



Report 04.224
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Committee Rural Services and Wairarapa
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Isolated River Works

1. Purpose

To seek Committee approval for additional funding in 2003/04 and 2004/05 for isolated river works following the February 2004 floods.

2. Background

Each year a funding provision is made for the Council to contribute to river protection works for landowners situated outside of river scheme areas. The annual expenditure for isolated works is normally of the order of \$33,000. The Council contributes 30% towards these works, ie. \$10,000, in accordance with the funding policy. Typically it is for river protection works in smaller watercourses.

3. River Works

River Management staff have received a number of additional requests for funding following the February flood events, see table below. Most of this work is associated with the Mangatarere River west of Carterton.

Site Name 2003/04	Work Summary	Cost (\$)
McFadzean	Channel alignment, beach recontouring	24,000
Stein	Channel alignment, beach recontouring	3,000
Brady	Buchanans, channel alignment	2,500
Watkinson	Channel alignment, beach recontouring	20,000
Gates	Channel alignment, beach recontouring	4,000
Ryan	Channel alignment, bridge abutment repair	11,100
Wharrie	Tree removal, lopping	2,500
	Total	\$67,100

2004/05	Carry over works from flood damage in 2003/04 year	
Day	Channel alignment , debris removal	2,000
Zabell Farms	Channel alignment, debris removal	6,400
Montgomery	Channel alignment, boulder groynes	5,800
Thomas	Channel alignment	1,300
Watkinson	Planting, boulder groynes	5,500
Ruakokopatuna	Channel alignment, planting	5,000
	Total	\$26,000
Note: These figures exclude GST. This year's isolated works budget still has a net \$20,000 to spend. Additional balance for 2003/04 is \$47,000. The \$26,000 for next year is in addition to a normal year's work.		

The additional requested funding from Council is summarised as follows:

- In 2003/04 an additional requirement of \$14,000
- In 2004/05 an additional requirement of \$8,000

4. Government Flood Relief Package

Since the February floods the Government has released a number of relief packages for those significantly affected by the floods. In mid-April the Government announced that "farmers will also be able to apply for 75% funding for reinstatement of flood protection works on private farm land and pre-flood, farmer funded bank stabilisation but they must have Regional Council approval".

"It will cover anyone who earns 51% or more of their income from farming in the Masterton, Carterton and South Wairarapa local authorities".

"Farmers with less than \$10,000 damage would not be eligible and farmers who do receive help will not be compensated for the first \$10,000 damage".

"Application forms to be filled in by mid-May and payment requests may be made until 1 May 2005 with all payments completed by 30 June 2005".

Staff are currently investigating this relief package to understand its applicability, or not, for the above works.

5. Conclusion

Given the severity of the February floods staff believe that the isolated works budget should be increased to complete the works outlined above. Staff will investigate the possibility of utilising funding from the Government's relief package.

6. Communications

Individuals who have requested isolated works will be advised in due course if funding is available.

7. Recommendation

That the Committee recommend to Council:

- (1) That the additional funding of \$14,000 be provided in the 2003/04 financial year to complete the isolated river works requested since the February floods.*
- (2) That an additional \$8,000 be provided in the isolated river works budget in 2004/05.*
- (3) That staff investigate alternative funding options such as the Government's relief package.*

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