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Report to the Landcare Committee from Rob Forlong, Divisional Manager, Landcare

Divisional Manager's Report

1. **Purpose**

To inform the Committee about the activities and progress of the Landcare Division since the Committee's last meeting.

2. Managers' Reports

The Departmental Managers' Reports are attached.

3. The Learning Begins

As I write this, I have been in the job for a week. The welcome from the Division has been wonderful and the Team have been very understanding when they answer my many questions. I think it's fair to say that my Landcare education has begun in earnest.

Over the next few weeks (and probably months) I am intending to spend as much time as I can talking to the Team and getting to know the Landcare estate. From what I have seen so far, the people in the Division are enthusiastic and talented, which bodes well for the future.

4. Hutt River Floodplain Management Advisory Committee

On 12 July 2001, I was fortunate enough to attend the meeting of the Hutt River Floodplain Management Advisory Committee (HRFMAC) which endorsed the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan (Item 4 on this Agenda). The magnitude of the decision taken by the HRFMAC was brought home to me afterwards when Brendan Paul commented that it represented 15 years of his work.

Now all we have to do is implement it, over the next 40 years!

5. Local Government New Zealand Field Trip

I joined the brief Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) field inspection of Kaitoke Regional Park. Bruce Andrell and Steve Edwards gave short presentations on the Regional Parks network and Kaitoke Regional Park in particular. From my observations, it appeared that the LGNZ delegates were very impressed with the Parks and Forests we have to offer our community.

6. **Recommendation**

That the report be received and the contents noted.

ROB FORLONG Divisional Manager, Landcare