

Report 11.570  
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Committee Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee  
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## Hutt Valley Floodplain Management

### Project Manager's Report

#### 1. Purpose

To update the Subcommittee on progress made with implementing the Hutt Valley flood management projects.

#### 2. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report. This report provides an update on progress made with implementing the floodplain management projects and is for information only.

#### 3. Background

Greater Wellington (GW) is currently implementing a number of flood protection projects in the Hutt Valley. There are separate reports to this Subcommittee providing updates on major projects and other special projects. This report keeps track of progress on all key projects and also provides references to special reports.

#### 4. Boulcott/Hutt project

The stopbank construction project has commenced and progressing. Works programmed for 2011/12 include the stopbank from Mills Street to Ariki Street, Connolly Street realignment, low bund construction, Ariki Street stormwater upgrade and golf course preparatory works. Report 11.571 provides details.

#### 5. City Centre Reach of the Hutt River

Discussions with the Waimarie Croquet Club will continue to determine a programme for relocating the club to old Taita Bowling Club site. A joint GW/HCC letter confirming the proposed time table for stopbank works, availability of Council funding, and the process for issuing a lease to use the

Taita site was sent to the club in October 2011. The club has now requested a meeting with HCC and GW Councillors to further discuss these matters.

GW Flood Protection staff continue to work with HCC staff on concepts for the Daly Street promenade design. Engineering consultants have been engaged to investigate the feasibility of incorporating 'Making Places' structures at Daly Street to the upgraded stopbank.

## **6. River Works Agreement**

GW staff met with NZTA on 31 October to further discuss GW's concerns about the management of the Hutt River with the Upper Hutt River Works Agreement coming to an end in December 2011. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between GW and NZTA is now proposed, which will outline processes for dealing with major issues related to both parties. The MOU will provide for land transfers, capital works projects, and maintenance of assets. NZTA expects to finalise the MOU by December 2011.

## **7. Waiwhetu Stream Floodplain Management Plan**

The options refinement phase of the Waiwhetu Stream Floodplain Management Plan is progressing. Community consultation is planned for December 2011. Report 11.562 provides details of the planning process.

## **8. Upper Hutt City Plan change 15**

UHCC staff are continuing to work with their Council on approval to notify the proposed plan change 15. The proposed plan change is to update Hutt River flood hazard information and include Mangaroa flood hazard information in the Upper Hutt City district plan.

## **9. Pinehaven floodplain management**

Stage 2 of the Pinehaven floodplain assessment, options investigation, is now complete. Planning for Stage 3, consultation and options evaluation, has commenced. Report 11.573 provides more details.

## **10. Wainuiomata flood hazard**

GW staff have updated the Wainuiomata River flood hazard maps using updated hydrological information and more accurate ground levels provided by the LiDAR surveys. Report 11.564 provides more details. Updated maps will be presented to the Subcommittee on 1 December 2011.

## **11. Gravel extraction consent applications Hutt River**

The GW application for continued extraction of gravel from the Hutt River was lodged in April 2011. Staff are still awaiting a decision on whether the application will be notified by the Consenting Authority. This delay is a result of the change in the notification test in the recently amended RMA. A legal

opinion has been prepared to assist the Consenting Authority with their decision.

The Boulcott/Hutt contractor is currently extracting gravel from dry beaches for the stopbank project. Wet extraction under the current consent will commence in mid November 2011 for the project.

#### **Hutt River mouth**

GW staff have received a final draft set of consent conditions for comment. The Consenting Authority expects to send these conditions to submitters by mid December 2011. Staff are still hoping to avoid a formal hearing.

Commercial negotiations with Winstone Aggregates are in principle complete subject to the finalisation of resource consent conditions.

## **12. Earthquake damages to flood protection assets (Christchurch)**

On 4 November, GW staff inspected the lower reaches of the Waimakariri River in Christchurch to study the earthquake damage and repairs carried out to the flood protection structures. Approximately 40% of 22 kilometres of stopbanks in the lower reaches of Waimakariri and Kaiapoi rivers were damaged during the September earthquake. Comparatively less damage was caused by the February earthquake.

About 90% of the repairs are now complete and involved placing approximately 250,000 m<sup>3</sup> of material. The total repair cost is estimated at \$5.3 million. Waimakariri has a primary system of stopbanks build to a 450 year standard and a secondary stopbank system now being upgraded to contain a rare event in the order of a 1 in 10,000 year event. Some of the key lessons learnt by Canterbury staff include: the need for earthquake risk assessment information, accurate asset valuation data, funding provision for damage repairs (reserves and/or insurance), incorporating earthquake resistant design in flood protection structures, and retention of core specialist staff and contractors.

## **13. Rivers Group Annual Symposium (5 December 2011)**

The national Rivers Group Symposium will be held in Wellington on 5 December 2011. The symposium includes presentations from GW Flood Protection staff and from Max Lutz of the Friends of Otaki River. More information on the symposium is available on the Rivers Group Website ([www.ipenz.org.nz/riversgroup/](http://www.ipenz.org.nz/riversgroup/)). This symposium will be followed by the NZ Hydrological Society Conference (NZFSC) held on 6 – 9 December 2011. The NZHSC conference includes a field trip to Hutt River on 9 December which will be hosted by GW Flood Protection staff.

## 14. **Communication**

Communication initiatives including newsletters and resident meetings and other stakeholders are in place for all projects. Most of the major projects receive wide publicity through the local press.

## 15. **Recommendations**

*That the Subcommittee:*

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***

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