Forest Working Plan

July 2000

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THE REGIONAL COUNCIL

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Contents

Introduction

This Forest Management Plan is prepared pursuant to the Regional Council's obligations under section 49 of the *Wellington Regional Water Board Act 1972*. This section provides:

> *49. Working plans*
>
> *(1) The Board shall from time to time prepare working plans in respect of forestry operations in forestry areas and in other land vested in or under the control of the Board and used for forestry purposes.*
>
> *(2) A working plan shall not come into force until it is approved by the Minister of Forests and may, with the consent of the Minister, be altered by the Board.*
>
> *(3) Every such plan shall, subject to any rights existing on the date of its adoption by the Board and to the provisions of this Part of the Act, regulate the management of the forest area to which it relates for such period not exceeding 10 years as may be specified in the plan.*
>
> *(4) Every working plan shall specify –*
>
> *(a) The maximum area of the land affected from which forest produce may be taken annually;*
>
> *(b) The maximum quantity of forest produce that may be disposed of annually;*
>
> *(c) Forestry operations proposed to be carried out during the currency of the plan;*
>
> *(d) The protection and development operations to be carried out; and*
>
> *(e) Such other matters as the Board thinks fit.*
>
> (5) *The Board shall not carry out any forestry operations unless and until a plan relating thereto is in force, and all such operations shall be carried out in accordance with the plan.*

This Forest Working Plan is to be effective over the period 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2010. A review is to take place five years after the date of approval by the Minister.

This Forest Working Plan should be viewed primarily as a statement of the Council's operational forestry intentions, particularly relating to planting, tending and harvesting regimes, and marketing strategies. The Plan should be read in conjunction with the other Council policy documents and, in particular, the Plantation Forestry Department Operating Plan 2000–2010 which is attached as Appendix 4. The 10 year Operating Plan is revised very three years and each year is reviewed to produce the approved annual budget. These processes are subject to public consultation.

1. Definition of the Area Covered by the Working Plan

The forest areas covered by this working plan are generally bounded by the various mountain ranges west of the Rimutaka Ranges: the southern position of the Tararuas, the Akatarawa subrange in the west, the Rimutakas in the east, and a portion of Orongorongo in the south. The relevant areas are set out.

Forest Block	Production Forest	Potential Production Forest	Total
Hukinga	142	30	172
Whakatikei	163	68	231
Valley View	1,114	887	2,001
Puketiro	1,280	680	1,960
Akatarawa	47	247	294
Pakuratahi	841	567	1,408
Mangakotukutuku	182	-	182
	3,769	1,217	6,248

* Correct as of September 1999

2. Objectives of Production Forest Management

To operate a successful exotic forestry business by adopting best industry practice and by maximising returns to the Council in the medium-term.

This objective will be achieved by:

- Carrying out cost effective silvicultural operations to best industry standards.
- Monitoring forest health on an ongoing basis and taking remedial action where necessary.
- Actively monitor and act to minimise fire risk.
- Seek external advice on forest management practices to ensure high standards are maintained.
- Market mature timber to the best advantage within the Council financial parameters of low risk.
- Conduct all production forest activities in accordance with industry codes (LIRO) with due regard to soil and water values, and the desirability of permitting compatible recreation activities.
- To conduct production forestry activities generally within the area set out in

Appendix 1, other than to consider the purchase or acquisition of other land where it falls within or adjacent to a current product forestry site and such purchase would simplify forest boundaries.

- Where land currently in production forestry fails to produce a satisfactory crop, such land will not be replanted for production forestry but will be replanted with native species or allowed to regenerate naturally and management transferred to the Landcare Division of WRC.

- Move towards an age structure, which will permit sustainable harvesting.

3. Maximum Area of Land to be Harvested Within the Currency of this Plan

Within the period 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2010 the maximum area that may be harvested is 1,906 ha based on those forest stands which will reach maturity (28 years) within this period.

This area is made up by forest as follows:

Pakuratahi	293 ha
Hukinga	65 ha
Valley View	892 ha
Puketiro	656 ha

The maximum land area that may be harvested in any year of the plans as follows:

2000/01	208
2001/02	76
2002/03	120
2003/04	263
2004/05	208
2005/06	245
2006/07	202
2007/08	178
2008/09	213
2009/10	164

It should be noted that any part of the above areas not harvested in the year indicated may be harvested in any of the subsequent years of the plan. These areas exclude scattered stands of minor species, which may be harvested as market opportunities arise.

4. Proposed Silvicultural Programme

4.1 Planting Programme

The Regional Council shall:

(1) Replant all harvested areas where fertility levels are suitable for commercial *Pinus radiata* forestry.

(2) Where possible harvested areas shall be replanted during the winter following harvest. Exceptions will be where proposed harvest activity precludes unhindered access to the land to be replanted.

(3) The planting of new areas of forest will concentrate on land adjoining existing plantations rather than new plantings in isolation and consider these on a case by case basis.

4.2 Choice of Species

The predominant species will be *Pinus radiata* of GF17 or better.

Pinus radiata has been chosen as the principal exotic tree species to be planted because of its proven suitability as a commercial crop. It is easily propagated, grows exceptionally fast on a wide variety of sites, is easily tended and has the capacity to produce a diverse range of end products suitable for multitude of end uses. The predominant use of the harvested product is export logs, domestic sawlog and pulpwood.

Minor species may be planted where the particular conditions of the site or likely market conditions suggest that a commercial crop of at least equivalent value to pinus radiata can be produced.

4.3 Forest Access

Roads, Tracks and Bridges

The arterial routes through the forest shall be maintained to a minimum of four wheel drive suitability for 95 percent of the time. Other tracks will be upgraded to four wheel standard for the period that silvicultural activities are proposed and at other times will be maintained to four wheel drive dry weather access only.

New logging roads constructed or upgraded for logging purposes will be maintained to all weather four wheel drive access.

All bridges will be subject to biannual safety inspections and the maximum weight permitted shall be limited accordingly. Bridges certified for light vehicle use will only be upgraded or replaced when harvesting is due.

4.4 Plantation Establishment

Nursery Stock

Council will purchase nursery stock to the best advantage, having regard to genetic quality and the specific climatic conditions of the planting site.

Espacement, Cultivation and Planting

Planting density shall follow "best industry practice" and generally planting density will be reduced for seedling of higher GF ratings.

Current planting density for GF 17 *Pinus radiata* is 1500 spha.

Planting densities for minor species will be as recommended by the suppliers.

Weed Control

New planting shall be monitored and where weed competition is suppressing growth weed control shall be undertaken. The method and type of control shall be assessed after consideration of the site, the problem weed types and the method and chemicals available.

Fertilising

Fertilising shall be undertaken where foliage analysis show it to be necessary and it can be shown to be cost effective.

Pruning and Thinning

Current Council policy is to adopt a full sivicultural regime where all *Pinus radiata* stands are pruned to a minimum of 6 metres and thinned to final stocking of 350 spha. This regime may be varied where it can be demonstrated that the investment required for silviculture is unlikely to be recovered in the final crop.

The treatment of minor species shall follow "best industry practice" provided it can be demonstrated that the investment required is likely to be recovered in increased returns at harvest.

5. Stand Records and Management Inventories

Council shall maintain sufficient stand information to enable future yields and market values to be calculated. Such records shall record all silviculture undertaken on an individual stand basis.

Stand assessments and area calculations shall be undertaken as required to maintain the validity of the stand records.

6. Proposed Cutting Plan

The proposed cutting plan for the period 1 June 2000 to 30 June 2013 is set out on pages 5 and 6.

Year End 30 June	Cutting Plan					Log Grades					
	Forest	Block	Date Planted	Area Ha.	Age at Harvest	Pruned	Export A Grade	Export K Grade	Domestic Sawlog	Pulp	Total M3
2001	Pakuratahi E.	25/01	1964	6.7	37	529	972	2,084	47	797	4,429
	Pakuratahi E.	26/01	1965	2.7	36	111	251	643	27	365	1,396
	Pakuratahi E.	26/02	1965	9.0	36	369	837	2,142	90	1,215	4,653
	Pakuratahi E.	27/01	1968	2.4	33	0	41	425	24	307	797
	Pakuratahi E.	27/02	1969	1.8	32	0	92	452	25	236	805
	Pakuratahi E.	27/03	1969	2.1	32	0	107	527	29	275	939
	Pakuratahi E.	28/01	1966	4.1	35	45	344	1,054	33	558	2,034
	Pakuratahi E.	28/02	1966	5.3	35	58	445	1,362	42	721	2,629
	Pakuratahi E.	10/1	1965	17.1	36	701	1,590	4,070	171	2,309	8,841
	Pakuratahi E.	11/01	1968	9.2	33	0	156	1,628	92	1,178	3,054
	Pakuratahi E.	12/01	1963	5.3	38	419	769	1,648	37	631	3,503
	Pakuratahi E.	12/02	1963	2.4	38	190	348	746	17	286	1,586
	Pakuratahi E.	13/01	1967	3.0	34	0	123	1,044	0	636	1,803
	Pakuratahi E.	15/01&2	1966	11.7	35	129	983	3,007	94	1,591	5,803
	Pakuratahi E.	16/01	1963	17.9	38	1,468	2,685	5,728	125	2,202	12,208
	Pakuratahi E.	17/01	1966	8.6	35	103	748	2,270	69	1,204	4,395
	Pakuratahi E.	17/02	1966	3.6	35	43	313	950	29	504	1,840
	Pakuratahi E.	17/03	1966	11.8	35	142	1,027	3,115	94	1,652	6,030
	Pakuratahi E.	17/04	1966	6.7	35	80	583	1,769	54	938	3,424
	Pakuratahi E.	18/01	1966	4.2	35	50	365	1,109	34	588	2,146
	Pakuratahi E.	19/01	1963	4.7	38	385	705	1,504	33	578	3,205
	Pakuratahi E.	20/01	1969	5.0	32	0	260	1,110	75	675	2,120
				145.0		4,823	13,744	38,387	1,241	19,444	77,638
2002	Maymorn	2/01	1964	7.1	38	249	959	2244	0	710	4,161
	Puketiro MOT	7/02	1973	14.1	29	1,184	1,777	1,523	733	1,382	6,599
	Huka Top Flat	2/1	1972	10.7	30	1,081	663	417	1,295	1,091	4,548
	Huka Cocktail	6/1	1973	5.0	29	750	640	685	125	295	2,495
				36.9		3,264	4,039	4,869	2,153	3,478	17,802
2003	Puketiro MOT	7/1	1974	66.4	29	4,183	1,328	1,461	9,628	11,222	27,822
	Huka Shilling	7/1	1974	7.2	29	1,418	173	166	1,145	864	3,766
	Huka Shilling	5/1	1974	2.1	29	401	357	294	63	103	1,218
	Harris North	8/01	1975	20.0	28	660	100	60	880	4,120	5,820
				95.7		6,663	1,958	1,980	11,716	16,309	38,625

2004	Huka Chinaman	8/1	1976	4.0	28	808	464	480	376	376	2,504
	Harris Sth	8/02	1975	98.9	29	11,769	2,868	2,077	13,352	12,956	43,022
				102.9		12,577	3,332	2,557	13,728	13,332	45,526
2005	Res. Ridge	3/03-04	1976	41.5	29	830	5,561	2,283	9,504	7,097	25,274
	Martins	6/1	1976	20.6	29		6,880	1,772	2,905	2,657	14,214
	Sth Mill Flats	9/02	1977	2.1	28	176	296	134	273	361	1,241
	Puketiro Flats	4/01	1976	31.0	29	1,178	2,170	1,271	6,231	6,975	17,825
	Castle Ridge	3/01	1976	2.5	29	175	175	260	130	130	870
				97.7		2,359	15,083	5,720	19,042	17,220	59,424
2006	Res. Ridge	3/02	1976	32.5	30		5,168	1,658	9,003	5,363	21,190
	Martins	5/1	1977	19.6	29		5,586	588	3,195	3,371	12,740
	Signis	10/01	1978	11.7	28	679	1,907	129	1,720	1,486	5,920
	Hukinga	13/03	1978	2.3	28	113	150	0	253	952	1,467
	Beech Spur	4/01	1977	7.5	29		1,185	120	1,313	1,133	3,750
	Dicks Yard	5/01	1977	68.5	29	4,110	2,398	1,233	8,974	12,604	29,318
				142.1		4,901	16,393	3,727	24,456	24,908	74,386

Year End 30 June	Cutting Plan					Log Grades					
	Forest	Block	Date Planted	Area Ha.	Age at Harvest	Pruned	Export A Grade	Export K Grade	Domestic Sawlog	Pulp	Total M3
2007	Res. Ridge	3/02	1976	32.5	31		5,428	1,820	9,035	5,428	21,710
	Green Knob	1/01, 02	1977	21.3	30		3,536	320	3,983	3,280	11,119
	HU Back Rd	9/01	1978	14.9	29	1,281	2,265	894	2,071	2,667	9,178
	Lower Spur	1/03	1977	11.3	30		1,876	170	2,113	1,740	5,899
	Long Spur	2/01, 02	1978	27.8	29		4,893	612	5,782	4,587	15,874
	Blow Fly	1/01	1976	31.5	31	2,993	914	1,134	5,828	3,749	14,616
				139.3		4,274	18,910	4,949	28,812	21,451	78,395
2008	Upper Long Spur	5/01/ 2/3	1978	74.1	30		8,818	2,075	13,783	11,930	36,605
	Pakuratahi West	4/1	1978	25.8	30		7,998	1,419	5,599	4,205	19,221
	Pakuratahi West	5.02	1977	3.2	31	16	717	35	646	621	2,035
	Hukinga	9/03	1978	8.3	30		141	75	747	2,457	3,420
	Parry' Bush	4/01	1979	40.2	29		7,919	2,894	8,362	6,070	25,246
				51.6		16	25,593	6,498	29,136	25,283	86,527
2009	Centre Sth	9/01	1978	38.55	31	1,079	2,930	1,272	8,018	8,751	22,051
	Blow Fly	1/01	1976	31.5	33	3,150	1,040	1,260	6,300	4,095	15,845
	Valley View	6/03	1977	12	32	24	1,608	1,056	3,084	1,968	7,740
	Kilometre	12/01	1979	45.1	30		6,855	7,893	2,796	6,134	23,678
				127.15		4,253	12,433	11,481	20,199	20,947	69,313

2010	Clarkes Creek	6/01	1977	41.6	33	5,990	3,078	2,080	8,944	7,197	27,290
	Valley View	6/02	1977	20.7	33	2,836	2,381	1,346	4,244	6,831	17,636
	Glider	12/01	1979	32.8	31		6,822	328	7,446	9,938	24,534
				95.1		8,826	12,281	3,754	20,633	23,966	69,460
2011	Centre Sth	9/01	1978	38.55	33	1,118	3,200	1,465	8,481	8,982	23,246
	Drapers	11/01	1979	26.1	32	26	679	392	5,142	7,125	13,363
	Pak West	13/01	1981	28.7	30		3,243	1,866	3,042	2,698	10,849
	Kilometre	12/01	1979	45.1	32		8,569	8,163	3,022	6,269	26,023
				138.45		1,144	15,690	11,885	19,687	25,074	73,480
2012	Boiler Gully	13/01	1980	129.8	32		38,680	16,744	3,264	14,148	72,837
	Maori Redooubt	11/01	1981	86.4	31		24,106	19,786	589	8,035	52,515
				216.2			62,786	36,530	3,853	22,183	125,352
2013	Lindsay's	14/01	1982	73.5	31		10,805	14,774	1,250	4,337	31,164
	Scrap Iron	8/01	1982	70.1	31		10,305	14,090	1,192	4,136	29,722
	Ragwort Hill	13/02	1980	51.7	33		16,492	6,773	5,429	5,739	34,432
				195			37,602	35,636	7,870	14,211	95,319
TOTAL				**1,683.7**			**239,843**	**167,972**	**202,525**	**247,807**	**911,246**

7. Timber Marketing

It is unlikely that Council will at any stage have the skills and facilities to undertake the marketing of its forestry products. For this reason the harvesting and sale of logs will be offered for tender in "packages" structured to attract bids from the major companies in this field. Such contracts would seek to combine sales to both local and overseas markets to reduce the relative reliance on any one market.

8. Forest Health

The predominant threats to forest health in this region are from animal pests in the form of possums and to lesser extent deer and goats. The area is also subject to attack from fungal diseases such as *Dothistroma*.

The control of the possum population is managed in conjunction with the adjacent indigenous forests. Regular monitoring of pest damage is undertaken and when these become a risk to forest health a co-ordinated extermination programme is undertaken. The major benefit of this co-ordinated approach is that as the surrounding area is treated at the same time as the forests reinfestation is significantly delayed. Financial benefits also accrue from "economies of scale" which follow from a larger operation. In the interim periods trappers are encouraged to actively trap possums. The success of this method of control depends on pelt prices and cannot be relied upon as an ongoing control method.

Deer and goats do not pose as serious a risk as possums as hunters generally control them.

As these forests are in the main surrounded by indigenous forest, staff from both Plantation Forestry and the Landcare Division travel through the forests and in so doing provide a surveillance system for incidences of fungal diseases such as *Dothistroma*. At time of higher risk specific additional patrols would be arranged to monitor forest health. Any instances of fungal attack are immediately analysed and remedial action taken.

In addition to the surveillance described above, Crown Inspectors undertake annual inspections and any recommendation arising from these inspections would be adopted.

9. Fire Safety

The Regional Council forests fall within the rural fire districts managed by the following city councils:

Hutt City	Wainuiomata
Upper Hutt City	Pakuratahi (including Mangaroa and Kaitoke), Valley View, Hukinga, Puketiro, Whakatikei
Porirua City	Puketiro
Kapiti District	Whakatikei, Maungakotukutuku, Little Akatarawa

In addition, the Council owns the firefighting equipment shown in Appendix 2

The Wellington Regional Council (WRC) has contracts with Hutt City, Upper Hutt City, Wellington City and Kapiti Coast District Councils for direct access to their Volunteer Rural Fire Forces. This relationship gives the WRC access to over 90 trained personnel, experienced in rural firefighting and equipped with pagers to allow prompt response to fires at all times. WRC supervisors regularly liaise with the Hutt Valley Rural Fire Force in particular (the volunteer rural fire force closes to the bulk of the WRC's forest estate) to ensure that force is aware of current operations and current access conditions. A similar relationship exists with the Te Horo Rural Fire Force for the Kapiti forests.

A core of trained staff are maintained at the WRC Upper Hutt Depot who are able to assist at any fire on Council lands with some who are able to assume a fire management role.

Prior to each fire season a WRC Plantation Fire Plan is prepared and distributed to all firefighting authorities. This plan includes:

- Locations of the forests
- Descriptions of vegetation
- Internal roads suitable for use by heavy vehicles
- Four wheel drive only tracks
- Water sources by block
- Access routes and approximate distances
- Specific hazards by forest
- Suggested initial firefighting strategy
- The priorities should there be multiple fires.
- Contact details for key Council personnel
- Contact details for additional firefighting equipment

A copy of the current Plantation Forestry Fire Plan is attached as Appendix 3

10. Other Users

The use of exotic forest areas by other groups will be considered on a case by case basis. In general terms the potential for damage to the crop will be the prime consideration.

Charges will be levied where access is required for a commercial venture and/or specific arrangements, which require expenditure by Council, are required to cater for the event.

Appendix 1

Wellington Regional Council Land Areas

Forest	Legal Description	Area (ha)
Little Akatarawa	437/58	900.0209
	10D/831	87.9161
	10D/832	95.3794
Total		1083.3164
Valley View	20B/569	267.248
	31A/562	1.7839
	25A/510	1615.2796
	226/68	60.4736
	326/97	0.178
	451/130	0.9965
Total		1945.9596
Hukinga	19C/1400	471.1553
	411/118	1634.181
	437/134	2165.475
	814/4	50.3833
	488/297	87.1085
	26D/778	32.3353
	25C/984	0.0573
Total		4440.6957
Puketiro	22B/306	39.87
	22B/305	38.22
	20C/477	257.987
	16C/728	852.9418
	18B/963	83.7699
	26A/229	53.43
	18B/965	113.312
	22D/167	152.183
	48A/529	94.2877
	18D/243	1.1051
	618/54	63.4572
	31C/915	501.0568
Total		2251.6205
Whakatikei	13C/916	97.3933
	41D/398	5578.4817
	25A/637	28.8532
Total		5704.7282
Maungakotukutuku	20C/506	114.6778
	20C/507	217.9738
	20C/508	14.164
Total		346.8156
Pakuratahi	44B/133	333.2182
	39D/642	6841.0131

		18B/1237	0.301
		C4/53	0.8017
		20C/497	112.7554
		20C/1018	0.6297
		20C/498	1.2596
		20C/499	1.1987
		21B/552	9.9975
		20C/1016	6.8594
		22D/381	96.6634
		20C/1017	31.5655
Total			7436.2632
Hutt		20C/1015	394.9731
		F2/361	2.1094
		570/103	33.9936
		30B/396	1155.6768
		589/40	714.1259
		589/41	595.1281
		16B/1131	1255.6889
		821/44	17.5052
		37A/679	7600.1
		41A/458	683.57
Total			12452.871
Wainui/Orongorong o		253/202	46.5389
		248/72	33.7913
		253/199	13.7619
		124/21	21.2207
		102/186	374.1322
		488/55	2454.8253
		121/100	42.3554
		7B/472	62.304
		37/289	421.6828
		485/234	408.5217
		362/136	244.3024
		48/27	212.1086
		704/51	31.3365
		648/43	152.1898
	Gaz	1916/2619	2129.8624
Total			6648.9339
Lower Orongorongo	Stat area	7B 1927 p 837	6191.6958
Karori Catchment		23A/187	249.3978
U/Hutt Depot			0.7203
Total All Blocks			**48,753.0180**

Appendix 2

Council Owned Firefighting Equipment

WRC MASTER FIRE EQUIPMENT LIST

Godivas	2		Hydro Blender	1	
Robin Pump Units	3		Sprinklers	5	
Rotary Pump Unit	1		Petrol Cans 20 L	7	
Trash Pump	1		Petrol Cans 9 L	2	
Floating Pump	1		Petrol Cans 7 L	2	
Arkos Pumps	2		Controlable Dividing Breaches (Alumin)	4	40mm
Koshin Ponstar Pump	1		Controlable Dividing Breaches (Plastic)	4	40mm
Tandem Equipment Trailers	2		Brass	1	40mm
Single Axel Equipment Trailer	1		Universal Hand Expander	1	
Tanker Trailer	1		Fire Finder Detector	1	
Monsoon Buckets	2		Plexone Nozzles (41mm)	7	
Lengths of 70mm Non Perc Hose	11		Adjustable Nozzles (Alumin 41mm)	5	
Lengths of 70mm Perc Hose	9		Non Adjustable (Alumin 41mm)	2	
Packs of 25mm Hose	3		Brass 41mm	1	
Packs of 41mm Perc Hose	12		70mm Non Adjustable Nozzles (Alumin)	2	
Packs of Non Perc	4		Reducers (Double Adaptors) 70-41mm	4	
Hoses for Arkos Pumps	4		Double Male Adaptor 70mm	1	
Wajax Pump Suction Hoses	3		Reducer 1200-70mm	1	
Godiva Suction Hoses	4		Reducers 70mm-41mm		
Trash Pump Suction Hose	1		Stand Pipes and Keys	3	
Arkos Suction Hoses	2		Pump Carrying Frames	4	
Air Bottles	4		Cane Suction Baskets	1	70mm
Portable Tank and attachments	1		Cane Suction Baskets	1	40mm
Battery Lanterns	7		Wet Weather Suits	2	
Instantanious Couplings	2		Extention Air Hoses	1 set	
Wire Mesh Strainer for Trash Pump	1		Wet Water Capsules	26	
Air Regulator Kits	2		Flyer Tanks	2	
Bambi Bucket	1	Westpac	Filling Trunk	1	
Hose for Arkos Pumps	4		Short Hoses 41mm	9	
Fire Brigade Helmets	20		Hard Hats	4	
Fire Helmets	10		Tool Kits	2	
Rega Packs	4		Foam Inductor	1	
Rega Vests	2		Foam Nozzles	3	

Canvas Buckets	2		Plastic Buckets	2	
Measuring Jug	1		Wheel Controlled Dividing Breach	1	70mm
Dragur Masks	8		Shovels		8
Wajax Priming Pump	1		Bolt Cutters	1	
McLeod Rakes	7		Section Coupling Wrench	1	
Strainers for Godivas	2		Camlock Fittings	4	51mm
Goose Neck Fillers	2		Chainsaw	1	
Trail Bike	1		Hose Laying Box	1	
Leather Gloves	30		Earmuffs	4	
Goggles	20		Axe	1	
Beaters	4		Slashers	2	
Hose Pressure Reducers	2		First Aid Kit	1	
1 x Box of Earplugs			1 Pkt of Unimasks		
Stand Pipe Dividers	3	70-40mm	Collins Axes	4	
Fish Bins	2		Water Containers	2	
Food Box	1		Phoscheck	1 Ton	
Silvatect 40kg bags	16	Bags	Forexpan S Foam	21	
Silvex 19 L Containers	1		Hose Ramps	3 sets	
RTs	19		Mobile Phones	3	
Pagers	1		Ground to Air Radios	3	
Weather Stations	2		25mm Non Perc Crusader Hose	3	
2200 Lt Portable Dam	1				

Appendix 3

Current Fire Protection Plan

1999/2000

Metro Forests

Plantation Forest

Fire Protection Plan

EXOTIC FORESTS

October 1999

Contents

Introduction

This Plan should be read in conjunction with the Wellington Regional Council Rural Fire District Plan and the Porirua City Rural Fire Plan.

Metro Forests are the plantation holdings of the Wellington Regional Council located to the west of the Rimutaka Ranges.

In general these forests are located within larger areas of potential water catchment forest and in many cases border either urban areas and/or significant recreational areas.

Of a total forest area of 40,000ha west of the Rimutaka Ranges approximately 3,900ha are planted as exotic forests. The forest is managed in 7 discrete blocks between the summit of the old Rimutaka incline railway through the area behind Totara Park, north of Moonshine and Bulls Run Roads, Battle Hill on the Paekakariki Hill Road, East of Paekakariki and east of Paraparaumu with a block on the summit of the Akatarawa Road. The council is also a joint venture partner in a block west of Linden.

The proximity of the Council's natural forests to these stands result in a stand of forest approaching 40,000ha. Any fire on or near the common boundary of the two types of forest has the potential to pass unhindered from one to the other.

The natural forests are available to the public for recreational purposes and as the exotic forests are within the natural forest there is considerable recreational activity within them.

There is a good arterial roading system through the forests suitable for a minimum of 4WD access. As the exotic stands reach maturity these roads are being upgraded to logging truck standard. At this stage upgraded roading exists in Pakuratahi West and from Totara Park through Valley View forest to Hukinga Forest.

Generally water is available for fire fighting purposes from the natural waterways which traverse the blocks. These are supplemented in places by specific water storage tanks or ponds.

Significant travelling times for ground based transport generally requires the initial attack on any fire to be undertaken by helicopter without ground support. For this reason consideration should be given to a minimum of 2 helicopters with dipfill buckets.

Plantation Forest Fire Protection Plan

Pakuratahi Forest

Location

The Pakuratahi forest extends from Tunnel Gully at Maymorn generally following the alignment of the Rimutaka Incline walkway to the Summit rail yard.

The forest is managed as two blocks, Pakuratahi West being generally that area from Tunnel Gully to the Pakuratahi River and Pakuratahi East being the balance to the summit of the range.

In total approximately 926 ha are planted in exotic forest with extensive areas of regenerating native trees indispersed and surrounding the plantation.

Access

There are presently two access points – for the area adjacent to the Tunnel Gully recreation area, access is via Te Marua, and for the area between the tunnel and Commission siding, access is via the new entrance on S.H.2 on top of the Kaitoke hill.

Access to the area above Ladle Bend Bridge is via a newly constructed road from State Highway 2. The entrance is approximately 2/3 of the way up the western side of the Rimutaka Hill.

The only access to that part of PAKE block between Commission Siding and Ladle Bend Bridge is via the Rimutaka Incline walkway. THIS ACCESS IS NOT SUITABLE FOR VEHICLES LARGER THAN 4WD UTILITIES.

Stocking

This forest was made up of mature radiata planted in the 1960's with a small area planted in 1987.

Sustained harvesting in this forest commenced in 1995 and by October 1999 it is anticipated that only 8000t will remain to be harvested in the area to the east of the Pakuratahi River and south of Commission Siding.

Harvesting of those blocks beyond Ladle Bend are programmed to commence late 1999 and continue for a period of approximately two years.

All logged areas will be replanted in radiata in the winter following harvest.

Forest	Block	Species	Year	Area	Regime
PAKW	Tunnel Gully	Radiata	1995	19.3	New Crop
PAKW	Goat Rock	Nigra	1960	21.1	Structural
PAKW	TG - Martins	Radiata	1976	20.6	Structural
PAKW	Maymorn	Radiata	1964	7.1	Structural
PAKW	TG - Martins	Radiata	1977	19.6	Structural
PAKW	TG- Martins	Radiata	1978	25.8	Structural
PAKW	TG - Glider	Radiata	1979	32.8	Structural
PAKW	TG - Glider	Radiata	1981	28.7	Structural
PAKW	Maymorn	Radiata	1987	31.3	Pruned
PAKW		Radiata	1996	34.8	New Crop
PAKW		Radiata	1997	33.0	New Crop
PAKW		Radiata	1998	46	New Crop
PAKE	Commission Siding	Radiata	1999	19	New Crop
PAKE		Radiata	1965	17.2	Struct/pruned
PAKE		Radiata	1968	9.2	Struct/pruned
PAKE		Radiata	1963	7.7	Structural
PAKE		Radiata	1968	3	Structural
PAKE		Radiata	1968	36	Structural
PAKE		Radiata	1966	11.7	Structural
PAKE		Radiata	1967	17.9	Structural
PAKE		Radiata	1966	30.7	Structural
PAKE		Radiata	1967	4.2	Structural
PAKE		Nigra	1966	4.7	Structural
PAKE		Radiata	1969	14.2	Structural
PAKE		Radiata	1963	27	Structural
PAKE		Radiata	1969	1.8	Structural
PAKE		Nigra	1963	9.3	Structural
PAKE		Radiata	1964	6.7	Struct/pruned
PAKE		Radiata	1968	6.3	Structural
PAKE		Radiata	1965	11.7	Struct/pruned
PAKE		Radiata	1966	9.4	Structural
PAKE		Radiata	1969	5	Structural

* Partly harvested 1998

Danger Areas

As much of this forest is at maturity it is at its maximum value. This factor combined with the limited access to Pakuratahi East in particular makes an early response to any alarm vital.

The area is traversed by the Rimutaka Incline walkway, which is a popular walking/cycling route, and at any time there is a high likelihood of members of the public being in the area.

The recreation area at Tunnel Gully is located in a natural basin and is a popular picnic area.

Water

Water supply to Pakuratahi East is restricted to the Pakuratahi River (River 14) which can be used to supply a helicopter operation. In selected places pumping from the river for a ground based fire-fighting crew is an option.

The area of Pakuratahi West forest from Commission Siding to the tunnel is best served from the Pakuratahi River (River 12,13). West of the tunnel there is a small stream or from the filling point at Tunnel Gully (River 16) shown on the map. Mains supply water is also available from Maymorn Road.

Method of Attack

This forest is within the WRC Rural Fire District.

Because of the likely presence of members of the public, the maturity of the older stands, and the restricted water supplies particularly around the Summit a significant and early response is vital. Helicopters should be considered the main method of firefighting. At any time an alarm is received from this area two helicopters should be called immediately and a third placed on standby.

Mangaroa Forest

Location

This is an isolated stand situated off Collets Road in the Mangaroa Valley.

The stand totals 146 ha and is bounded by other exotic forest to the east and south, and pastures to the west.

Access

Access is from S.H.2 via Mangaroa Hill Road, Parkes Line Road Flux Road to Colletts Road. Direct access to the site is by a right of way. The track is such that it would only be suitable for large vehicle equipped with 4WD.

Stocking

This forest was planted in three blocks:

- 10.7 hectares in 1981;
- 25.7 hectares in 1985, and
- 110 hectares in 1989.

This forest has been subject to full silvicultural regime and is currently stocked between 350 and 500 stems per hectare.

Forest	Block	Species	Year	Area	Regime
MANG	Mangaroa	Radiata	1981	10.7	Structural
MANG	Mangaroa	Radiata	1985	25.7	Pruned
MANG	Mangaroa	Radiata	1989	110.0	Pruned

Danger Areas

This block is not popular for recreational activities but the vegetation to the east continues to the vicinity of the neighbouring residence.

Water

Two minor streams run through the block but these would be marginal as water sources. More substantial sources would be the Mangaroa River (River 15) to the northwest of the reticulated water on Maymorn Road.

An underground tank is located on the road edge on the summit of Mt Climie.

Both these sites have adequate space to land a helicopter.

Method of Attack

This forest is within the WRC Rural Fire District.

As there is effectively only one entrance to the block any method of attack other than from the main internal access road will have to be from the air.

The nature of the block is such that helicopter assistance should be sought from the first instance.

Kaitoke Forest

Location

Kaitoke forest is an isolated stand located northeast of the storage lakes for the Te Marua Water Treatment Facility.

Access

Access is from State Highway 2 through the Te Marua entrance to the Kaitoke Regional Park, turning right just prior to the Water Treatment Plant

Emergency access for fire fighting purposes can be gained to the southern side of the block from State Highway 2 just over the summit of the Kaitoke hill.

Stocking

This 60.9ha block was planted in 1984 with pinus radiata at 1400spha. It has been subsequently pruned to 4 metres and thinned to 500 spha (1996).

The undergrowth is predominantly high gorse.

Good access can be gained through the internal tracking.

Danger Areas

The western and northern side of this block is bounded by regenerating scrub and thus any fire has the potential to spread in these directions.

Although the public is denied access to the operating area of the water treatment plant there is a risk of public being in the area particularly to the north in the Regional Park.

The block is traversed from south to north by power wires. (400volt??)

Water

Water is available from the Hutt River which runs adjacent to the northern boundary of the block and from the two storage lakes which serve the treatment plant.(33Ml)

Method of Attack

This forest is within the WRC Rural Fire District.

With ample water and suitable landing areas available at the storage lakes the most suitable form of initial attack is by helicopter

Valley View Forest

Location

Valley View Forest is located north of Upper Hutt city on the northern side of the Hutt River. The forest forms the northern boundary of the suburb of Totara Park and extends east to the Akatarawa Road.

The total size of the forest is 1946 hectares of which 1120 hectares is planted in exotic forestry. The balance is made up of regenerating native scrub and trees.

The exotic forest is predominantly pinus radiata with small blocks of Macrocarpa and Eucalypt.

Access

Access is from State Highway 2, north into Totara Park Road and left immediately over the Totara Park Bridge.

There is heavy vehicle access through the block to McGhie's Bridge and 4WD access through numerous other tracks.

Access by quad is available via Akatarawa Road and Karapoti Road.

Stocking

Block	Planted	Area	Pruned	Thinned	Stocking
Air Strip Paddock	1983	83.5	1994	1989-91	500
Air Strip Paddock	1980	5@	1994	1991	
Boiler Gully	1980	133.8	not	1991	350
Clarkes Creek	1977	74.3	1983	1987	450
Green Knob	1977	40.6	not	not	340
Kilometre	1979	90.2	1984	1984-90	360
Lindsay's	1982	73.5	1994	1993	500
Lindsay's	1983	76.5	1994	1989-91	500
Long Spur	1978	74.1	not	1989	350
Maori Redoubt	1981	86.4	not	1991	500
Parry's Bush	1979	40.2	not	1989	350
Ragwort hill	1980	47.7	not	1991	360
Raupo saddle	1980	1.78@	1994	not	1000
Raupo Saddle	1980	4.15*	1994	1991	1000
Reservoir Ridge	1976	109.0	not	1989	360
Scrap Iron	1982	70.1	1994-95	1993	360
Upper Long Spur	1978	27.8	not	1989	350
Western Ridge	1981-82	12.6*	not	1989	
Western Ridge	1983	40.7	1994-96	1991	350

Woolshed	1982	19@	1989-91	1989	500
Woolshed	1981	13.8@	1988-91	1991	500
Yard	1983	5.93*	not	not	

@ Macrocarpa * Eucalypts

Danger Areas

This block forms part of an afforested area that extends from Upper Hutt through to the hills above the Kapiti Coast and from Moonshine Road to Akatarawa Road. As a consequence the risk of a significant fire spreading is considerable.

This whole area is a “promoted” recreational area and especially in period of good weather it should be assumed that there would be people moving through the area.

Parts of the block are subject to high wind run and accordingly can dry out far more than more sheltered areas.

Many compartments of this block require considerable travelling time from the forest entrance.

Water

This block is surrounded by three rivers, Akatarawa (River 5), Akatarawa River West (River 6) and Hutt River (River 4). In addition there are two dams at Kilometre Paddock (Pond 1) and West Ridge (Pond 2) as shown on the map. A holding tank of 60,000 litres capacity is situated at the Barn (Tank 3). Two further ponds (B1, B2) are accessible from a neighbouring property adjacent to Parry’s Bush.

Suitable points on the rivers for replenishing monsoon buckets are indicated on the map.

Method of Attack

This forest is within the WRC Rural Fire District.

Because of the time involved in ground travel the initial attack on any fire should be by helicopter. The helicopter can be worked from a water source on the edge of the forest until a ground crew can reach a more convenient location within the forest.

Resources will have to be allocated to closing public accesses to the affected and ensuring that no public are in the burning area.

Hukinga Forest

Location

The Hukinga forest lies to the north of the Valley View forest generally on the alignment of the Akatarawa River West. The exotic forest block is surrounded on all sides by regenerating native bush.

Access

Access is as for Valley View as Hukinga lies beyond Valley View. As a consequence there is even a greater time involved in getting ground based crews into the forest.

Access by Quad is available via Karapoti Road and 4WD from the North from Whakatikei. Both these routes require significant travelling time.

Stocking

The exotic forest makes up 138 hectares out of a total block of 4440hectares. The balance is native forest.

Block	**Year**	**Area**	**Pruned**	**Thinned**	**Stocking**
Top Flat	1972	7.7*	1979	1979	300
Chinaman	1976	4.9			225
S Mill Flats	1977	2.1	not	1990	225
Signis/Back Rd.	1978	28.9	1990	1990	225
Tassies 83	1983	3.5	1991-95	1990	350
Tassies 85	1985	9.0	1991-95	1995	500
Tassies 84	1984	7.4	1991-95	1995	300
Tassies Top	1985	10.5			1000
Cocktail	1973	12.9*	Yes	yes	440
Shilling Ck	1974	7.2	Yes	Yes	210
	1996	5.8	New Crop		1500
	1997	33.8	New Crop		1500
Misc	1999	11.9#	New Crop		1400*

* Due for harvest 1998
# Douglas Fir

Danger Areas

As with Valley View the likelihood of public being in the area at the time of any fire is the most significant danger.

At times of extreme weather the proximity of extensive areas of native forest could escalate the burn.

Water

The main source of water is the Akatarawa River West (River 1 & 2) which flows through the full length of the forest. There are suitable helicopter landing sites and water replenishment points at the Ford at the intersection of the Pram Track and Hukinga Road and at Mill Flat. These points are shown on the map.

Method of Attack

This forest is within the WRC Rural Fire District

As with Valley View the relative isolation of this forest requires a first attack by helicopter.

Puketiro Forest

Location

Puketiro forest extends from the western edge of Valley View forest generally west through Bulls Run Road to Battle Hill Forest Park on the Paekakariki Hill Road.

The forest is part of a block of 2252 hectares of which 1272 hectares are planted in exotic forest.

Access

The main access is via State Highway 58, Moonshine Road, Bulls Run Road to Cook Road. Alternative accesses are via S.H.2 to Moonshine Road, or from Battle Hill on Paekakariki Hill Road. Access can also be gained from Valley View from Parry's Bush Road.

Stocking

Block	Year	Area	Pruned	Thinned	Stocking
M.O.T.	1973-74	80.6	1983-94	1994	275
Harris South	1975	98.9	1984	1985	200
Harris North	1975	20.0	1983	1994	200
Blow Fly	1976	65.5	1984	1985	320
Kaika Mako	1976	30.9	1983	1984	320
Dick's Yard	1977	68.5	1983	1991	400
Centre South	1978	77.1	1984	1988	350
Draper's	1979-81	115.8	Not	1990	350
Centre North	1982	58.7	1991	1990	500
Junction Hill	1984	40.7	Not	1990	350
Yard	1985	53.9	1991-96	1991	500
Cook A	1987	68.9	1994-96	1995	500
Cook	?	2.9*	1999	Not	700
Doper's	1984	25.1	Not	1990	350
Curtis	1984	26.6@	1992	1994	700
Dude Ranch	1990	34.9	Not	Not	1100
Battle Hill	1991	157.3	1999	1996	1100
Cook B	1988	180.7	1994	1996	575
Yard	1985	14.7@	1995	1995	700
Whakatikei	1992	53.1	1999	1999	900

@ Macrocarpa * Eucalypts

Danger Areas

Public access especially through the Battle Hill forest park and other access through Bulls Run Road.

There are a number of private residences on the fringes of the forest.
Power lines traverse the Cook Block (240volts) and 3 sets of High Tension lines run generally south to north through the block (33K volts)

High wind run on hilltops creates very dry conditions.

Water

Water supply is not a problem in this forest with the Whakatikei river (River 8) to the east, the Wainui Stream (River 7) to the north and Flighty's creek (River 9) to the south.

There are two dams available, one on the boundary of Curtis and Battle Hill (Pond 4) and the other on Cook Block (Pond 3). Both are suitable for helicopter operation. Additional helicopter sites are on the flat at the bottom of Kaika Moko Hill and Tosack Farm.

Method of Attack

This forest is within the WRC Rural Fire District.

The terrain of the area dictates an initial attack by helicopter

Spicer Forest

Location

This block is a joint venture between PCC WCC and WRC. WRC is responsible for the management of the block.

The forest is situated generally between the end of Ohariu Valley Road and the Spicer landfill on Broken Hill Road.

The block size is 144 hectares of which 86 hectares is in exotic trees. The balance is predominantly pasture with some scrub and native trees.

Access

Access is from Johnsonville via Ohariu Valley Road. An alternative access is available for 4WD VEHICLES ONLY from the entrance to the Spicer landfill on Broken Hill Road Porirua.

NOTE: Porirua City has programmed a new road, from Broken Hill Road to the Spicer saddle, which when constructed will become the favoured access.

Stocking

Block	Year	Area	Pruned	Thinned	Stocking
Spicer	1986	78.4	1995	1996	450

Danger Areas

Due to the proximity of both the tip and the residential areas of Tawa and Redwood there is a high probability of public being in the block at any time.

As the tip is upwind of the block in the prevailing northerlies any fire within the precinct of the tip has the potential to spread into the forest and from there to the adjoining forest and the residential area.

Water

The only water source in the block is a minor stream, however hydrant water is available at the water reservoir at the northern end of the block and at the tip storage sheds. There is ample room for helicopters at both these sites.

Method of Attack

This block is within the Porirua Rural Fire District and first call should be to the N.Z. Fire Service at Porirua.

Akatarawa Saddle Block

Location

This block is located south of the summit of the Akatarawa Road.

The total block size is 184 hectares of which 43 hectares is planted in exotic forest.

Access

Access off the Akatarawa Road summit via the Matthews property.

Stocking

Block	Year	Area	Pruned	Thinned	Stocking
Saddle	1990	43	1997/98		1200

Danger Areas

No significant dangers other than the time delay in getting personnel on site.

Water

The preferable source of water is (River 19) to the south west of the block in the upper reaches of the Akatarawa River. This point has an adequate landing area for helicopters. Less suitable sources in the area are the two tributaries of Bull Stream (River 18).

Method of Attack

Due to the isolation of the block and the travelling time for ground based crews fires in this block should be first attacked by helicopter.

Whakatikei Forest

Location

This forest is located east of Paekakariki on Perhams Road via Maungakotukutuku Road.

The total block is 5604 hectares of which 163 hectares is in exotic forest. The balance is regenerating native forest.

Access

The most direct access is from State Highway 1 (MacKays Crossing straights) via Waterfall Road, Valley Road and Maungakotukutuku Road to Perham Road.

Alternative access is available from Valley View via the Pram Track but travel time on this route is excessive.

Stocking

Block	Year	Area	Pruned	Thinned	Stocking
Hydro Valley	1987	83.6	1994-96	1996	500
Hydro Valley	1999	80	New Crop		1500

Danger Areas

No specific dangers but Perhams Road is another popular entrance into the Council's forestlands and there is a likelihood of public in the area.

Three major high-tension (33KV) lines traverse the area

Water

Both the Maungakotukutuku Stream (River 10) and the Whakatikei River (River11) have their headwaters in this area and provide a suitable water source.

Method of Attack

This forest is within the WRC Rural Fire District.

The Distances involved to this block dictate an initial attack by helicopter.

Maungakotukutuku Forest

Location

This forest is located east of Raumati on Maungakotukutuku Road.

The total block is 347 hectares of which 181 hectares is in exotic forest. The balance is regenerating native forest.

Access

The most direct access is from State Highway 1 (MacKays Crossing straights) via Waterfall Road, Valley Road to Maungakotukutuku Road.

Stocking

Block	Year	Area	Pruned	Thinned	Stocking
M'tuku	1986	109.1	1992-96	1992-96	500
M'tuku	1985	72	1991-96	1991-94	500

Danger Areas

No specific danger areas but as with other blocks ongoing trespassing and a likelihood of public being present in the block.

Transmission Line cross the valley floor.

Water

The Maungakotukutuku Stream (River 10) traverses the block and provides adequate water for helicopter operations. The scenic reserve just outside the southern boundary is a suitable helicopter-landing site.

Method of Attack

This forest is within the WRC Rural Fire District.

Additional Fire-fighting Personnel

In addition to the firefighting personnel listed within this plan Consolidated Forest Harvesting (NZ) Ltd will be engaged in logging in the Whakatikei Forest until December 1999 and in the Pakuratahi East Forest for the duration of this plan.

The principals and contracted staff of CFH will be available to assist with any fires within the WRC forest plantation.

The contact numbers are as follows:

Stu Walker		025 475 373
	Office	06 377 2576
	Radio Telephone	020 724 2205
Graham Tuckey		025 476 606
Rob Phillips		025 244 7669
Chris Walton		025 451 603
Dave Bashford		025 439 616

Wellington Region Rural Fire Authorities 24 Hour Contacts

Wellington Regional Council

Duty Officer 24 hour contact 026 241 8471 Pager

Department of Conservation

Duty Officer 24 hour contact 472 5821 Business Hours (8.00 am – 4.30 pm)
471 1592 After Hours (4.30 pm – 8.00 am)

Hutt City Council

Duty Officer 24 hour contact 026 966 6300 Pager
(User Pager to notify) 025 243 0709 Cellphone

Kapiti Coast District Council

Duty Officer 24 hour contact 026 108 549 Pager

Porirua City Council

Duty Officer 24 hour contact 025 547 031 Cellphone

Wellington City Council

Duty Officer 24 hour contact 026 106 860 Message Pager

Upper Hutt City Council

Duty Officer 24 hour contact 528 8769 Telephone

Activation Procedure For Bushfire Forces

1. 111 Call for vegetation fire.

2. **Communications Centre** dispatches the nearest NZ Fire Service unit to the fire.

3. Nearest NZFS unit responds to the fire within Code of Practice.

4. **NZFS OIC** assesses the fire and the need for a **Bushfire Force** response.

- will the job take longer than one hour?
- are more resources required?

If Bushfire Force Required:

5. **NZFS OIC* notifies the Communications Centre to respond a Bushfire Force.** Hutt Valley RFF for the Upper Hutt Valley, Wainuiomata for the Lower Valley, Eastbourne for the Eastbourne area, Wellington City RFF for rural Wellington and Te Horo RFF for the Kapiti Coast north of Porirua).)

6. **Communications Centre activates the requested Bushfire Force through flex pagers.**

7. **Bushfire Force Controller notifies the Communications Centre of response level when leaving station ("K1").**

8. **Communications Centre notifies the relevant Rural Fire Authority Duty Officer of the fire.**

Immediate Tasks of WRC Duty Officer

1. **Attends**, or makes arrangement for another WRC Rural Fire Officer to attend the fire.

2. **Nominates** a fire boss from either the attending Fire Service Unit or responding Bush Fire Force unit.

3. **Ensures** an immediate fire fighting response is under way.

4. **Determines** correct "ownership" of the fire.

5. **Assess** the fire fighting needs by sizing up the fire scene and ensuring that resources are adequate.

6. **Notify** the WRC PRFO.

7. **Warn** any persons likely to the affected by the fire.

Emergency Action WRC Assets Threatened

If fire reported in:

- WRC Plantation
- WRC Catchment
- WRC Regional Park

The NZ Fire Service may not be able to reach the fire. Communications Centre will contact WRC duty officer, who will respond as follows:

First Response

- Refer to appropriate Fire Protection Plans
- Call the most appropriate helicopter
- Arrange fire fighting personnel from:

  - HVBFF
  - Regional Parks crew
  - Plantation contractors
  - Logging contractors

Then:

- Go through this Fire Plan response checklist
- Contact appropriate manager

Response Checklist

The duty Rural Fire Officer shall:

- answer all fire calls from Communications Centre, and register each call in the Fire Book
- respond within 30 minutes of the activation call
- confirm the location of the fire, and the appropriate Rural Fire Authority
- proceed with all possible speed to the location of the fire, or organise another appropriate response
- take control of the fire either personally or by appointing a fire boss (incident commander)
- start a fire log and record all actions as they happen

Assess the fire scene, determine if resources are adequate, and request additional resources as may be necessary. (This will be done in consultation with the PRFO when resources outside the Rural Fire District are required).

Firefighting

1. Command

a) The most senior Fire Service Officer will assume command of the incident on arrival, and has the powers of the PRFO until the arrival of the PRFO or authorised Deputy.

b) The PRFO or authorised Deputy will formally take charge on arrival and confirm/appoint a Fire Boss. This action reported and logged.

c) A communications structure will be set up. In most cases this will utilise the NZFS Command Vehicle.

d) A command structure based on the CIMs manual will be set up within one hour.

2. Fire Fighting

The following tasks are to be actioned or delegated by the Incident Commander or Fire Boss of the fire.

1. Ensure that there is an **immediate firefighting response with appropriate personnel and appropriate communications**.

2. **Brief and dispatch fire fighting and support staff.** Ensure records are kept of all incoming and outgoing personnel and equipment.

3. **Organise aerial support if required.** Ensure logistical support for helicopter or fixed wing aircraft is organised. Set-up control system.

4. **Organise regular reviews of fire fighting progress.**

5. **Mopup** - initially each fire line established is to have a manning level sufficient to prevent fire escapes. Move from the fire lines towards the centre of the burnt areas, locate hot spots and thoroughly suppress. When there are high drought codes and deep seated fires, further checking by infra-red cameras is required. An infra-red camera is available from NZ Fire Service, Waterloo Road. Re-ignition is likely until adequate rainfall especially after midday.

6. **Patrols** - are to be maintained on a regular basis until the fire is declared out by the Fire Boss.

7. When it is certain that the fire is **completely extinguished** a **Public Statement** to that effect must be issued. This must be logged and reported to Communications Centre.

8. Ensure details are entered in the **Fire Log** in chronological order. Complete incident reporting forms. Obtain logs from NZFS Communications centre, and use these as part of fire report.

9. If **Multiple Fires** are reported, invoke the Memorandum of Understanding and arrange for the Committee to meet urgently.

Appendix 4

10 year Operating Plan
2000 - 2010