



caring about you & your environment

Report 01.214

3 April 2001

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Report to Environment Committee
from Dr Jane Bradbury, Divisional Manager, Environment

Divisional Manager's Report

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee about the activities and progress of the Environment Division and about any matters which have arisen since the Committee's last meeting.

2. Manager's Reports

The Department Manager's reports, along with the report from the Divisional Accountant, are attached.

3. Policy and Finance Committee recommendation

At the last meeting of the Policy and Finance Committee on 22 March 2001, the Committee recommended that:

Officers prepare a detailed proposal concerning possible attendance at the Pacific Basin Mayoral Forum on Sustainable Development for consideration by the Environment Committee at its meeting on 3 April.

Unfortunately, we don't have any detailed information about the Pacific Basin Mayoral Forum and therefore, it is difficult to make a judgement. In any case, it would be inappropriate for officers to make recommendations about the attendance of Councillors at conferences.

Officers, however, can assist in showing how such conferences fit into the Council's policy direction.

As the Committee will be aware, sustainable development and Local Agenda 21 provided the context for the Council's long-term financial strategy, *Towards a Greater Wellington*.

Consequently, the Council has a number of initiatives on the go at the moment to address "where we are going" with LA21 and sustainable development. At the time of writing this report, I am in the midst of preparing a plan for this Council to promote and action the principles of Local Agenda 21 and "natural capitalism". At the same time the Council is preparing a communications strategy. There is obviously a strong link between the LA21 plan and that strategy.

Undoubtedly, if this Council is to really take the principles of LA21 to heart, Councillors and staff will need to become acquainted with the issues. We will also need to work with the community, territorial authorities and outside agencies, probably through a series of regional forums. Whilst there will be a need to learn about the experiences of others – both at home and overseas – we will need to develop a unique Wellington Region approach – as that is what LA21 is all about.

At the Policy and Finance Committee, there was a request from Councillors for a Councillors' workshop about *sustainable development* – what it means and how it can be achieved. This will be scheduled in the near future.

In addition, it may be appropriate that, as *sustainable development*, encompasses all aspects of the Council's work, the Policy and Finance Committee develops a strategy for the attendance of Councillors at conferences etc., with a suitable provision in the budget. This may be a matter for the incoming Council to progress further.

4. **Recommendation**

That the reports from the Divisional Manager, the Department Managers and the Divisional Accountant be received.

Report prepared by:

JANE BRADBURY
Divisional Manager, Environment

Attach.

Regional Policy Statement Implementation Report

Geoff Skene, Manager

March 2001

1. Community Environmental Care Programme (Nigel Clarke)

Good progress is being made with the care groups (listed in last month's Order Paper). We have met with all of the groups and begun to implement the spending programmes necessary to meet their objectives for this year. Councillors are invited to join the groups as they meet over the next few months to see what they are working on. Nigel will provide you with details. We expect that these meetings will also provide opportunities for the work of the groups to feature in the media and the care programme to become more widely known. The April edition of Elements will also feature the care programme.

2. Waiwhetu Stream (Tim Porteous)

The Working Group has made excellent progress this year and is well ahead of where we might have expected with this project. The group has considered the submissions on the draft Action Plan, made the relevant changes, and agreed on the wording of the final plan. The group is to be congratulated on the excellent progress it has made. Its work is reported separately in this Order Paper.

3. Wellington Region Ecological Restoration Network (Nigel Clarke)

Staff from the Division are assisting the Department of Conservation to set up a network for community groups, local authorities, and others engaged in restoration projects to share their skills and experiences. Three very successful meetings were held in February to get this underway. There will be three short training events in April and May on matters such as pest management, waterway restoration, and planning a restoration, plus a full "restoration day" on May 26 for all of the Region's groups to meet and share experiences.

4. Learnwell Environmental Trail (Jo Campbell, Richard Morgan, Jo Fagan, Olwen Narbey, Karen Brewster)

In the last month we have run some successful pilots of the teaching unit and water trail with schools. These have taken place in Wellington, Otaki, Porirua, Waiwhetu, and Upper Hutt, with Masterton, Wainuiomata, and another Wellington school to come next term. The schools have praised the Council's initiative and the quality of the resource material provided, and we feel comfortable that we are heading in the

right direction. Councillors who wish are welcome to come along on the trails with us to see how they work. We will advise you of the details.

In addition, we have completed tender documents for two major components of the environmental education programme, namely the mobile facility, or “enviro-bus”, which will be used both on the trails and for promoting more sustainable ways of living at public events (design aspects only, as the construction of the vehicle is not budgeted for until next year), and the web site. The latter will be a key part of the Learnwell programme, providing fun ways for young people to learn about the environment and updates on how the trails are being used. Both will be completed by the end of June.

Resource Policy Department Report Wayne Hastie Manager

March 2001

1. Regional Plans

Councillors will recall a request last year from the Mount Victoria Residents' Association to include various parts of the Clyde Quay Boat Harbour as items of historic merit in the Regional Coastal Plan. A historical assessment was commissioned and as a result the Council resolved to include the breakwater and eastern and western seawalls as items of historic merit. The changes were delayed until they can be incorporated with other changes to the Plan. However, with respect to the fore-and-aft moorings, further study was requested on the basis of a further letter from the Association that stated that additional information was available from a private source. Further information has now been received from the Association, and is currently being assessed. We will report back to the Committee in due course.

A timetable has been prepared for the withdrawal of the Transitional Regional Plan. We hope to be able to report to the April meeting of the Policy and Finance Committee to commence the statutory process.

2. Regional Plan Implementation

Silt Guidelines (Paul Denton)

The consultants engaged to report on erosion and sediment control practices in the Porirua area have completed their report. Staff have organised a joint workshop with Porirua City Council to enable the consultants to present their findings and advise where our current practices can be improved.

On Site Sewage Brochures (Kirsten Forsyth)

The next two brochures on on-site sewage have been completed and distributed to territorial authorities. A drainlayer in Masterton reported that he had had a big increase in requests for septic tank de-sludging (more than 6 or 7 per week) since the mail out of the first brochure.

Spray Painting Pamphlet

As part of the settlement of the Moir Street Residents' appeal on the Regional Air Quality Management Plan, the Council agreed to prepare and distribute pamphlets to spray painters explaining the requirements of the Plan and how they can ensure compliance. The pamphlet has now been printed and distributed to:

- all contacts on the spray painters database;
- all contacts on the consultation mailing list; and
- other regional councils.

General Environmental Promotion (Jo Fagan)

Jo Fagan has acted as the Regional Co-ordinator for Seaweek. As such she has:

- co-ordinated regional media releases to radio stations and newspapers;
- co-ordinated advertising in the Contact, Hutt News, Kapi-Mana News and Evening Post newspapers;
- sent out regional updates to the Seaweek email list; and
- updated the National Co-ordinator about Seaweek events in Wellington.

The Department will be participating in a beach clean up between Houghten Bay and Lyall Bay.

Freshwater Ecosystems (Murray McLea)

The Freshwater Ecosystems programme has been completed and circulated to managers and staff. Tenders have been received for projects reviewing freshwater fisheries in the Region and surveying whitebait spawning sites. A further call for tender for a discussion paper on ecosystem based approaches to freshwater management has been completed.

With the receipt of the first tenders it appears likely that the specific budget for this project may be exceeded by \$6000. However, this can be accommodated within the overall implementation budget.

3. Iwi matters (Keriana Wilcox)

Progress is being made in a number of areas. A training programme for Councillors is under development to continue on from the successful training sessions that were held last year. At this stage we are proposing to focus the training on the principles of the Treaty and how these can be implemented in the work of the Council. The first training session is scheduled for the 4th April. Further details will be provided in the Councillors' Bulletin.

Dates and topics have been set for four technical workshops for Council staff and iwi. Two workshops will look at water management and consumptive use, one will look at monitoring and cultural audits, and one at gravel.

Further discussions have been held with a number of iwi about projects and significant progress is being made. Of particular note is that a contract has been signed with the Wellington Tenth Trust for the first stage of a project to establish an inventory of Māori heritage values in the Port Nicholson Block. A small amount of additional expenditure (\$2000) has been approved for the Ngāti Hinewaka me ona Karangaranga fencing project.

The Policy Statements folder for Ati Awa ki Whakarongotai has been completed. It contains policies on the disposal and treatment of effluent, stormwater and runoff, heritage protection and management, and representation.

4. **Hazards (Roz Groves)**

Opus is underway with this year's contract to identify the hazards associated with the transport and storage of non-petroleum hazardous substances. GeoEnvironmental Consultants have been selected to prepare a report on the nature of the tsunami hazard and potential impacts in the Region, with an emphasis on the Wairarapa east coast settlements and the Kapiti Coast. We aim to report the findings to the Environment Committee in June.

A draft Communication and Marketing Strategy has been prepared jointly with the Emergency Management Department. The draft has been circulated internally for comment. The Strategy provides a framework for a more proactive approach to marketing hazard information and mitigation measures.

Resource Investigations Department Report

John Sherriff, Manager

March 2001

1. Resource Information

1.1 Flood Warning

Since the last meeting no severe weather bulletins have been received.

The only rainfall and river level alarms received and responded to was a high rainfall alarm at Warwicks on 14 March 2001.

1.2 Hutt River Low Flow Investigation

Staff have been very busy doing low flow gaugings in the Hutt River. The results of this work will enable us to more accurately assess the adequacy of the current minimum flow levels for sustaining the aquatic ecosystem of the Hutt River. Over the next 3-4 years it is our intention to progressively review all of the minimum low flow levels set in the Regional Freshwater Plan.

The work in the Hutt River has been programmed to coincide with NZ Fish and Game surveys of trout numbers in the river. NZ Fish and Game have concerns about falling trout populations in the Hutt River. These concerns formed the basis of their submissions on Utility Services' Kaitoke water take resource consent renewal. By undertaking this work we have helped to resolve some of the consent issues.

1.3 River Temperature Monitoring

Continuous water temperature monitoring equipment has been installed in the Hutt River, at Taita Gorge, and the lower Porirua Stream. A continuous record of temperature will greatly enhance our ability to explain changes in the quality of water in these waterbodies. Other continuous water quality monitoring equipment is currently being deployed around the Region.

2. Resource Analysis

2.1 Groundwater Levels

Waiwhetu Artesian Aquifer

Artesian pressure measured at the McEwan Park monitoring bore has been at or below average levels since November 2000. The current average levels are a pleasant surprise given the recent low flow conditions in the Hutt River and extensive usage of groundwater by the Utility Services Division. Close attention will be paid to the

aquifer over the next two to three months to assess a potential delayed reaction to the current drought situation.

Kapiti Coast

Groundwater levels in rainfall recharged aquifers and aquifers in direct connection with rivers and streams have been well below average since January. These low levels are in response to the current drought conditions. Deeper aquifers have been affected to a lesser degree and show slightly below average water levels. However, a delayed reaction to the drought may yet occur. This situation will be closely monitored in the coming weeks.

2.2 Rainfall and River Flows

Rainfall across the Region has continued to be well below average. The Wellington City area has only received 77 mm of rain over the last three months making it the driest summer since 1908. A total of this low is estimated to be 1 in 100-year magnitude event (1 percent probability in any year).

Otaki received 13 mm of rain during January and only 5 mm during February. The summer total of 111 mm is a 1 in 16-year magnitude event. Analysis of other summer rainfall totals show a 1 in 6-year event at Waikanae, a 1 in 10-year event in Lower Hutt, and a 1 in 32-year event in the Mangaroa Valley.

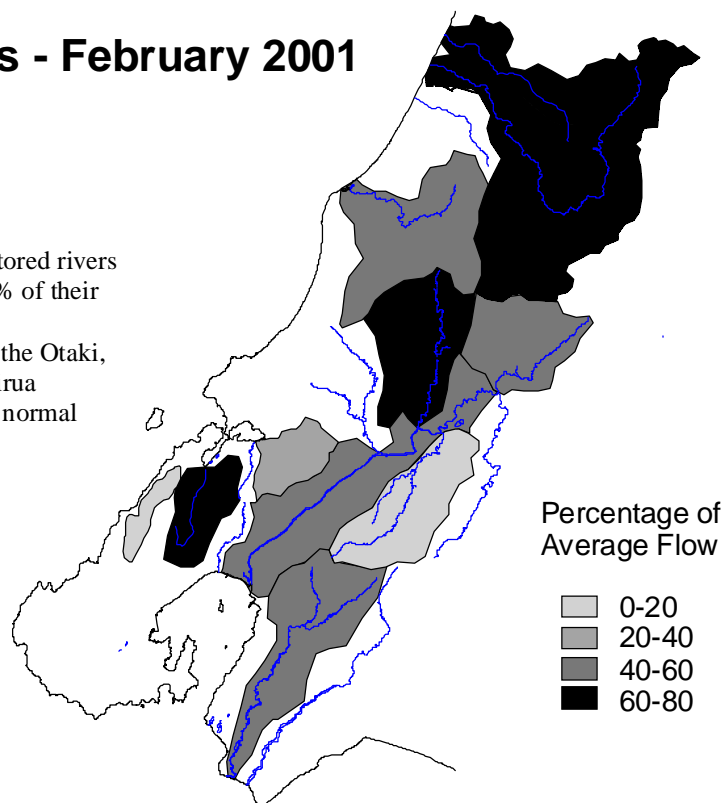
All flows in the rivers monitored in the Region have been below average for the summer. The Hutt, Wainuiomata and Waikanae Rivers have been running at less than half their normal flows for the first two months of summer. The Mangaroa has been very low at less than 30 percent of average. The following Figure shows the river flow as compared to average conditions for February.

On 21 March water shortage directions were issued for the Waitohu Stream and Waikanae River after their flows fell below the minimum flow levels set in the Regional Freshwater Plan. These water shortage directions restricted the use of water taken from these waterbodies to public water supply, essential household supply and livestock watering. Using water for irrigation including watering gardens was prohibited.

River Flows - February 2001

During February all the monitored rivers in the Region were below 80% of their average.

And out of all the rivers only the Otaki, Akatarawa, Waitohu and Porirua recorded more than half their normal monthly flows



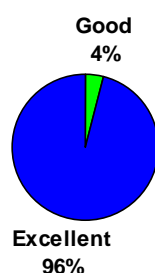
2.3 Shellfish Monitoring

Our coastal monitoring activities have been enhanced this year by including a shellfish flesh monitoring programme. We believe that by monitoring the concentration of key contaminants (faecal coliforms, heavy metals and organic chemicals), in shellfish flesh we will get a better understanding of the effects of water quality on the shellfish than we currently do from monitoring faecal coliforms in water on 12 occasions during the year. We have a licence to take shellfish samples from 13 sites around the western Wellington Region. Sampling was undertaken during March. The outcome of this investigation will be reported when the laboratory results become available.

2.4 Air Quality Monitoring

The Council's first permanent air quality monitoring station, located at the Birch Street Reserve in Lower Hutt, is now fully operational. The following pie graphs provide a summary of monitoring results for the past six weeks.

8-Hour Average CO at Upper Hutt



24-Hour Average NO₂ at Upper Hutt



The assessment categories are:

Category	Maximum Measured Value	Comment
Action	Exceeds Guideline	Completely unacceptable by national and international standards.
Alert	Between 66% and 100% of the guideline	A warning level which can lead to guidelines being exceeded if trends are not curbed.
Acceptable	Between 33% and 66% of the guideline	A broad category, where maximum values might be of concern in some sensitive locations, but are generally at a level that does not warrant dramatic action.
Good	Between 10% and 33% of the guideline	Peak measurements in this range are unlikely to affect air quality.
Excellent	Less than 10% of the guideline	Of little concern.

3. Resource Quality

3.1 Pollution and Non-compliance Complaints

A summary of pollution complaints, our performance in responding to them and enforcement action taken is reported separately.

3.2 Enforcement

New Zealand Galvanising Ltd

We are seeking to prosecute New Zealand Galvanising Ltd for an unauthorised discharge of chromium and zinc into the stormwater and subsequently into Waiwhetu Stream which occurred on 15 August 2000. The matter has been remanded until 23 April for a fixture, before an Environment Judge.

New Zealand Oil Services Ltd

In October 1999 NZ Oil Services Ltd had a diesel spill which entered Wellington Harbour near Seaview. They pleaded guilty to the charge and we are still waiting for the Environment Court to arrange a sentencing hearing.

Anglian Water International

Two charges were laid against Anglian Water International Ltd for the unauthorised discharge of sewage from their sludge de-watering plant on 27 November last year. We are waiting for a hearing date to be set by the Environment Court.

Consents Management Department Report Rob Forlong, Manager

March 2001

1. Consent Statistics

The median time for processing non notified consents is 9 working days. The Wellington Office has processed 206 two consents so far this financial year.

The year has been very busy. By 16 March 2001 we had received almost the same number of applications as we received for the entire 1999/2000 financial year.

2. Appeals

The Promall appeal hearings have concluded. We are now awaiting the Court's decision.

We continue to keep a watching brief on the appeals against the consents issued for the redevelopment of the Taranaki St Wharf and Frank Kitts Park lagoon area. While none of our consents have been appealed we have been named as a respondent.

We are still awaiting a decision from the Court on the Eastern Bays Little Blue Penguin Trust appeals.

The Telstra Saturn consents relating to the undersea cable north of Wellington were appealed and we await a Court date.

We are awaiting a Court date on the boatshed appeals.

3. Compliance

3.1 Mooring Owners

Thanks to some stirring work from Resource Advisor, Craig Calland, we are now left with only about 6 mooring owners not complying with their consents. Five of those six are "gone no address" so we may have to cancel their consents.

3.2 Abatement Notices

As I explained at the last Committee meeting we have issued an abatement notice to Castrol New Zealand Limited requiring them to undertake stack emission testing (It was supposed to have been completed by December 2000). Following an assurance

from the General Manager of Castrol that the stack testing will be undertaken by 8 March 2001, the Abatement Notice was withdrawn.

3.3 **Infringement Notices**

No infringement notices were issued since the last Committee meeting.

3.4 **Prosecution and Interim Enforcement Orders**

Our appeal on the Declarations associated with the Burrell Demolition prosecutions is programmed to be heard in April.

We have also requested that the Court grant an Enforcement Order against MKL Asphalts Ltd. MKL is contesting the matter vigorously and we have yet to receive a Hearing date.

4. **Other**

4.1 **Proposed Charging Policy**

The Proposed Resource Management Charging Policy is now out for submission.

4.2 **Acting Manager**

Paula Bullock is the Acting Manager, Consents Management for the period 26 March 2001 to 10 May 2001. I will be overseas on leave during that period.

Applicant	Proposal	Date Consent Lodged	Date Submissions Closed	Number of Submissions Received	Pre-hearing Held	Hearing Held	Hearing Committee Members	Date Decision Released	Granted or Declined
Peter Hunt ²	Consents associated with the development and operation of a cleanfill	13/02/98	15/09/98	3	Application has been stopped because applicant is yet to pay a Notified application fee	13/12/99-17/12/99	Upper Hutt City Councillors	24/12/99	Granted with conditions Now under appeal
ProMall ³	Consents associated with the development of a new shopping mall. Regional Council consents consist of several bridges, realignment of part of a stream and construction of artificial lakes	05/02/99	25/06/99	250+		04/08/99 05/08/99 06/08/99	Councillor Buchanan, Tony Town (Commissioner)	06/09/99	Granted with conditions now under appeal
Lambton Harbour Management ¹	Consents associated with the development of the Taranaki Street Wharf and Lagoon area	09/04/99	21/05/99	77		Application placed on hold at applicant's request	Commissioners Sue Driver and Ian Stewart	17/08/00	Granted with conditions now under appeal.
GNB Technologies	Discharge to air of contaminants arising from a battery recycling facility	01/03/00	19/04/00	20	10/05/00	Applicant chose not to have pre hearing			
Eastern Bays Little Blue Penguin ⁴	Consents associated with the development of a bird rehabilitation	12/04/00	30/05/00	727					

Applicant	Proposal	Date Consent Lodged	Date Submissions Closed	Number of Submissions Received	Pre-hearing Held	Hearing Held	Hearing Committee Members	Date Decision Released	Granted or Declined
Mana Volunteer Coast Guard	facility Consents associated with the construction of a new Coast guard and training facility	01/05/00	07/06/00	12	01/11/00	Proposed for 04/04/01			
M Goddard	Overnight stays in boatshed	11/05/00	19/07/00	133	N/A	21/08/00 – 23/08/00	Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt	20/09/00	Declined now under appeal.
B and S Pidford	Overnight stays in boatshed	31/05/00	19/07/00	133	N/A	21/08/00 – 23/08/00	Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt	20/09/00	Declined now under appeal.
M Ambrose	Overnight stays in boatshed	02/06/00	19/07/00	134	N/A	21/08/00 – 23/08/00	Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt	20/09/00	Declined now under appeal.
M Ambrose	Consents associated with the construction of a new boatshed	02/06/00	19/07/00	139	N/A	21/08/00 – 23/08/00	Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt	20/09/00	Declined now under appeal.
L Ramsey	Overnight stays in boatshed	02/06/00	19/07/00	133	N/A	21/08/00 – 23/08/00	Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt	20/09/00	Declined now under appeal.
A and N Johns	Overnight stays in boatshed	06/06/00	19/07/00	134	N/A	21/08/00 – 23/08/00	Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt	20/09/00	Declined now under appeal.
O and K Martin	Residential use of boatshed	06/06/00	19/07/00	162	N/A	21/08/00 – 23/08/00	Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt	20/09/00	Declined now under appeal.
R and P Lewis	Residential use of	06/06/00	19/07/00	139	N/A	21/08/00 –	Councillors	20/09/00	Declined

Applicant	Proposal	Date Consent Lodged	Date Submissions Closed	Number of Submissions Received	Pre-hearing Held	Hearing Held	Hearing Committee Members	Date Decision Released	Granted or Declined
	boatshed					23/08/00	Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt		now under appeal.
C Feast	Overnight stays in boatshed	06/06/00	19/07/00	134	N/A	21/08/00 – 23/08/00	Councillors Buchanan, Gibson and McDavitt	20/09/00	Declined now under appeal.
WRC – Water Group	Consents associated with the taking of water from the Orongorongo River for public supply	06/06/00	21/07/00	4	Application placed on hold at applicant's request to negotiate with submitters				
WRC – Water Group	Consents associated with the taking of water from the Waiuimata River for public supply	06/06/00	21/07/00	7	Application placed on hold at applicant's request to negotiate with submitters				
WRC – Water Group	Consents associated with the taking of water from the Hutt River for public supply	06/06/00	21/07/00	5	Application placed on hold at applicant's request to negotiate with submitters				
Telstra Satum	Consents associated with the installation and maintenance of a submarine fibre optic telecommunications cable, Titahi Bay.	05/07/00	16/08/00	215	No	16, 17, 18, 14, 15 October	Councillor Ian Buchanan, Commissioners	15/11/00	Granted with conditions. Now under appeal.
New Zealand Galvanising	Discharge to air for contaminants from a hot dip	24/07/00	29/08/00	4	08/09/00	Application placed on hold at			

Applicant	Proposal	Date Consent Lodged	Date Submissions Closed	Number of Submissions Received	Pre-hearing Held	Hearing Held	Hearing Committee Members	Date Decision Released	Granted or Declined
	galvanising process and associated activities.					applicant's request			
Transit	Consents associated with the construction of rock protection sea walls along SH58	04/08/00	20/09/00	9	07/11/00	No formal hearing required	Environment Committee 03/04/01		
Transit ⁵	Consents associated with the construction of an interchange at the intersection of State Highway 2 and 58.	07/11/00	19/01/01	99					
Transit ⁵	Consents associated with the realignment of State Highway 58	07/11/00	19/01/01	99					
Kapiti Coast District Council ⁶	Consents associated with taking water from the Otaki River for supplementary public water supply.	04/12/00	12/03/01	115					
Wellington City Council	Change of consent monitoring conditions for Moa Point Wastewater Treatment Plant	02/11/00	08/12/00	2		No formal hearing required	Environment Committee 22/02/01	09/03/01	Granted with conditions
Wellington City Council	Change of consent monitoring conditions for Western Wastewater	02/11/00	08/12/00	5	16/01/01	Consent withdrawn by applicant			

Applicant	Proposal	Date Consent Lodged	Date Submissions Closed	Number of Submissions Received	Pre-hearing Held	Hearing Held	Hearing Committee Members	Date Decision Released	Granted or Declined
Wellington City Council	Treatment Plant Change of consent monitoring conditions for the Moa Point Pump Station	02/11/00	08/12/00	2		On hold while further information is requested			
Wellington City Council	Change of condition monitoring conditions for the Moa Point long outfall	02/11/00	08/12/00	2	07/02/01	No formal hearing required	Environment Committee 03/04/01		
Wellington City Council	Consents associated with the extension of a stormwater culvert and the discharge to Houghton Bay	24/10/00	08/12/00	16	No	12 Feb 2001	Councillors Buchanan and McDavitt, Commissioner Turoa Royal	05/03/01	Granted with conditions
Wellington City Council	Renewal of discharge of milliscreened effluent to the coast during wet weather events, Western Wastewater Treatment Plant	20/12/00	05/03/01	9					
Hutt City Council	Consents associated with the discharge of wastewater during major wet weather events	16/11/00	09/03/01	4	27/03/01				

- 1 These applications were heard jointly with Wellington City Council
- 2 These applications will be heard jointly with Porirua City Council
- 3 These applications were heard jointly with Upper Hutt City Council

- 4 These applications will be heard jointly with Hutt City Council
- 5 These applications will be heard jointly with Hutt City Council, Porirua City Council and Upper Hutt City Council
- 6 These applications will be jointly heard with Kapiti Coast District Council

Harbours Department Report

Mike Pryce, Manager

March 2001

1. Harbour Navigation Aids

Barrett Reef Buoy exchange is planned for 19/20 March 2001, when the “new” buoy will be deployed. The replacement buoy has been repainted, prepared, and the new ground mooring chains fitted. The buoy presently out on site will be removed from the water for maintenance. (There are two identical large steel buoys, one is always out at Barrett Reef, and one is always ashore).

All other navigation aids are operating satisfactorily.

2. Oil Pollution Response

Ten oil pollution reports were received and investigated. None required clean-up action.

3. Departmental Activities

The temporary Harbour Rangers have distributed over 1,600 safe boating packs to recreational harbour users. The safe boating packs contain a copy of the new Wellington Regional Navigation and Safety Bylaws, plus other boating safety brochures. It has been necessary to print another 3,000 copies of the Bylaws.

The existing Wellington and Porirua Harbour information brochures have been updated and 3,000 copies of each have been printed.

The lifejacket tester has been used on several occasions and over 80 lifejackets have been tested. All have passed.

On 15 February 2001, Harbour Ranger, Grant Nalder attended the registration of the Ngawi fishing contest, where over 120 boats took part. The safe boating pack was distributed to each skipper, and Grant also assisted with safety scrutinising.

On 13 February 2001, the Deputy Harbourmaster attended the Hazardous Substance Technical Liaison Committee meeting held in Paraparaumu at the Kapiti Coast District Council offices.

On 10 March 2001, Harbour Ranger Greg Meikle assisted with the event safety briefing prior to the Wellington Powerboat racing.

The Deputy Harbourmaster attended a First Impact Committee meeting at Wellington Airport on the 13 March.

The “jetski” has been used on many occasions and has been out and about on the water for almost all harbour Special Events this summer.

4. General Events/Information

4.1 Fast Ferries

The new fast ferry *The Lynx* commenced operating from a “downtown” berth at Waterloo Quay Wharf from 12 March 2001. (The “Sea Shuttle” and “Topcat” ferries previously used this berth). *The Lynx* is using the same slow approach method into Lambton Harbour previously used by *Incat 050* (Topcat) to minimise/reduce any surge effects.

4.2 BT Global Challenge

Twelve identical yachts sailing around the world “the wrong way” (against the prevailing winds) sailed from Wellington for Sydney on 18 February, with a very large number of attendant spectator craft. Two of the BT yachts collided about two hours after the start, and had to return to port for damage repairs.

4.3 Dragonboat Festival

The annual dragonboat racing was held in Wellington on 3 March 2001.

4.4 Powerboat Race

An offshore powerboat race was held in Wellington Harbour on 10 March 2001.

Emergency Management Department Report

Rian van Schalkwyk, Manager

April, 2001

1. Rural Fires

The Emergency Management Department's staff and facilities were involved in the management of two fires in February 2001.

1.1 Makara Road Fire 7 February 2001

EM staff were in attendance from 3:00pm to 11:00pm. The Mobile Emergency Operations Centre was used to relay logistics requests as there was no mobile phone coverage in the area. The Department's role was to manage planning, intelligence, and liaison (information management, media, etc.). Makara Community Hall was set up as an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and fielded necessary requests and co-ordinated as required. The EOC began to wind down at 5:00pm and WRC staff left the scene at 9:30pm.

The fire consumed around 10ha of mature pine forest and was started by a malfunction on a pump.

1.2 Takarau Gorge Road, 28 February and 1 March 2001

Emergency Management staff were in attendance from 7:00pm on 28 February to 8:30am on 1 March. The manager was involved again from 3:00pm to 10:00pm on 1 March. WRC staff formed the overnight incident management team (planning/intelligence, logistics, operations and liaison) with an incident Controller from KCDC.

The Mobile EOC was used at the Incident Control Point. It functioned very effectively and feedback was positive. It does, however, need to have a fire radio fitted.

Through the night the fire was monitored and crews tasked to fight the fire and keep the road open. New fire crews were requested for a morning shift and an assessment of the fire was made. Weather reports were kept up to date, and regular informative messages were passed to the NZ Fire Service. A media release was sent at 0500hrs using the Council's smartfax system. Media calls were responded to. Extensive media coverage was gained on radio and in the papers.

The fire burned around 70 hectares of mature pine forest. The cause of the blaze was not determined, but was considered suspicious.

2. UN Disaster Assessment Co-ordination Team (UNDAC)

The Ministry for Civil Defence and Emergency Management has selected me and John Titmus (Auckland), to represent New Zealand on the UNDAC Team. Training will be provided in Lausanne, Switzerland, from 6-18 May 2001.

UNDAC aims to facilitate the international response to natural disasters and man-made emergencies by the immediate collection, collation and dissemination of information obtained through assessment of damage and humanitarian needs, and by the initiation of mechanisms for the co-ordination of international relief operations.

It is required that the team members are able to:

- manage cross-sectoral emergency humanitarian operations;
- facilitate co-ordinated, comprehensive programmes of assistance to meet humanitarian needs in any emergency situation;
- collect, collate, analyse and disseminate information on the consequences of an emergency, resource needs and availability, response activities and unmet humanitarian needs;
- manage the operational support functions including the co-ordination of telecommunications, logistics and security under adverse operational and environmental conditions; and
- work within a multi-disciplinary multi-national team.

3. Projects

3.1 Logistics Plan.

The Wellington Region Planning Group, the Ministry for Civil Defence and Emergency Management and the Auckland Region Planning Group met in Auckland on 29 March 2001 to discuss the objectives and other issues relating to the planned exercise for Project Phoenix. This exercise will take place in June/July 2002.

The Wellington Planning Group also met with strategic planning staff of the WRC and TLAs regarding the provision of safe water. Several meetings and workshops are planned with the five Emergency Services Co-ordinating Committees of the Region, the two Lifelines Groups and the Society of Earthquake Engineers.

The following is a draft of the objectives for the Project Phoenix exercise:

OBJECTIVE

Timeline

To establish a framework for the identification and supply of critical external resources needed in a major civil defence emergency.

Phase 1

Wellington develops a scenario consistent with a disaster.

29 March 2001

Phase 2

Wellington involves the critical responding organisations in Region local authority areas to identify and establish external resources required for public safety.

31 October 2001

Phase 3

Auckland identifies efficient arrangements for the obtaining and delivery of these resources

30 November 2001

Phase 4

Wellington establishes a priority list of critical external resources required for urgent public safety.

30 November 2001

Phase 5

Auckland establishes an effective pathway and interfaces for the delivery of resources and identifying the support mechanisms.

28 February 2002

Phase 6

Wellington and Auckland exercise the logistical arrangements developed.

July 2002

Phase 7

Wellington and Auckland review and improve the logistical arrangements.

31 October 2002

Phase 8

Wellington and Auckland establish a brief and set the time frame for the next exercise.

30 November 2002

Information for the scene setter was supplied by:

- Wellington Regional Council
- Earthquake Commission
- Institute of Geological & Nuclear Sciences
- Opus Consultants
- Officers of the local authorities of the region

4. **Communications**

Weekly tests of the communications network are still being carried out. There have been no problems and the system seems to be in a good functional condition.

5. **Activities**

Since the previous report staff have been involved in various activities relating to public information and general emergency management planning.

- We attended the normal monthly meetings of the Porirua Emergency Services Co-ordinating Committee at the Porirua Police station (5 March 2001) and the Hutt

Valley Emergency Services Co-ordinating Committee at the Hutt City (6 March 2001). Main topics that were discussed included the new CDEMG-model, submissions on the Bill, logistics planning (Project Phoenix), search and rescue and post-disaster building procedures.

- On 19 February 2001 and 6,7,8, and 12 March 2001 we attended meetings with various organisations regarding the provision of water and issues relating to urban search and rescue. We examined products such as “Filterzone” as a means of purification of water in an emergency. Several further meetings in this regard are planned to take place over the next few months.
- We attended the Emergency Management Officer’s meetings at our offices on 12 February 2001 and in Lower Hutt on 7 March 2001. Discussions revolved around hazard analysis, logistics (Project Phoenix), the CDEMG and future planning.
- The Department’s staff attended the Makara Fires on 7 and 28 February 2001. See details in (1) above.
- We attended the Regional Rural Fire Committee meetings that were held in Upper Hutt (7 February 2001), Wellington (21 February 2001), KCDC (23 February 2001) and WEMO (16 March 2001). Following these meetings it was decided to establish a Wellington Rural Incident Management Team that will be raised and trained in order to provide planning and logistic services and other functions generally associated with Civil Defence Emergency Operations Centres. Any Fire Incident Controller would activate this team on request but it is generally envisaged that it would only be on an escalation of a single event or when a multiple event occurs. It is also envisaged that the team would be activated to other areas of the country when needed. Our staff serve on this team – the manager as the planning and intelligence manager and the emergency management officer as the public information manager.
- The Manager, Emergency Management has been nominated by the Ministry to serve on the National Plan Review Committee to consider proposed revisions to sections of the National Civil Defence Plan. John Fisher (Environment Canterbury) will be responsible for the response part of the Plan while Rian van Schalkwyk (Wellington Region) will be responsible for the logistics part of the Plan.
- Staff attended the Response 2K Course at Victoria University (8/9 February 2001) to learn more about the Response Database. Staff also attended the Controllers Course at Porirua Police College on 13 and 14 February 2001
- Over the weekend of 17 and 18 February 2001 the Department again displayed the mobile EOC at the Masterton AMP show. This was done in co-operation with the Masterton District Council to provide emergency management information to the public.
- On 20 February 2001 staff attended a workshop on the CDEMG Bill. The workshop was held at the WRC offices and was attended by TLAs, the emergency services and the health authority.
- On 26 February 2001 the Department had extensive discussions with BP New Zealand (Ian Girling) regarding its role as a petroleum provider. Its specific role

and responsibility regarding the new Bill was also discussed. More discussions are envisaged.

- The Manager, Emergency Management, was invited to take part in the discussions about the fragmented and inefficient emergency management in the Wairarapa. The meeting took place on 5 March 2001 in Carterton. Organisational changes were proposed and discussed to provide a more workable solution to the current difficulties, while still meeting local political requirements within the three districts. A report has been prepared that will be tabled at the meetings of the three councils.
- The Manager, Emergency Management, as a member, attended the “First Impact” Committee of the Wellington International Airport. Issues regarding training, exercises, recent aircraft emergencies, etc. were discussed.

6. General

- Since the last report, 28 earthquakes bigger than 3.0 on the Richter Scale occurred in the Country. The following Earthquake Reports for the Wellington Region (and reports of earthquakes felt in Wellington) were received from IGNS.

[2001 March 16](#) - *Within 5 km of Upper Hutt (3.2)*

[2001 February 6](#) - *10 km south of Featherston (3.4)*

- Since the 22 February 2001 report, no Special Weather Bulletins (SWBs) have been received.

Richard Waddy, Divisional Accountant

Financial Position: February 2001

1. Operating Results

We are pleased to report the operating results for the eight month period ended 28 February 2001.

<u>Environment Division</u>			
<u>Summary Income Statement</u>			
<u>For the Period Ended 28 February 2001</u>			
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
	<u>\$000s</u>	<u>\$000s</u>	<u>\$000s</u>
Rates	4,568	4,568	-
Other Revenue	1,194	1,294	100 U
Total Revenue	5,762	5,862	100 U
<u>Less:</u>			
Direct Expenditure	4,640	5,215	575 F
Indirect Expenditure	558	570	12 F
Total Operating Expenditure	5,198	5,785	587 F
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	564	77	487 F

2. Operating Surplus

For the period an operating surplus of \$564,000 was posted. This is significantly higher than our budgeted position which provides for a smaller surplus of \$77,000.

The result translates to a net favourable variance \$487,000 and comprises a revenue shortfall of \$100,000, offset by reduced expenditure \$587,000.

3. Revenue

Total Revenue at \$5,762,000 was some \$100,000 short of our budget target of \$5,862,000. The shortfall is with the annual civil defence grant (\$31,000) which has been slightly delayed and the internal revenue line, which is behind by \$71,000.

The internal revenue shortfall is largely because of the accounting treatment of annual resource management charges. The Water Group requested that these be processed in monthly instalments instead of a single charge as previously. We have accommodated their request. We expect that the shortfall will be fully extinguished by year end.

4. **Expenditure**

Total Expenditure was \$5,198,000, that is some \$587,000 (11.3%) below our budgets.

The main reasons for this variance are:

- Personnel costs are under budget by \$95,000. This is largely due to staff movements in the period. It is expected that a small portion of this under-spend will be a permanent saving. However, the saving will be offset in part by additional staff costs from an unbudgeted part-time position in Environment Co-ordination and a part-time secretarial position in Consents Management.
- Material Costs are some \$86,000 behind budget. The spend on environment education project works is less than our budgets anticipated at this stage. However, it is expected that the budget will be fully utilised by year end when the extensive range of educational resources is printed.
- External Contractors and Consultants are \$386,000 under budget. The level of expenditure on iwi projects continues to lag behind our budget. This situation with iwi projects seems to be inevitable despite concerted efforts on our part to secure contracts. In addition, the storm water research project and transportation of non-petroleum hazardous substance projects are slightly behind time wise.

5. **Capital**

Currently our capital expenditure is \$39,000 (including proceeds from disposals) under budget. Most of the shortfall is with the purchase of the new air monitoring station (\$145,000). The machine is now operational with some minor equipment items required to complete the station's complement.