

Geoff Skene
Manager, Environment Co-ordination

Environment Co-ordination Department Report – June 2004

1. Take Action (Susan Hutchinson-Daniel; Richard Morgan; Jo Fagan; Cate Pates)

The term 2 schools doing Take Action (Johnsonville School, Miramar Central School, and Sacred heart School) are currently working on their action projects. An emphasis this year is to have students carry out more action projects for the environment, i.e., projects that deliver or lead to real change in the environment, in addition to those that promote changes in the environmental behaviour of families and community members.

These three schools are taking this approach in varying ways. Miramar Central students are building a worm farm and doing paper recycling. They have also completed a stream clean up close to their school. Sacred Heart pupils have also started a worm farm and have arranged for kerb side recycling for their school. They have done a clean-up of the stream in the Botanic Gardens, and are working on a sign about stormwater pollution which will be erected in the Gardens. At Johnsonville School a large number of ideas to promote behavioural change are being worked on, but the students are also doing a clean-up of Titahi Bay, clearing debris and weeds from the bush behind the school, and setting up an organic recycling area. School parents and helpers will also be cleaning up the stream that runs along the school's boundary.

The efforts of Plateau School children and teachers (who did the programme in Term One) to work in their environment and with their community were recently reported in Elements. This has led to another Upper Hutt school seeking our advice with a re-cycling programme.

As mentioned in previous reports to the Committee this year, we are working on resource booklets for teachers to help students do more practical and effective action projects. These will be completed by the end of June.

2. Restoration planting guide (Tim Porteous)

A guide to planning and implementing bush restoration projects in the region has been completed. The guide covers how to plan a re-vegetation project (identifying goals, setting budgets), get a site ready (fencing, animal and plant pests, preparing the ground), choose the right plants, plant successfully, and

look after the finished product. The booklet is designed for land-owners, farmers, and care groups, and is part of a suite of information resources that underpin our efforts to improve biodiversity management on private land (others relate to wetlands and riparian management). There has already been a sustained uptake of the guide. It's production was made possible by a grant from the government's Biodiversity Condition and Advice Fund.

3. Take Care (Nigel Clarke; Jo Fagan; Susan Hutchinson-Daniel; Cate Pates; John Holmes; Melanie Dixon; John Gibson)

With the start of the planting season, most care groups are increasing their level of activity. Staff have been working hard to meet the groups' requests for advice and help with plant purchasing, planting events, and various construction projects (e.g., signs and structures). I will report extensively on the groups' achievements over the planting season in my upcoming reports.

Name Nicola Shorten
Designation Manager, Resource Policy

Resource Policy Department Report – June 2004

1. Maintaining Regional Policies and Plans

1.1 Regional Plan Changes

The plan change to include the Mangaterere Catchment in the Regional Freshwater Plan (water allocation) was publicly notified on 24 April 2004. Four submissions were received from the Department of Conservation, Carterton District Council, Wellington Fish and Game Council and Enaki Investments.

The summary of submissions has been publicly notified and the closing date for further submissions is 9 July 2004.

1.2 Coastal Matters

A joint Aquaculture Working Group which includes Local Government New Zealand, the Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Fisheries and the Department of Conservation has been established and continues to meet. The Group has recommended a number of changes to the proposed aquaculture legislation and suggested improvements to how it will be implemented.

The Aquaculture Reform legislation has been given Priority 2 status, which means that the Government would like it passed by the end of the year. To meet this timeframe, a Bill will have to be introduced by the end of July.

A summary of the Foreshore and Seabed Bill was included in a recent Councillors' Information Bulletin. We are currently working on a submission to this Bill.

2. Regional Plan Implementation

2.1 Wetland Action Plan

An update on implementation of the Wetland Action Plan is the subject of a separate report to the Committee.

2.2 Freshwater

The riparian delivery programme will be formally launched in October this year. Catchment fact sheets are being developed. There will be a fact sheet for each of the twelve priority catchments selected for assistance under the riparian management programme. The fact sheets will be given to landowners and will explain why Greater Wellington is giving these catchments high priority and how streamside management can help.

Lessons learned from the riparian pilot projects (two rural and one urban) have been written up. These pilots have taught us which plants are the most successful in what areas, and when is the best time to plant them according to local conditions. With this information we were better equipped to write two booklets, *Restoration Planting: a guide to planning restoration planting projects in the Wellington Region*, and *Mind the Stream - a guide to looking after urban and rural streams in the Wellington Region*.

A key finding of the rural pilots was that weed control in early spring is vital. If this is left to farmers it can be delayed as this is a busy time of the year. Projects are more successful if we take responsibility for the weed control and leave responsibility for fences and bridges with the farmers.

Effective weed control was also an issue in the urban pilot project. Urban stream projects need help from contractors to overcome extremely well-established weed infestations. This project is helping us to prepare a third booklet, *Controlling problem weeds in riparian zones*.

2.3 Marine Biodiversity

Progress with the Marine Biodiversity Programme is the subject of a separate report to the Committee.

2.4 Other

Statutory resource management work is the subject of a separate report to the Committee.

3. Iwi matters

Ara Tahi last met on 26 May. A presentation by Transfund at this meeting has prompted us to develop a policy on agenda items and presentations from external organisations. Ara Tahi's purpose is to provide policy advice to the Council and act as a forum for collective discussion. The policy will provide a consistent process for external organisations wishing to engage with Ara Tahi, and will ensure that Ara Tahi business remains the priority.

Current projects are:

- Taranaki Whanui Iwi Management Plan;
- Wellington Tenths Trust GIS project;
- Rangitaane oWairarapa GIS project

Surveys for the Whakarongotai water monitoring project have been analysed and presented back to the Iwi. The information will also be provided to the participants and made publicly available.

4. Hazards

A Flooding Hazard – Hutt Valley fact sheet has recently been printed and distributed. Work on the Flooding Hazard – Kapiti and Natural and Human-made Hazards fact sheets is in progress. These are the last of the series of hazard fact sheets have been developed over the last two years. The hazard fact sheets translate our technical information about natural and human-made hazards into information that people understand. They also give advice about what people can do to be prepared.

Rylee gave a talk to the team at Nature Space at Te Papa about our display there. She has also provided them with information about hazards in the Region and is looking at developing an interactive emergency kit to go with the display.

5. Other

I'm sorry to report that the Resource Policy and Environment Co-ordination departments' secretary Steph Weller has resigned and will be leaving at the end of June. Steph has accepted a job as a project manager for Morphological Design, who do a lot of design work for Greater Wellington.

Steph manages a huge workload very efficiently and works tirelessly to ensure the smooth running of both departments. Both her work and her personality will be greatly missed.

John Sherriff
Manager, Resource Investigations

Resource Investigations Department Report – June 2004

1. Resource Information

1.1 Flood warning

The Resource Investigations Department provides a flood warning and monitoring service for the western part of the Wellington region. Rainfall and river level recorders around the region automatically relay information to the Regional Council Centre. When specified rainfall intensities or river levels are reached the system automatically alerts staff who implement response procedures.

Since the last meeting of the Committee the following rainfall and water level alarms were received and responded to:

4 May 2004	<i>Rainfall:</i> Wayne's Mistake; Orongorongo Swamp <i>River level:</i> Porirua at Town Centre
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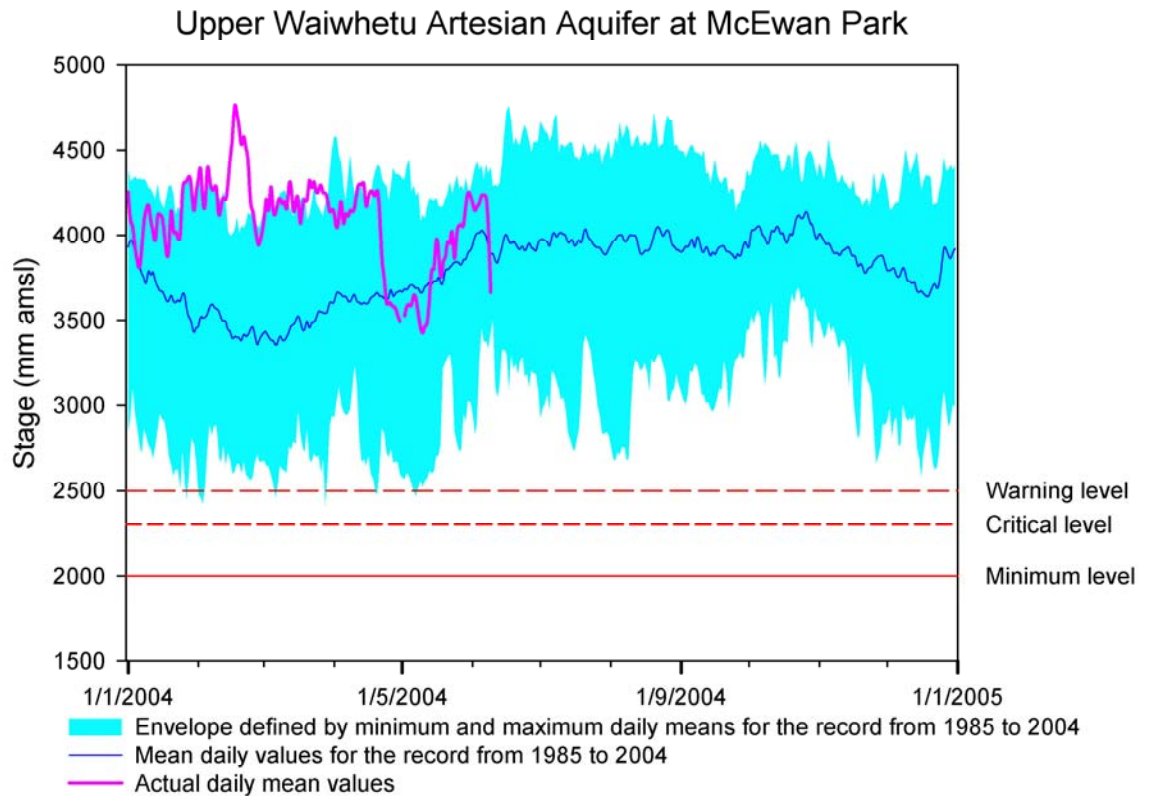
2. Resource Analysis

2.1 Groundwater levels

The Department monitors groundwater levels at 46 sites around the western region. We use two of these bores, McEwan Park at Petone and Hautere Plain on the Kapiti Coast, as general indicators of the state of groundwater resources in these areas.

Lower Hutt groundwater zone – Upper Waiwhetu artesian aquifer

Aquifer pressure at our McEwan Park monitoring bore is currently just below the long-term average level after being at record high levels for the early part of the year. The decline in level in April and early June is the result of extra pumping by the Utility Services Division at the Waterloo and Gear Island well-fields to compensate for temporary closures of the Wainuiomata Water Treatment Plant.



Kapiti Coast

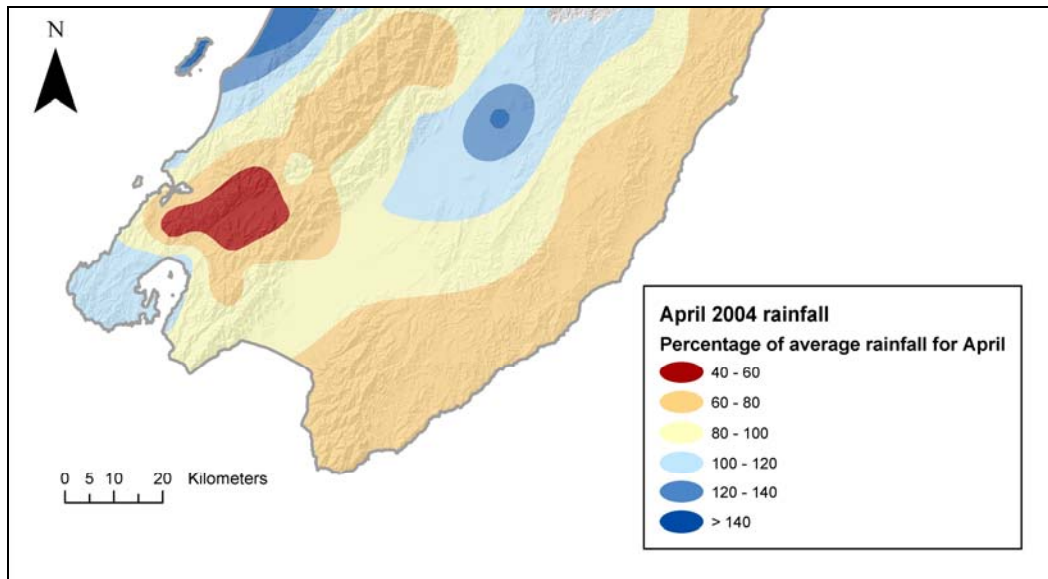
River recharged aquifers are at 'average' to 'above average' levels for this time of year. Shallow rainfall recharged aquifers are also at relatively high levels compared with other years. Deeper rainfall recharged aquifers are at 'above average' levels for this time of year and are still recovering after low levels during 2003.

2.2 Rainfall and river flows

Rainfall

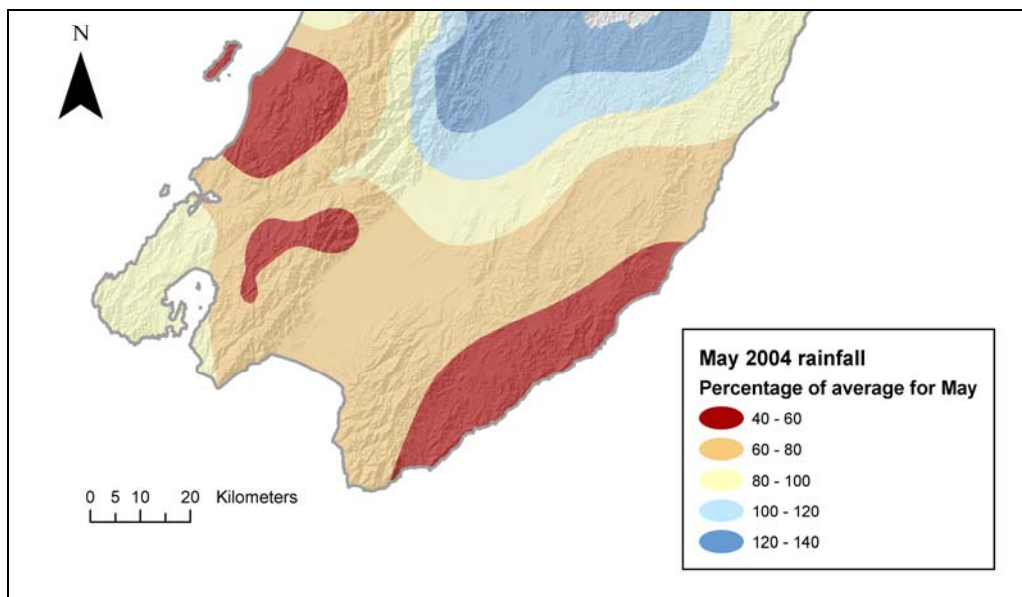
April and May 2004 tended to be drier than normal. The drier climate pattern was due to more frequent anticyclones in the south Tasman Sea with above average pressures over New Zealand creating settled conditions. Rainfall during April was consequently lower than average in many parts of the region. Figure 1 shows that the Tararua ranges and eastern Wairarapa hills had about 60-80% of the average rainfall for April. The Hutt Valley and Porirua were even drier, receiving only about half the usual monthly rainfall. However, Wellington, the Kapiti Coast and parts of the central Wairarapa plains received 'normal' to slightly 'above normal' rainfall for the month.

Figure 1: Rainfall received during April 2004 as a percentage of average for the month



During May 2004 there was a tendency for north-easterly winds to prevail over the country. Figure 2 shows the result was that rainfall was normal to above normal for the month in the north to north east of the region – i.e. the northern Tararuas and northern Wairarapa. In most other parts of the region, rainfall was 60 to 100% of normal. However, the Kapiti Coast, Akatarawa Ranges, Wainuiomata, Mangaroa and parts of the south east Wairarapa coast received only about half the average rainfall for May.

Figure 2: Rainfall received during May 2004 as a percentage of average for the month



River flows

River flows during April and May 2004 were on average lower than usual for the time of the year. However, this was due to the lack of significant rainfall events meaning there were few high flow events. Base-flows in the rivers are still high for this time of year, and flows are generally significantly higher than this time last year.

Surface water projects

A review of the flood hydrology of the Waiwhetu Stream has been completed for the Flood Protection Department. This involved building a rainfall runoff model of the Waiwhetu Catchment, and analysing the frequency of flooding in the stream from data recorded at our Whites Line East monitoring station. The report provided return period estimates of floods and this information will be used by Flood Protection for design purposes.

2.3 Air quality monitoring

2.3.1 Ambient air quality monitoring

We currently monitor ambient air quality at three sites in Lower Hutt (Birch Street Reserve), Upper Hutt (Trentham Fire Station) and Masterton (Wairarapa College). We also monitor carbon monoxide emissions at Te Aro.

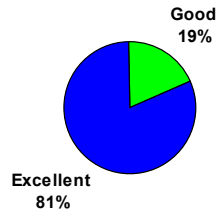
The graphs below represent air quality at the location indicated when the monitoring results are compared to ambient air quality guidelines. The assessment categories are as follows:

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.

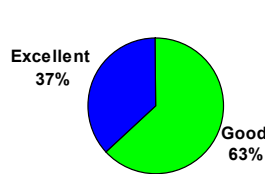
Councillors will be aware that our *Take 10 - Quality of Life* target for air quality is that there will be no recorded instances when air pollution reaches the "alert" level of the national air quality guidelines.

Results for the past six weeks at Upper Hutt

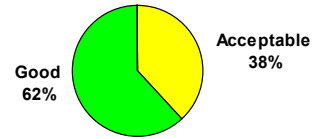
8-Hour Average CO at Upper Hutt



24-Hour Average NO₂ at Upper Hutt



24-Hour Average PM₁₀ at Upper Hutt

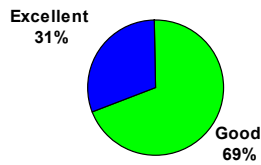


Results for the past six weeks at Lower Hutt

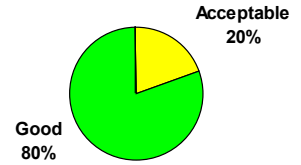
8-Hour Average CO at Lower Hutt



24-Hour Average NO₂ at Lower Hutt

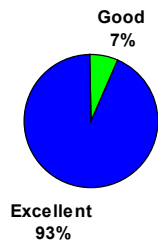


24-Hour Average PM₁₀ at Lower Hutt

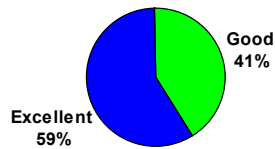


Results for the past six weeks at Masterton

8-Hour Average CO at Masterton



24-Hour Average NO₂ at Masterton

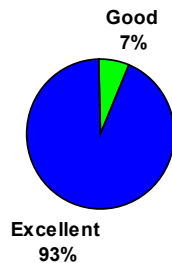


24-Hour Average PM₁₀ at Masterton



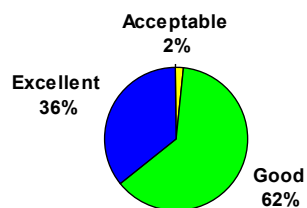
Results for the past six weeks at Te Aro

8-Hour Average CO at Te Aro



Results for the past two months at Corner Victoria & Vivian Streets

8-Hour Average CO at Corner Vic



24-Hour Average PM₁₀ at Corner Vic



2.4 Stormwater

A workshop with territorial authority staff was held on 11 June 2004. The purpose of the workshop was to start the process of developing a regional action plan for stormwater management. The workshop's focus was on identifying the issues relevant to stormwater in our region and the outcomes we hope to achieve through a regional action plan. Further work will be done with the territorial authorities to determine the actions which need to be completed to achieve these outcomes and to decide who needs to do what and when.

Favourable conditions in late May allowed us to complete stormwater sampling for the Waring Taylor Street catchment in central Wellington.

2.5 Soil quality monitoring

After the February floods there was some doubt about whether we would be able to complete our scheduled soil quality monitoring. However, the dry weather experienced since February made soil sampling possible and 23 additional samples have been taken. The results of this monitoring will be reported to the Committee in due course.

3. Pollution Control

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 Sheep dip investigation

Consultants have been engaged to undertake an investigation identifying the locations of old and existing sheep dip sites in areas likely to be developed as the urban areas expand. Sheep dips used chemicals which are known to cause adverse effects on humans and the environment. Initially this investigation will focus on those areas identified in the northern urban growth strategy. The outcomes of this investigation will be reported to the Committee in due course.

Luci Ryan
Manager, Consents Management

Consents Management Department Report – June 2004

1. Consent statistics

In the period to 8 June 2004 we received 540 consents. This compares with 417 consents received for the same period last year.

All consents processed in the 2003/2004 year have been completed within statutory time frames.

A summary of the notified consents we are currently processing is attached.

2. Appeals and Objections

2.1 Appeals

The CentrePort appeals are progressing. CentrePort has just provided Greater Wellington with a draft application for bunding and capping the dump site adjacent to Somes Island. Once these consents have been lodged and granted I am confident that the outstanding appeals can be resolved.

Environment Court mediation for the appealed Mangaroa Metals consents took place on 11 June 2004. Both the appellant and the applicant came to an agreement, however this was conditional on Greater Wellington providing \$10,000 towards a bridge. We are not prepared to provide any funding, so it is likely that further mediation will be required.

Mediation for the State Highway 58 consents took place at the end of May 2004. Greater Wellington had been caught up in the appeal even though no conditions of our consents had been specifically appealed. I am pleased to report that all parties reached amicable agreement and that we are currently waiting for the consent order so that the consents can be issued.

The consents to discharge partially treated effluent from the long outfall at Moa Point Wastewater Treatment Plant have been appealed by the Southern Environmental Association. Furthermore, two additional persons have formally requested to be parties to the appeal. We have requested mediation and are waiting for the Courts to assign a date.

The consent to discharge contaminants to air from Onyx, Seaview has been appealed. We are currently waiting for the courts to set a mediation date.

2.2 Objections

There has been little development with the Whitby Coastal Estates (WCE) objection to charges relating to their notified application for sediment discharge to Duck Creek. I am now expecting the objection to be presented at the next Environment Committee meeting.

3. Compliance

3.1 General

Annual compliance visits are coming to a close. At the time of writing this report we looked on target to complete all compliance visits by the 30 June 2004. This is a real achievement by the Resource Advisors given the dramatic increase in consent applications this year, coupled with the fact we have been short staffed for a significant proportion of the year. Below is a summary of incidents we are currently investigating:

- apparent breach of consent to discharge wastewater to a stream, Maymorn
- apparent breach of consent to discharge contaminants to air, Ngauranga
- a discharge of contaminated sawdust to land, Seaview

3.2 Abatement notices

We have not issued any abatement notices since the last Committee meeting.

3.3 Infringement notices

We have not issued any infringement notices since the last Committee meeting.

T&T Cleanfill, Happy Valley has paid the two infringement notices that they were issued with in April.

3.4 Prosecution and enforcement orders

There are no prosecutions or enforcement orders on-going at present.

4. Other

Mark Madle resigned from the department on 4 June 2004. Dave Rennison will be leaving the department on 2 July 2004. Dave is going to Japan with the JET scheme to teach English. I am currently reviewing applications for Dave's job and hope to be interviewing potential candidates shortly

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
Transit ¹	Consents associated with the construction of an interchange at the intersection of State Highway 2 and 58.	07/11/00	19/01/01	99	N/A	27/06/01 – 16/07/01 Reconvened on 01/08/01-02/08/01 and 27/08/01	Helen Tobin, Russell Howie and Richard Fowler	12/10/01	Granted – under appeal. Waiting for a Consent order from the Courts
Transit ¹	Consents associated with the realignment of State Highway 58.	07/11/00	19/01/01	99		27/06/01 – 16/07/01 Reconvened on 01/08/01-02/08/01 and 27/08/01	Helen Tobin, Russell Howie and Richard Fowler	12/10/01	Granted – under appeal. Waiting for a Consent order from the Courts
Wellington City Council	Change of consent monitoring conditions for the Moa Point Pump Station.	02/11/00	08/12/00	2		On hold for further information in relation to monitoring requirements			
CentrePort	To dredge inner harbour berths and dispose of the dredged material.	24/10/02	6/05/03	9		11/07/03 and 12/07/03	Christine Foster, Ian Stewart, Jack Rikihana	14/08/03	Granted with conditions – under appeal.
CentrePort	To dredge the harbour entrance and dispose of the dredged material.	24/10/02	20/05/03	13		25/06/03-27/06/03 and 18/07/03	Christine Foster, Ian Stewart, Jack Rikihana	04/07/03	Granted with Conditions – currently under appeal
Moa Point Sewage Treatment Plant	To treated and screened wastewater from the long outfall	8/12/03	5/02/04	14	-	10 – 11 March 2004	Ian Buchanan Ian Stewart Miria Pomare	31 March 2004	Granted – under appeal Waiting for a mediation date

¹ These applications were heard jointly with Hutt City Council, Porirua City Council and Upper Hutt City Council

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
Silverstream Landfill	Consents associated with the development of Stage 2 of the landfill	26/11/03	29/01/04	12	-	Presented to Environment Committee 13 May 2004			Granted – waiting for appeal period to close
Mangaroa Metal Company ²	To construct two culverts and to discharge water from a sediment retention structure in association with a quarry operation.	21/11/03	23/01/04	4	-	1 March 2004	Ian Buchanan Aka Arthur Hugh Barr	22 March 2004	Granted – under appeal Mediation set for 11 June 2004
Wharfe Quarry ³	To undertake a quarrying operation, including discharge of stormwater, dam and diversion of water, taking of water and piping a watercourse.	6/11/03	not yet notified	57 plus 2 late	-	Hearing not yet scheduled. Application on hold under s92 and s91 of the RMA 1991			
Onyx	To discharge contaminants to air associated with the operation of a waste processing facility.	19/12/03	12/02/04	4	-	22 March 2004	Ian Buchanan Glen Evans Aka Arthur		Granted – under appeal. Waiting for a mediation date

² This consent is being processed using limited notification.

³ This application will be jointly heard with Porirua City Council

Mike Pryce
Manager, Harbours

Harbours Report - June 2004

1. Harbour navigation aids

On 14 May 2004, the inner (southern) lead light at Porirua (near the Paremata railway station) was substantially upgraded with a more powerful lantern so that it is much more visible to boaties when viewed against strong background lighting. An additional improvement was the fitting of a back-up emergency battery supply to this light.

Further progress was made by the contractors working on the repainting of the steel structure of the Front Leading light. However, during the last few weeks, weather and tide have provided only limited work opportunity.

2. Oil pollution response

Between 10 and 14 May the Manager, Harbours, attended a five-day Regional On-scene Commanders marine oil spill response course in Auckland.

One Greater Wellington staff member attended a four-day Shoreline Clean-up Assessment Co-ordinators course in early June.

The revised Greater Wellington Tier 2 Oil Pollution Response Plan, (legally required to be reviewed every 3 years), was approved by the Maritime Safety Authority (MSA) on 20 May 2004.

As a result of a review by the MSA, 4,000 litres of MSA-owned dispersant was transferred from Wellington to the port of Nelson to increase their stockpile.

3. National Pleasure Boat Safety Forum

The Manager, Harbours, attended the meeting of the National Pleasure Boat Safety Forum meeting in Wellington on 27 May. This forum was originally formed about 1998 as the Pleasure Boat Safety Advisory Group (PBSAG) when some concerns were first raised about jet-skis. The group had wide representation from organisations involved with recreational boating. It published a report in December 1999 that identified boating risks and a strategy for improving boating safety. Renamed the National Pleasure Boat Safety Forum in 2001, the group monitors how the strategy is being implemented and makes recommendations and suggestions for further improvements.

Rian van Schalkwyk
Manager, Emergency Management

Emergency Management Department Report – June 2004

1. Civil Defence Emergency Management Group

1.1 CDEM Group Plan Progress

The operational part of the CDEM Group Plan is now being developed.

Workshops were held on the 10th and 19th of May to identify the agencies who perform emergency roles. Around 70 organisations were represented. Discussions have also been held with another 15 organisations that were not represented at the workshops.

A presentation was given to the joint meeting of the Wairarapa Councils on 28 May to provide an update on the CDEM Group and Group Plan progress.

1.2 CDEM Group Work programme

1.2.1 Programmes that have been completed:

- Emergency water supply. The aim of this programme was to improve existing response and recovery strategies for the delivery of water to end users following a major earthquake.
- Emergency communications. The aim was to ensure that we have robust communications systems in place for major emergency events.
- Emergency fuels supply. The aim was to develop arrangements for supply of petroleum for emergency response vehicles (and aircraft) during a catastrophic event.

1.2.2 Programmes for which draft reports/strategies have been completed:

Draft reports/ strategies for the following four programmes have been completed and they are now being worked through on a wider consultation basis. The findings of these programmes will be incorporated in the operational part of the CDEM Group Plan:

- Road access restoration. The aim for this programme was to manage restoring emergency major roads access in the region following a major emergency event to enable effective resource and commuter movements. It also aims to identify and reduce resource constraints on how roads will be cleared.

- Urban Search and Rescue. The aim was to develop a regional Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) management framework to enable competent location of casualties, extraction and ongoing medical care.
- Regional reconnaissance. The aim was to develop a plan for regional reconnaissance during a catastrophic emergency event.
- Commuter management. The aim for this programme was to ensure that plans are in place to look after commuters and return them home following an emergency in which access between our cities and districts is restricted. Later movements of commuters for work access will be part of recovery management planning.

1.1.3 Programmes which are in progress:

The following three programmes are in progress and they would be completed over the next couple of months:

- External logistics supply. This programme has the aim to establish and maintain arrangements for external supply of critical resources and personnel into the Wellington Region, and to support and sustain the emergency response immediately following a region wide hazard event.
- Medical logistics. The aim is to ensure plans are in place to provide critical supplies to give continuing care to mass casualties where movement within the region is limited in an emergency.
- Public Education. This programme aims to develop a CDEM Group public education strategy in line with the National Public Education Strategy.

1.1.4 Programmes that would form part of the Group Plan:

The programmes regarding hazard analysis and management and CDEM Group response capability enhancement will form part of the CDEM Group Work programme in order to achieve the objectives and targets specified in the CDEM Group Plan.

- Hazard analysis and management. The aim of this programme is to provide a comprehensive assessment of hazards in the region.
- CDEM Group response capability enhancement. This programme aims to review the functioning of the Emergency Operations Centres of the CDEM Group with particular regard for the hazardscape of the Region.

2. Marketing and Communications

2.1 Individual and Community Preparedness

At the last meeting of the Committee (13 May 2004) Councillor Terry McDavitt enquired how community preparedness was being addressed.

Community preparedness is one of the goals of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan. Communities need to better understand their hazards and the risks they face, take action to manage the hazards, know their role and responsibilities in an emergency, and be able to respond to and recover from emergency events effectively. That means a great deal can be done to reduce the impact of hazards on our communities.

The primary goal for our communities is to be resilient. It is critical that our communities, formally or informally, participate in civil defence emergency management (the 4Rs of risk reduction, readiness, response and recovery) and that they demonstrate their preparedness through activities such as:

- Volunteerism - volunteer groups with emergency response skills (e.g. local rescue teams, neighbourhood emergency support teams, trained council staff volunteers managing Welfare and Civil Defence Centres, etc.).
- Training and exercising – community groups (e.g. Community Emergency Response Training, First aid, Basic Rescue, etc.) as well as council staff volunteers (e.g. emergency operations centre management, communications, co-ordination, etc.).
- Business continuity planning - small and large organisations and businesses need to plan for any contingencies. Their business survival may depend on that.
- Community emergency facilities – territorial authorities to equip and maintain Civil Defence and Welfare Centres in a state of readiness, and emergency services and other emergency management agencies providing appropriate facilities to be able to function throughout an emergency.
- Community involvement in planning – the CDEM Group Plan will go through a process of public consultation. Communities will have the opportunity in the planning and decision-making processes.
- Insurance for community organisations and businesses.

2.2 World Conference on Disaster Management

The 14th World Conference on Disaster Management is being held in Toronto, Canada, from 20 to 23 June 2004.

Debbie Cunningham, our Emergency Management Officer, is going to present a paper at the conference about the lessons learned from the application of the SMUG (seriousness, manageability, urgency and growth) Risk Analysis Tool in preparing our Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan.

2.3 Debriefings of February 2004 Flooding Events

We have attended several debriefing meetings, presentations and workshops about the February flood events.

A Ministerial review of the February flooding events is underway and the Divisional Managers for Landcare and Wairarapa, the Senior Engineer Flood Protection, and the Manager, Emergency Management, have all been interviewed by the panel responsible for carrying out the review.

2.4 Waiwhetu Stream

We have a functional interest in the Waiwhetu Stream Floodplain Management Project, which was recently initiated by the Landcare Division. Our role will mainly revolve around the non-structural measures that need to be considered, such as public safety, public education (public information and warnings), reducing the risks, planning for arrangements such as welfare, evacuations, co-ordination of resources and the recovery aspects after a major event.

2.5 Community Survey into Community Preparedness

The Greater Wellington Regional Council has commissioned Peter Glen Research to do a survey throughout the Wellington Region to gather information that could assist us in quantifying progress towards the specific goals as set out in the Long Term Council Community Plan and the CDEM Group Plan. It was also commissioned to obtain information to enable us to establish a benchmark of public awareness, attitudes and behaviour relating to community preparedness for a major emergency, against which progress could be measured in future.

The survey was conducted throughout May 2004 and the final report has just been completed (14 June 2004).

A detailed report of the findings will be tabled at the next meeting of the Committee.

3. Environment

3.1 Earthquake reports:

Since the last Environment Committee meeting 28 reports for earthquakes bigger than 3 on the Richter Scale were received from IGNS.

The following earthquakes were felt in the Wellington Region:

2004 May 30 Mag.: 3.1 Depth: 15 km 10 km north of Masterton
2004 May 10 Mag.: 3.3 Depth: 25 km within 5 km of Upper Hutt
2004 May 09 Mag.: 3.4 Depth: 25 km within 5 km of Upper Hutt
2004 May 09 Mag.: 4.1 Depth: 25 km within 5 km of Upper Hutt
2004 May 09 Mag.: 4.1 Depth: 30 km within 5 km of Upper Hutt

3.2 Special Weather Bulletins

Fourteen (up to 15th June) Special Weather Bulletins (six for heavy rain and eight for strong wind) were received since the last Committee meeting. All the relevant agencies were notified and some minor problems were experienced in Wellington City where a shop front and a garage door were damaged and a rooftop lifted.

3.3 Communications

Weekly tests of the communications network are still being carried out. The system is functioning well and no problems have been experienced.

Name Richard Waddy
Designation Divisional Accountant

Financial Position: 31 May 2004

1. Operating Results

We are pleased to report the operating results for the eleven-month period ended 31 May 2004.

<u>Environment Division</u>				
<u>Summary Income Statement</u>				
<u>For the Period Ended 31 May 2004</u>				
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>Full Year</u>
	<u>\$000s</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$000s</u>	<u>Budget</u>
	<u>\$000s</u>	<u>\$000s</u>	<u>\$000s</u>	<u>\$000s</u>
Rates	7,003.6	7,003.6	--	7,640.2
Other Revenue	1,945.2	1,782.8	162.4 F	1,947.7
Total Revenue	8,948.8	8,786.4	162.4 F	9,587.9
Less:				
Direct Expenditure	7,417.8	7,764.8	347.0 F	8,599.7
Indirect Expenditure	1,150.5	1,164.6	14.1 F	1,271.8
Total Operating Expenditure	8,568.3	8,929.4	361.1 F	9,871.5
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	380.5	(143.0)	523.5 F	(283.6)

2. Surplus

We report that the Division's finances are in a satisfactory position. The Division posted an operating surplus of \$381,000 for the period. This compares favourably with our budget, which provided for an operating deficit of \$143,000 for the corresponding period.

The result translates to a net favourable variance of \$524,000, comprising increased revenue of \$163,000, and reduced expenditure of \$361,000.

3. Revenue

Total Revenue at \$8,949,000 is some \$163,000 above our budget target of \$8,786,000. The increased revenue arises from the completion of some large notified consents. The most significant of these were CentrePort's resource consent applications to dredge the harbour's entrance and near the vessel berths in the inner harbour (\$95,000), the Lyall Bay Reef Charitable Trust (\$23,000) and the Duck Creek Development (\$25,000).

In addition, the Department of Conservation contributed \$62,000 towards our biodiversity strategy during the period. The grant amounts to \$79,000 in total. This revenue was not included in our budget.

4. Total Expenditure

The Division's total expenditure at \$8,568,00 is some \$361,000 less than our budget.

The main reasons for this variance are:

- Personnel costs were slightly under budget by \$5,000. As expected, staff movements over the last few months have more than offset the shortfalls reported in prior months. However, changes to the Holidays Act, that came into effect in May, has increased personnel costs generally.
- Materials, Supplies and Services were less than budget by some \$123,000. There are significant costs in the pipeline. The Take Action resources material is being revised and additional resources to help teachers undertake Take Action projects will be printed at the end of the year.

We anticipate that some projects that the material costs will be underspent this year. As a consequence we have made provision to carry some of these funds over into the next year. The most significant of these is the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust Private Land Protection (\$110,000).

- Travel and Transport costs are slightly under budget by \$19,000.

Overall the spend on motor vehicles is less than we expected, in part because we did not need to hire any vehicle for the temporary harbour ranger. The sale of a vehicle was held over so that the harbour ranger could use it.

- Consultant costs are slightly under budget by \$27,000.

Similarly, with the spend pattern with materials, some consultant costs will be underspent, and as a result budgets have been carried over. For example, the Pauatahanui Inlet (sediment coring programme - \$25,000), and the Hazards Internet portal development (\$20,000).

The under spend has been offset, to an extent, by some large legal bills in relation to consent applications (e.g. CentrePort harbour dredging) and the successful prosecution of KCDC for breaching its consent for the Waikanae River.

Some of the underspend arises because of changes in our contractors for laboratory services in connection with our freshwater programmes.

5. Capital Expenditure

Our capital expenditure programme is presently some \$54,000 under budget mainly from the vehicle expenditure programme. The Ecobus concept designs have been completed and approved for the Take Action Ecobus. Because progress has been slower than expected, due to the time taken to develop a suitable concept and the commitments of the consultant doing the work, some \$30,000 has been carried over into the new financial year.