

Report 99.80

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Report to the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee
from Ian Heslop, Divisional Engineer

Update on October 1998 Flood Damage Repairs

1. Purpose

To update the Committee on progress with flood damage repair work following the October 1998 floods.

2. Background

Following the 1998 October floods the Wellington Regional Council approved flood damage repairs totalling \$1,120,000 in the Wairarapa.

3. Progress

The approved October 1998 flood damage repair programme is progressing well, with high priority works to the value of \$470,000 having been completed to date. Engineering staff are confident of completing at least an additional \$320,000 and possibly up to \$560,000 value of work dependent on the actual level of individual local share contribution obtained. The final expenditure is then likely to be in the range of \$790,000 to \$1,030,000 as compared to the original \$1,120,000 flood damage approval. The larger projects completed or under way are highlighted below.

3.1 Waiohine-Mangatarere Scheme - Ticehurst Stopbank

The stopbank on the Ticehurst property which was breached during the October 1998 floods has been reconstructed on an alignment inland of the original stopbank. The associated bank protection and channel alignment works have also been completed within the cost estimate of \$60,000.

3.2 Waiohine-Mangatarere Scheme – Bicknell Property

Rock protection works have been completed to protect the Bicknell property from bank erosion such as that experienced during the October floods, and to reduce the threat of river course change.

Stopbanking work is planned over the next few months to provide flood protection, and to further reduce the threat of course change.

3.3 Upper Ruamahanga Scheme – Forbes Property

During the September and October floods bank erosion caused the stopbank protecting the Forbes property and Masterton Oxidation Ponds to breach in two places. Channel alignment and bank protection works have been completed to help prevent further bank erosion. Negotiations are in progress between Masterton District Council and the landowner to determine the alignment of the reconstructed stopbank. It is planned to complete the stopbank reconstruction over the next few months.

3.4 Upper Ruamahanga Scheme – Masterton Cemetery

The rail iron and rock groyne work to protect the Masterton Cemetery and Landfill has been completed within the \$43,000 budget.

3.5 Rathkeale College Stopbank

Construction of the Rathkeale College stopbank alongside the upper Ruamahanga River was completed last summer. During the September to October period a total of four floods were prevented from flowing through the College. Although the stopbank has proven very successful, the freeboard margin was found to be insufficient over a length of about 300 metres. During March it is proposed to increase the stopbank height over this length to ensure the stopbank meets the full design standard.

3.6 Waipoua Scheme – Gold Stopbank

The realignment and reconstruction of the breached section of Waipoua River stopbank protecting the Gold property and adjoining farmland has been completed within the \$30,000 estimate.

3.7 Waingawa Scheme - SH2 Bridge

Rock groyne works upstream of the SH2 Bridge on the Waingawa River have been completed. These works provide protection to the Waingawa River stopbank and SH2 Bridge abutment, and were jointly funded by Transit NZ and the Waingawa Scheme.

4. Recommendation

That the report be received and its contents noted.

Report prepared by:

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