

Report 2017.215
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Committee Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee
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Hutt Valley Floodplain Management projects report

1. Purpose

To update the Subcommittee on progress made with general Hutt Valley Flood Management (HVFM) projects.

2. Background

GWRC has ongoing projects within the Hutt Valley and its wider catchment. Major projects are further detailed in separate reports. This report tracks and reports on progress of all projects and provides references to major project reports.

3. RiverLink

Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee (HVFMS) has participated in design development and review workshops in March, April and May this year. This has enabled completion of technical aspects of preliminary design and work to commence on value engineering for this project.

Information about the design is being made available to the community through online resources, the RiverLink information container which is being moved to different locations for a ten day period each month, and through distribution of newsletter updates.

A further series of workshops has been programmed for the HVFMSc between August and November 2017 to refine the design and costs with the Subcommittee before a decision can be made to proceed into detail design in 2018.

4. Hutt River Environment Strategy

Stakeholder engagement for the Hutt River Environment Strategy review commences in July, this includes both Upper Hutt City Council and Hutt City Council. Community engagement regarding the updated plan has been postponed until summer to try and capture a greater interest in the review

outputs from people who use the area and participated in earlier survey work to support the review.

In July an event will be held to plant a living memorial for Robin Maud and to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Hutt River Trail. This project will be a springboard to engage with recreation users and the local community to further develop design improvements for the riverbank and berms in the Taita reach of Te Awakairangi/Hutt River.

5. Hutt River Ranger Report

The Hutt River Ranger report for May has been included as **Attachment 1** to this report.

6. Waiwhetu Stream weir and fish passage modification

Designs for the Waiwhetu weir repair and fish passage modification have been completed and are being reviewed by GWRC, these will be discussed with the Friends of Waiwhetu stream and if accepted a funding strategy will be developed to complete the works and fish passage improvement.

7. Maintenance and flood damage clean up

Officers have been busy over the last period completing flood damage works. Rock rip rap which, was ordered several months ago, has finally started arriving at various sites along Te Awakairangi/Hutt River and progress has been made on completing several outstanding flood damage jobs.

Work was also completed on the Black Creek flood gates to remove siltation from the sill to ensure the flood gates worked correctly during high river flows.

8. Consideration of Climate Change

The matters addressed in this report have been considered by officers in accordance with the process set out in the GWRC Climate Change Consideration Guide.

8.1 Mitigation assessment

Mitigation assessments are concerned with the effect of the matter on the climate (i.e. the greenhouse gas emissions generated or removed from the atmosphere as a consequence of the matter) and the actions taken to reduce, neutralise or enhance that effect.

Hutt Valley Flood Management projects are subject to GWRC's initiatives designed to minimise greenhouse gas emissions and enhance sequestration capacity where possible. These include the proposed Code of Practice (which guides all river management activities undertaken by GWRC for the purposes of flood and erosion protection across the Wellington Region), the GWRC corporate sustainability programme and GWRC's procurement process which is undergoing review in 2017 and will encourage suppliers and contractors to minimise emissions.

8.2 Adaptation assessment

Adaptation assessments relate to the impacts of climate change (e.g. sea level rise or an increase in extreme weather events), and the actions taken to address or avoid those impacts.

GWRC plans for climate change in assessing the degree of future flood hazard and in determining an appropriate response. GWRC applies the following allowances for climate change predicted to occur over the next 100 years in the design criteria for flood hazard investigations:

- Increases in rainfall intensity – 20%
- Sea level rise – 0.8m

9. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

9.1 Engagement

Engagement on this matter is unnecessary.

10. Recommendations

That the Subcommittee:

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

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Attachment 1 River Ranger Report for period May 2017