiwi Quarries – Fitzroy Bay sand and gravel extraction (jointly processed with applications to Hutt City Council):** An appeal by the applicant of HCC’s decision and GW’s Ministerial recommendation on a replacement-consent application to continue an existing sand extraction operation on the Fitzroy Bay foreshore, adjacent to East Harbour Regional Park. The appeal relates only to land-contouring requirements affecting the HCC land use suite of consents. The appealed is yet to be called before the Environment Court.
- **Meridian Energy Ltd, Ngati Tama, Makara Guardians and Ohariu Preservation Society – Project Mill Creek windfarm:** In September the Environment Court released its decision granting consents following lengthy mediation and the October 2010 Environment Court hearing. While matters relating to the GW suite of consents (including sediment monitoring requirements) were resolved in mediation, the decision saw the Court reduce the number of turbines from 31 to 29 due to perceived significant landscape and amenity effects.
- **Wairarapa Aggregates – gravel aggregate quarry:** An appeal by the applicant of the decision to grant consents to allow limited quarrying of old river gravels at Waingawa Industrial Estate (Masterton), adjacent to a significant wetland. The appeal is progressing through mediation, with the applicant dropping the on-site washing of aggregates from their proposal. At this stage it looks promising that agreement will be reached by the parties on all remaining issues therefore avoiding the need for a formal Court hearing.

## Consented compliance monitoring

- **Developing compliance tools:** We are reviewing a number of our compliance tools and processes and have developed a new compliance rating system. This aligns more with national best practice, with improved guidance for consent holders and GW staff in relation to actual compliance performance. We have streamlined our series of documents including various compliance reports and inspection sheets. We have also developed draft compliance strategies governing our overall approach to prioritising and reviewing which consented activities receive the most monitoring attention and which activities receive the least. Our developing activities-based strategies focus on dairymed effluent, earthworks and water (reported in the June quarter).

## Environmental incidents

307 incidents were notified and responded to in the quarter, up slightly from 299 in the previous quarter.

## Enforcement

### Abatement and infringement notices

Item	Sept Quarter 2011	June Quarter 2011	Sept Quarter 2010
Abatement notices	24	12	31
Infringement notices	26	4	19

### Prosecutions, enforcement orders and abatement notice appeals

Significant prosecutions work in the last quarter includes:

- Carterton District Council:** In February 2011, GW officers observed discharges of treated effluent to the Mangatarere Stream from Carterton District Council's wastewater treatment plant on Dalefield Road. Effluent was discharging at three separate locations in breach of their related resource consent (requiring no 'summer' discharge of treated effluent to the Mangatarere Stream). An abatement notice was issued to CDC the following day requiring them to cease the unauthorised discharges of contaminants, namely treated effluent, to the Mangatarere Stream – and charges were laid against CDC in the Masterton District Court on 9 August 2011. A guilty plea was entered to one representative charge on 4 October 2011 and the other two charges were withdrawn. A sentencing date is yet to be confirmed.
- Supreme Automotive Refinishers Ltd:** This prosecution relates to a Masterton panel and paint workshop where GW has been investigating regular discharges of offensive and objectionable odour beyond the boundary of the site since 2007. The site has a history of infringement notices against both the company and its directors, and an abatement notice was issued requesting the unauthorised discharges to cease. GW investigated and laid charges against seven confirmed offensive and objectionable odours from early 2011. This matter is scheduled to be called in the Wellington District Court on 18 October 2011.
- Alex Burrell and Burrell Demolition Ltd:** The prosecution and appeal of Alex Burrell and Burrell Demolition Ltd, relating to a breach of resource consent in 2009 at C&D Landfill in Happy Valley Rd. Judge Kelly issued a decision in favour of all aspects of Greater Wellington's charges which was subsequently appealed by Mr Burrell and Burrell Demolition Limited. The appeal was to be heard in the High Court on 14 September 2011; however, the Judge found that he could not rule on the appeal as a conviction had not yet been entered so there was nothing to appeal. The case has been referred back to the Wellington District Court for sentencing on 18 October 2011.
- Burrell Demolition Ltd, Alex Burrell and John Morgan:** Charges were laid in June 2011 for allegedly discharging non-cleanfill material into C&D Landfill (a construction and demolition fill) in breach of their resource consent. This matter is scheduled to be called in the Wellington District Court on 1 November 2011.

- **Alan Jefferies:** The prosecution of Mr Jefferies and related abatement notice appeals regarding the diversion of Mangaroa River, associated river works and deposition of fill material continues. Earlier Mr Jefferies pleaded not guilty to all four charges laid. Court mediation to resolve the issue of the abatement notice occurred on 18 May 2011 but was unsuccessful in resolving the issues. The prosecution case has been adjourned until 15 November 2011 to allow the abatement notice appeal to be dealt with (with evidence exchange scheduled to be complete by 14 November 2011).
- **Patrick and Tracey Roil, and Roil Contracting Ltd:** As reported last quarter, Patrick Roil and Roil Contracting Limited pleaded guilty to charges relating to the reclamation, bed deposition and diversion of a stream within the Pauatahanui catchment. They were convicted and fined a total of \$60,000 on 11 August 2011 – the most significant fine handed down by the Court for a case taken by GW.
- **Lifestyle Capital Limited:** This case relates to the appeal of an abatement notice relating to stream bed erosion in Kelly's Creek (south of Martinborough) partly attributable to consented diversion works. GW has previously proposed a whole-of-catchment solution to the current erosion problems which was rejected by the landowners. The abatement notice has been appealed to the Environment Court and mediation is currently underway.

#### Take Charge programme

We have continued our work with IAG Panel and Paint Industry member sites, receiving nine self assessments. One initial visit has been undertaken. Several *Pollution Solution* Sheets have been updated and revised to provide more accurate and detailed information to the Panel and Paint industry.

Follow up contact was made with Wellington City Council/Rugby World Cup 2011 regarding the inclusion of an environmental objective in the Wellington Capital Host Charter to ensure Licensees are aware of their environmental responsibilities, especially relating to contaminants entering stormwater.

#### Projects

##### **Stock access guidelines and roll out strategy**

In late August, GW released the new 'Guidelines for Managing Stock Access to Waterways in the Wellington Region'. This publication has been prepared in conjunction with Federated Farmers, Fonterra, Dairy NZ, and Beef & Lamb. It is a non-regulatory tool to encourage best practice in order to minimise potential impacts of stock accessing waterways. We are now currently working with our stakeholder partners to more fully publicise the guidelines in the farming community.



### **Muddy Waters project**

In late September we held a Muddy Waters forum for contractors and consultants to introduce a compliance points scoring system for earthworks sites. The new system, adopted via Waikato Regional and Auckland Councils, sees consent holders 'scored' (1 – 4 scoring system) on the performance of individual erosion and sediment control measures and devices at compliance inspections. The system provides instantaneous ratings which will be coupled with advice on improving performance, providing the industry with a more responsive system. Good performance will be used as an incentive to provide increased flexibility to consent holders (for instance, through relaxing winter earthworking restrictions). Training and regular review and 'moderation' exercises will be provided to the GW team to ensure a consistent approach and 'even playing field' is provided to the industry. This is an exciting new development for us and I expect that it will provide a much needed lift to industry performance.

### **RMA Biennial Survey**

Results of the MfE biennial RMA Survey of Local Authorities was released in late September. The survey period covered the 2010/11 year.

Key national highlights include:

- 4 % of consents were publically notified
- 0.56% of all decisions were declined
- 95% of all consents were processed within statutory timeframes, up from 68% in the last survey (2007/08 period)
- Timeframes for consent processing were formally extended for 15% of applications
- 68% of all active consents requiring monitoring were monitored
- 72% of monitored consents (consents processed in 2010/11) complied with their conditions

124,172 complaints about alleged breaches of the RMA were received

We fare very well in light of the over all results:

- 99% of all consents processed within statutory timeframes
- 98% of consents which required monitoring were monitored
- 79% of monitored consents (consents processed in 2010/11) complied with their conditions

### 1.2.8 Departmental financial reports

Last Year YTD Actual \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Budget \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Regulation Income Statement 3 months ending 30 September 2011	Last Year FY Actual \$000	Full Year Forecast \$000	Full Year Budget \$000	Full Year Variance \$000
646	600	600	-	Rates & Levies	2,243	2,400	2,400	-
23	23	-	23	Government Grants & Subsidies	-	-	-	-
494	636	350	286	External Revenue	1,429	1,550	1,400	150
-	-	-	-	Investment Revenue	-	-	-	-
23	106	31	75	Internal Revenue	166	218	126	92
<b>1,186</b>	<b>1,365</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>3,838</b>	<b>4,168</b>	<b>3,926</b>	<b>242</b>
				less:				
523	596	545	(51)	Personnel Costs	2,130	2,233	2,182	(51)
38	42	39	(3)	Materials,Supplies & Services	99	154	154	-
15	8	8	-	Travel & Transport Costs	51	32	32	-
111	293	62	(231)	Contractor & Consultants	401	488	246	(242)
-	-	-	-	Grants and Subsidies Expenditure	-	-	-	-
157	126	135	9	Internal Charges	620	540	540	-
<b>844</b>	<b>1,065</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>Total Direct Expenditure</b>	<b>3,301</b>	<b>3,447</b>	<b>3,154</b>	<b>293</b>
-	-	-	-	Financial Costs	-	-	-	-
52	4	-	(4)	Bad Debts	48	-	-	-
173	193	193	-	Corporate & Department Overheads	692	771	771	-
6	9	8	(1)	Depreciation	31	31	31	-
-	-	-	-	Loss(Gain) on Sale of Assets / Investment	-	-	-	-
<b>1,075</b>	<b>1,271</b>	<b>990</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>4,072</b>	<b>4,249</b>	<b>3,956</b>	<b>293</b>
<b>111</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>(9)</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(234)</b>	<b>(81)</b>	<b>(30)</b>	<b>(51)</b>
6	9	8	1	Add Back Depreciation	31	31	31	-
-	-	-	-	Other Non Cash	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Net Asset Acquisitions	(47)	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Net External Investment Movements	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Repaid Debt	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Net Reserves (Increase) / decrease	-	-	-	-
<b>117</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>NET FUNDING BEFORE DEBT ADDITION</b>	<b>(250)</b>	<b>(50)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>(51)</b>
-	-	-	-	Internal Debt Additions	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	External Debt Additions	-	-	-	-
<b>117</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>NET FUNDING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(250)</b>	<b>(50)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>(51)</b>

  

Last Year YTD Actual \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Budget \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Regulation Capital Expenditure Statement 3 months ending 30 September 2011	Last Year FY Actual \$000	Full Year Forecast \$000	Full Year Budget \$000	Full Year Variance \$000
-	-	-	-	Total Asset Acquisitions	46	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Capital Project Expenditure	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Asset Disposal Cash Proceeds	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	<b>Net Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>46</b>	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Investments Additions	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	<b>Net Capital and Investment Expenditure</b>	<b>46</b>	-	-	-

### 1.2.9 Departmental financial summary in words

- Environmental Regulation has a net surplus of \$94k for the three months to September
- The surplus is mainly due to \$104k restitution income carried forward from previous years. This is funding a number of restoration projects this year
- Consultants' costs include \$158k for Transmission Gully and Genesis wind farm pre application work and also \$33k for Kaitoke Weir change to consent conditions. These costs have been recharged so both external income and internal income are more than budget

- The forecast has been updated by:
  - \$242k for external income & consultants costs so there is a nil impact on the bottom line
  - \$51k increase in salaries over what was budgeted.

#### 1.2.10 Departmental business plan performance indicators

Performance Indicator	Achieved
<b>Activity: Resource consent service</b>	
<i>100% of resource consents will be processed within statutory timeframes and in compliance with the Resource Management Act</i>	173 consents were issued in the quarter, and all within statutory timeframes.
<i>100% of consent decisions appealed to the Environment Court will be successfully defended</i>	One appeal was successfully defended in the last quarter. This was a decision on Project Mill Creek wind farm handed down by the Environment Court, upholding most of the original decision of the hearing panel.
<i>Two workshops on specific issues will be held for consent customers</i>	A workshop for consultants and contractors was held in September, as part of our Muddy Waters programme.
<b>Activity: Compliance and enforcement</b>	
<i>100% of compliance inspections for all major consents with an individual monitoring programme will be completed</i>	No data on compliance monitoring to date is available for reporting.
<i>6.7% (1 in 15) of all consents not subject to an individual monitoring programme will be subject to a monitoring inspection</i>	No data on compliance monitoring to date is available for reporting.
<i>100% enforcement actions taken will be successful</i>	Six prosecution charges were successfully defended in the last quarter, following the sentencing of Patrick Roil and Roil Contracting Ltd.
<b>Activity: Pollution prevention and control</b>	
<i>100% of environmental pollution incidents will be responded to according to the following timeframes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Log only: no action required</i></li> <li>• <i>Red (serious adverse environmental effect requiring immediate attention): 60 minutes</i></li> <li>• <i>Yellow (serious environmental effect where no benefit will be gained by an immediate response): 24 hours</i></li> <li>• <i>Blue (minor environmental effect not requiring immediate response): 7 days</i></li> </ul>	The average incident response times were met for 96.4% of all incidents in this quarter. Response times were not met for all 'red' categorised incidents, with 11 incidents over the threshold: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Red – 32 minutes (target 60 minutes)</li> <li>• Yellow – 6.4 hours (target 24 hours)</li> <li>• Blue – 1.3 days (target 1 week)</li> </ul>

Performance Indicator	Achieved
<b>20 businesses will be audited for compliance with the Resource Management Act and regional plans</b>	11 self audits were completed in the quarter.

Performance Indicator	Achieved
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### Long Term Targets by June 2019

Customer satisfaction surveys will show that 60% of recent applicants and existing consent holders rate their level of satisfaction with our resource consents as excellent or very good.	Customer satisfaction with our resource consents service is measured every four years. New data will be available in 2012.
The number of reported pollution incidents will decrease on an annual basis.	The number of reported pollution incidents in the quarter is 307, up slightly on the previous quarter.

#### 1.2.11 Departmental review – Environmental Monitoring and Investigations Department

#### 1.2.12 Departmental Summary

##### General

The principal focus for the department’s science staff over the quarter relates to:

- Ongoing data analysis, investigations and reporting to inform the current review of the regional plans. Most of the work being undertaken relates to water allocation and river water quality and ecology.
- Data analysis and interpretation in relation to our eight technical reports summarising state and trends in the region’s air, land and fresh and coastal water resources. These detailed reports are only compiled every five-six years and involve a considerable amount of staff time. Most of the reports are on track for completion in December after which a summary report suitable for a more general audience will be prepared.

##### Air quality and meteorology

There were no exceedances of the National Environmental Standard for air quality in any of our monitored airsheds during winter 2011.

In collaboration with GNS Science and a post-graduate Victoria University student we are currently planning to monitor the levels of arsenic in air at Wainuiomata using a standard method that can be compared with the national guideline for arsenic. A previous study to determine the sources of particulate matter in Wainuiomata showed that there are some winter-time days with elevated levels of arsenic. As observed in other parts of New Zealand, arsenic is emitted to air when treated timber is burnt for domestic heating. This burning practice is intermittent but may be sufficient to cause the national guideline for

arsenic to be approached or exceeded. The national guideline is an annual average which means at least one year's worth of monitoring results are needed. A public education campaign about the dangers of burning treated timber is planned should the results show that arsenic concentrations are above health guidelines.

## Contaminated land

Information held on the Selected Land Use Register will soon be available via a graphical interface on the Greater Wellington web site. The register holds information on sites that have had or do have an activity that has the potential to contaminate soil. Sites are categorised ranging from contaminated through remediated to "verified history of hazardous activity or industry".

This initiative is expected to reduce considerably the number of queries we get from property valuers, developers and land agents seeking information on potential contaminant levels. Many of the queries relate to sites that are not on the register and if these can be eliminated by people using the web interface there will be a considerable time saving.

The information available will be the site name, the file reference, the activity type and the category.

## Soil quality

### **Monitoring**

Work this quarter focussed on the five-yearly technical report documenting soil health state and trends across the region.

### **Investigations**

The completed soil surveys of the Wairarapa Valley have now been integrated into Landcare Research's online 'S-Map. S-Map is a national soil database that provides seamless digital soil map coverage at a reasonable scale and makes available valuable information on soil properties. This information will be useful for many departments that are involved in land based projects. The map site is at: <http://smap.landcareresearch.co.nz/home>.

## Water quality and ecology

### (i) Rivers and streams

#### **Monitoring**

Work this quarter focussed on the data analysis associated with the five-yearly technical report documenting state and trends in river water health across the region.

## **Investigations**

A year-long water quality programme commenced in the Pahaoa River catchment in August; water samples are being collected from six sites at two-monthly intervals and tested for a range of physical, chemical and microbiological water quality variables, including nutrients, sediment and faecal indicator bacteria. This investigation has been planned for some time because it was recognised that the catchment is extremely large and not currently represented in the Rivers State of the Environment monitoring network.

Work is continuing to complete reports on various work streams related to defining recommended river ecology, water quality and habitat quality limits for the next Regional Plan. Identification of limits for fish, macroinvertebrate and algae indicators to protect aquatic ecosystem values of rivers in our region has been undertaken internally while Aquanet Consulting has been assisting with the identification of water quality limits across a range of values.

### **(ii) Lakes**

Work this quarter focussed on the five-yearly technical report documenting state and trends in lake water quality and ecology across the region.

### **(iii) Estuarine and marine waters**

#### **Monitoring**

The 2011/12 survey of sediment quality in Wellington Harbour is scheduled for late October. As Wellington City Council is required to monitor sediment quality at five-yearly intervals at a number of the sites as part of its global stormwater consent granted earlier this year we have agreed (through a Memorandum of Understanding) that the survey will be a joint undertaking with EMI managing the process.

Progress continues on the five-yearly technical report documenting state and trends in the health of selected coastal environments across the region.

The key findings of the 2010/11 estuary reports were to be summarised in the Councillors' Bulletin in August. Due to other work commitments, this has not taken place. However, the reports are now publicly available on Greater Wellington's website and will be sent to key stakeholders, including the Department of Conservation.

## **Investigations**

EMI science staff continue to work with Porirua City Council and the other agencies involved in the Porirua Harbour and Catchment Strategy. Work during the quarter included provision of advice on the possible design of a receiving environment monitoring programme to assist Porirua City Council with assessing the impacts of its sewer and stormwater infrastructure.

Light loggers were deployed in Porirua Harbour in July to gather data needed to assess the potential for seagrass restoration in the harbour, a priority action identified in the Porirua Harbour and Catchment Strategy.

(iv) Recreational water quality

Work this quarter focussed on the five-yearly technical report documenting state and trends in recreational water quality across the region. Aligned with this work, in September, meetings were held with the territorial authorities in the region and Regional Public Health to review the current Suitability for Recreation Grades (SFRG). A SFRG is assigned to each recreation site and is determined by combining the last five years of summer water quality monitoring results and a qualitative assessment of microbiological risks in the catchment. A report on the updated SFRGs will be available in 2012.

(v) Groundwater

There is nothing of significance to report for this quarter.

## Hydrology

### Monitoring

There was nothing of significance to note during the quarter.

A key science focus has been on the analysis of water use, rainfall, river flow and groundwater level data to contribute to a technical report documenting the state of and trends in water allocation across the region.

Work has commenced on the rebuild of the Waikanae flow station which was damaged by fire last New Year. A temporary site is still operating sufficiently well.

(vi) Water allocation investigations

Since the technical reports on our assessment of groundwater/surface water interaction in the Wairarapa Valley were published in June, staff focus has been on progressing extension work needed to support the implementation of the proposed allocation management framework across the region. An internal workshop – with consultant attendance – was held in August to help refine the allocation options for the Wairarapa Valley and identify further analysis needed to support this process.

A report that outlines proposals for a similar integrated approach to groundwater and surface water management in other parts of the region (mainly the Hutt Valley and Kapiti Coast) has been received from our consultant. This report is expected to be finalised and made publicly available later in the financial year.

A consultant was engaged to develop new groundwater aquifer pump test guidelines for use in the Wellington region. These guidelines are necessary to guide the Assessments of Environmental Effects undertaken to support resource consent applications for groundwater

takes. Once finalised, the guidelines will be uploaded onto GWRC's website and be available as a resource for consent applicants.

A report has recently been finalised documenting investigations into flow requirements for sustaining important 'instream' values of the Otaki River. The primary output of the report is a new recommended minimum flow for the river. Another report documenting minimum flow investigations on the Tauherenikau River is also near finalisation. The findings from these investigations are being fed into a summary report on recommended minimum flows for the region that can be used to help develop policy options for the next Regional Plan. The summary report will provide recommendations on both revised minimum flow values for selected rivers and streams as well as further analyses needed to identify core allocation options.

A consultant report establishing flow-related iwi values for Wairarapa waterways is going through the final stages of review.

#### (vii) Hydrology investigations

Plans are underway to investigate the water balance of Lake Wairarapa this summer, with the view to informing the review of water allocation policies needed for the next the Regional Plan. Several meetings were held with catchment management and flood protection staff to help develop the proposal.

We still await a revised draft of a consultant's report documenting assessments made during 2010 of the condition of 10 wetlands in the region thought to be vulnerable to water abstraction. The assessments looked at wetland hydrology, vegetation condition and water quality, with the report noting both threats to these and recommendations for management and monitoring. This information will be useful for developing a planning framework for wetlands.

#### Mangatarere Stream catchment pilot project

This project is an outcome of the Mangatarere Stream catchment water quality investigation which found that poor water quality in the stream was impacted by land use practices and discharges from the Carterton Wastewater Treatment Plant. The recommendations included communicating the key findings of this investigation to iwi, and landowners and residents with the view to establishing joint Greater Wellington, iwi and community initiatives to address some of the issues raised in the report.

A steering group has been formed and is made up of six people representing the Carterton community, DHB, iwi, farmers and Greater Wellington. This group is initiating an engagement process as the first stage of an integrated management approach to improving water quality in the catchment

The engagement process and the nature and extent of outcomes from this process are anticipated to inform the regional plan review process in the way it integrates management of fresh water and the use and development of land in catchments.



## Technical support for other departments

We provided technical advice to the Environmental Regulation department on a range of resource consent applications during the quarter as well as input on the Regional Plan draft issues and objectives document prepared by the Environmental Policy department. Meetings were also held the Flood Protection department to determine technical support that can be provided to assist them with designing monitoring and investigations associated with re-consenting the various flood protection works/activities undertaken in the region's rivers.

### 1.2.13 Departmental financial reports

Last Year YTD Actual \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Budget \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Monitoring Income Statement 3 months ending 30 September 2011	Last Year FY Actual \$000	Full Year Forecast \$000	Full Year Budget \$000	Full Year Variance \$000
904	1,065	1,065	-	Rates & Levies	3,955	4,261	4,261	-
-	-	-	-	Government Grants & Subsidies	-	-	-	-
6	5	3	2	External Revenue	165	10	10	-
1	1	-	1	Investment Revenue	4	-	-	-
28	28	30	(2)	Internal Revenue	130	120	120	-
<b>939</b>	<b>1,099</b>	<b>1,098</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>4,254</b>	<b>4,391</b>	<b>4,391</b>	<b>-</b>
				less:				
416	483	471	(12)	Personnel Costs	1,692	1,902	1,884	(18)
67	117	56	(61)	Materials,Supplies & Services	334	262	262	-
21	15	23	8	Travel & Transport Costs	106	90	90	-
47	110	45	(65)	Contractor & Consultants	850	818	818	-
-	-	-	-	Grants and Subsidies Expenditure	-	-	-	-
100	95	92	(3)	Internal Charges	419	369	369	-
<b>651</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>Total Direct Expenditure</b>	<b>3,401</b>	<b>3,441</b>	<b>3,423</b>	<b>18</b>
12	9	9	-	Financial Costs	45	37	37	-
17	2	-	(2)	Bad Debts	-	-	-	-
138	154	154	-	Corporate & Department Overheads	553	615	615	-
46	67	66	(1)	Depreciation	183	264	264	-
-	-	-	-	Loss(Gain) on Sale of Assets / Investment	(4)	(8)	(8)	-
<b>864</b>	<b>1,052</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>4,178</b>	<b>4,349</b>	<b>4,331</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>75</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>(135)</b>	<b>OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>(18)</b>

  

Last Year YTD Actual \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Budget \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Monitoring Funding Statement 3 months ending 30 September 2011	Last Year FY Actual \$000	Full Year Forecast \$000	Full Year Budget \$000	Full Year Variance \$000
46	67	66	1	Add Back Depreciation	183	264	264	-
-	-	-	-	Other Non Cash	(4)	(8)	(8)	-
(58)	1	(34)	(35)	Net Asset Acquisitions	3	(266)	(266)	-
-	-	-	-	Net External Investment Movements	-	-	-	-
(42)	(40)	(45)	5	Repaid Debt	(167)	(180)	(180)	-
183	78	130	(52)	Net Reserves (Increase) / decrease	101	130	130	-
<b>204</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>(216)</b>	<b>NET FUNDING BEFORE DEBT ADDITION</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>(18)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(18)</b>
58	(1)	-	(1)	Internal Debt Additions	(66)	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	External Debt Additions	-	-	-	-
<b>262</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>(217)</b>	<b>NET FUNDING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>(18)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(18)</b>

  

Last Year YTD Actual \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Budget \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Monitoring Capital Expenditure Statement 3 months ending 30 September 2011	Last Year FY Actual \$000	Full Year Forecast \$000	Full Year Budget \$000	Full Year Variance \$000
-	-	34	34	Total Asset Acquisitions	61	309	309	-
58	(1)	-	1	Capital Project Expenditure	(62)	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	Asset Disposal Cash Proceeds	(9)	(43)	(43)	-
<b>58</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>Net Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>(10)</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>-</b>
-	-	-	-	Investments Additions	-	-	-	-
<b>58</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>Net Capital and Investment Expenditure</b>	<b>(10)</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>-</b>

### 1.2.14 Departmental financial summary in words

- Environmental Monitoring department has a net surplus of \$47k which is \$135k worse than budget mainly due to earlier than planned spend on consultants
- Materials spend is \$61k more than budget mainly due to the purchase of water meter software which was budgeted under consultants but spent under materials
- The forecast has been updated to include an additional \$18k for salary increases over what was budgeted

### 1.2.15 Departmental business plan performance indicators

Performance Indicator	Achieved
<b>Activity: State of the environment monitoring</b>	
<i>Greater Wellington's managers with responsibility for water supply and consents will be notified within one working day of low groundwater levels in the Waiwhetu aquifer</i>	No notifications were required because the Waiwhetu aquifer was well above the low level warning in the period.
<i>Water samples will be taken weekly throughout the bathing season (1 November – 31 March) and tested for the presence of bacteria. A traffic light warning framework (see below) will be used at the sites and on Greater Wellington's website to inform the public</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green – low or no public health risk</li> <li>• Amber – alert mode requiring follow-up monitoring</li> <li>• Red – action required and beach closed</li> </ul>	The bathing season does not commence until early November.
<i>Real-time environmental data will be available on Greater Wellington's website throughout the year</i>	Real time data relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air quality</li> <li>• Meteorology</li> <li>• River flows</li> <li>• Rainfall</li> <li>• Groundwater levels</li> <li>• Lake level</li> <li>• Soil moisture</li> <li>• Tide level</li> </ul> is available on the Greater Wellington website.
<i>Monitoring the state of the region's environment (air, water, soil) will be undertaken and annual report cards containing summary information of this work will be prepared to the Council's satisfaction</i>	State of Environment technical reports are in the process of being drafted and when published will be accompanied by summary information.
<i>Targeted investigations will be completed</i>	No reports of investigations were completed in the

Performance Indicator	Achieved
<i>in a timely manner and to the Council's satisfaction</i>	first quarter.

**Activity: Floodwarning service**

<b><i>All flood warnings will be issued within 30 minutes of alarms being triggered in accordance with established flood procedures</i></b>	Flood warnings were issued in a timely manner. There were no significant events.
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Performance Indicator	Achieved
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**Long Term Targets by June 2019**

There will be no recorded instances where air quality breaches the national environmental standards.	The national standard for air quality was not exceeded in the period.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All bathing sites (coastal and freshwater) will comply with the national recreational water-quality guidelines</li> <li>• Nitrate-nitrogen concentration in groundwater will not exceed 50% of the New Zealand Drinking-Water Standards</li> <li>• Water quality in key streams, rivers and lakes will be maintained or enhanced</li> </ul>	These targets will be assessed when statistics are available for the 2011/12 year.
River flows and groundwater levels will be maintained above the minimum levels.	Minimum levels were maintained.
No decline in soil quality.	This target will be assessed following the annual soil sampling in autumn.